

Christ Will be Our Light David Haas

Arise! Arise!

Awake, rise up from the dead!

Christ will shine!

Christ will be your light!

Once you were lost in the darkness.
Now you are light in the Lord!
Live out each day as God's children.
Live now as children of light!

Light shines forth every beauty.
Justice and truth are revealed!
Seek the ways of the Lord!
Seek the way of light!

I am the light of the world!
I will make all things new!
Follow and you will find life.
Follow and live in the light!

Thank You For Joining Us!

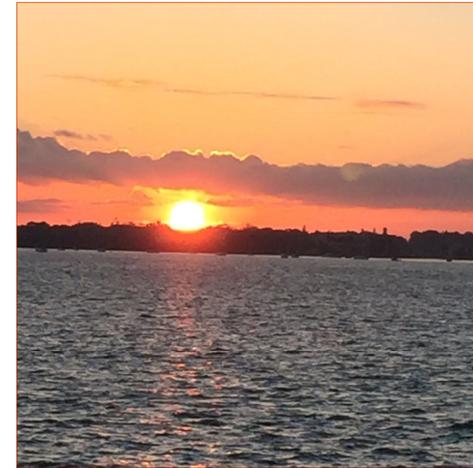
Prayer Leader:

Betsy Nero
4-5-2016

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Awaken Me!



Centering Space

A ministry of prayer,
listening & direction

Our prayer is characterized
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.

*To Ponder: from The Loneliness and Longing
of Saint Francis by Gerard Thomas Straub*

The deeper message of the parable of the prodigal son is that God allows us to make our own way through life, even when the path we choose is a dead end. God gives us the freedom to make mistakes, to make bad choices. But God is always there, always ready to warmly embrace us when we turn around and head in the right direction. God gives us the freedom to be co-creators of the gift of life God gave us. Whether we choose to walk with God or without God, God's love remains constant. No matter what we do in life, no matter how bad our screw-ups, God is there to help us pick ourselves up and start over. The journey through life is a twisting path, filled with ups and downs, possibilities and potholes, consolations and desolations. The journey is hard. We must climb mountains of problems and traverse deserts of doubt. But God is there walking with us, pointing the way; and so there is no need to fear or falter. Life, the gospel proclaims over and over again, prevails over death. The story of Jesus does not end on the cross but in the resurrection. God is not finished with me or with you. God is always laboring to bring about a new creation in each of us, especially when others seem intent on judging and destroying us. Jesus wants us to know joy and fulfillment, even in the midst of our suffering. Jesus calls each of us out of the tomb of our mistakes. Like he did with Lazarus, Jesus wants to unbind us so we can be fully alive.

Reading: Awaken Me *Joyce Rupp*

Risen One,
come, meet me in the garden of my life.

Lure me into elation.
Revive my silent hope.
Coax my dormant dreams.
Raise up my neglected gratitude.
Entice my tired enthusiasm.
Give life to my faltering relationships.
Roll back the stone of my indifference.
Unwrap the deadness in my spiritual life.
Impart heartiness in my work.

Risen One, send me forth as a disciple of your
unwavering love, a messenger of your unlimited joy.

Resurrected One, may I become ever more convinced
that your presence lives on,
and on, and on,
and on.

Awaken me!
Awaken me!

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...