

## **“It All Fits Together”**

03-29-15

Wow!! What an incredible celebration today! This is Palm Sunday, the day Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time in His ministry and Passion Sunday. This time was special because He went to the city to suffer and die in our place for our sins! It's also the beginning of Holy Week that begins with honor and celebration and ends in anger and the tears of death.

But today is extra special for us here at church and for all the special people who are present. We have three chances to see Jesus Christ's Great Commission in action!

We began our service this morning proclaiming Christ as King, and then having two sisters being baptized. One a very young girl, and the other a young lady. They came this morning to be made new and a part of the family of God and receive His forgiveness of sins. That's what this week is all about. By believing in the work of Jesus Christ, as He comes to Jerusalem, all of us who believe in Him see what He's done for us and receive that wondrous gift of forgiveness.

Shortly after the Offering this morning, we'll hear from three young gentlemen who'll give their profession of faith as they're confirmed and become communicant members of this congregation. They'll tell how they've come to faith, how they realize they're in need of knowing who God is, how they're in need of His forgiveness, and how they'll stay faithful in service to Jesus, this congregation, and to the world around them.

That's exactly what Confirmation is. It's a re-confirming of what happened to them as they were baptized just like the two girls were today. They were called God's own and made members of the household of faith. They were washed clean in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and received forgiveness.

Turn to Matthew 28. Their faith has grown and will continue to grow as they spend more and more time in God's Word, profess their faith to Jesus Christ in a world that isn't always faithful to Him, worship as part of the family of God in this place, and serve others. That's what Jesus' Great Commission is! Notice the 4 actions in verses 19-20, **“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

All this is wonderful for these five as we witnessed what happened, but other than being seeing this happen and being elated for them, what about the rest of us? That leads us to the third chance. It's really not a chance, but a blessing. This morning, we have the opportunity to receive Christ's body and blood given and shed for us for the forgiveness of sins. The forgiveness of sins has been a part of all we've done this morning.

God knows us completely! He knows our strengths and our weaknesses. He knows we fail daily. That's why He promised to send a Savior to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden after they sinned! We're still living under that same promise as we confess our sins to Him and receive His forgiveness shown us on the cross as Jesus suffered and died for all!

He asks you and me to come to the Table often to be reminded of what He's done for us. Every one of the things this morning and everything that happens in life as a child of God, is a blessing of God's love and grace to each and every one of us.

Heaven is ours because of Jesus Christ. Believe in His guidance. Believe in His forgiveness. Live under His promises! As we follow Him as our Savior, it All Fits Together!