

Looking Back, Checking In

Last Sunday we heard:	Came to life this week in these experiences or failures:
<p>Let the perfect love of God cast out all fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.</p> <p>We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death.</p> <p>Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son.</p> <p>The resurrection is not just a gateway to another level of existence; it is a lens for looking at all of scripture, and it is a lens for looking at life, today.</p> <p>The resurrection changes how we look at our relationships, our politics, our work, our resources, and our future.</p> <p>The resurrection reminds us that the end is never the end, that death is not the final word, that loss does not define us, that God is still present and active, working to redeem our lives and all creation.</p> <p>We pray for the church, its leaders and its members, for those who witness to the risen Christ through speech or action.</p> <p>As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need.</p> <p>As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your peace in words and actions.</p> <p>Praise, praise! You are my rock. You calm the fear and pain. One word of faith and I am well, I rise to praise and walk again.</p>	