

Greetings in Christ! Today is Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 2020

### *Welcome to Worship!*

Today, we begin a series of Post-Resurrection encounters with Jesus. It is now Easter evening, and the Disciples are behind locked doors here in John's Gospel. They are frightened of the unknown. A little like us, perhaps in this unsettled time. We are reminded today, and through these eye-witness accounts that JESUS shows up! And offers us PEACE! (Comfort) especially in these times of uncertainty ... if we let Him.

One of my favorite "Comfort Foods" is Mashed Potatoes (Grin) and a little Chocolate never hurt either. So, I hope that you will enjoy the treats as we remember "The PEACE of CHRIST" in our lives. Let us Pray:

"Lord Jesus, sometimes, we feel anxious because we are fearful of what might happen. Especially during this time of not being able to see our families, especially our children and grandchildren that we are missing terribly, we ask that you would come to us just as you did the Disciples in the Upper-Room and remind us of the PEACE that you bring into our lives. BREATHE on us again, renew our strength for the long haul, and help us to speak LIFE that comes from you. In Your Name we pray ... Amen."

Centering Song – "Breathe On Me, Breath Of God"

cross where thou hast died. Draw me near - er, near - er,  
near - er, bless - ed Lord, to thy pre - cious, bleed - ing side.

## Breathe on Me, Breath of God 420

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,  
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,  
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.  
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.  
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.  
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Our Scripture text is John 20:19-23

- 1) How have you been feeling about being “Sheltered-In-Place”. Try to put your feelings into words and consider writing them down for your GrandKids to read someday.
- 2) Of all of the things that Jesus must have said, why does John record “Peace be with you?” three times even?
- 3) How does this relate to their fears? How does it relate to our fears?
- 4) How does Jesus offer PROOF? PURPOSE? POWER? And PROCLAMATION?
- 5) Did you learn something new today about this passage?
- 6) Today, is also “Holy Hilarity” Sunday – Be sure to find some LAUGHTER .... Call your kids/Grandkids and tell them a joke.
- 7) Also ... jot some notes about challenging yourself to grow in your discipleship during these “Great 50 Days”.

PRAYER: Thank You, Lord, for teaching me through your word and through the proclamation of others. When I feel anxious, help me to slow my breathing and center upon you. Amen.

Have a Great Week! We take a look at Thomas the Disciple next week: “Don’t Stop Believin’”

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