

Lent 5A

- What's the shortest verse in the bible?
 - Jesus Wept
- Today we see Jesus weeping at the tomb of Lazarus
- We all cry – its part of being human
- Scripture tells us that Jesus cried:
 - When He prayed
 - When he saw Jerusalem
 - When he saw friends that were hurting
- We also know Jesus laughed
 - He liked a party
 - Remember the Wedding feast at Cana
 - Why do you think they ran out of wine – J & 12 fisherman
- I am glad we have a Savior who laughs – and also weeps
- It shows us that He loves us so much that He hurts when we hurt – He feels what we feel
 - What made Him cry here, was Mary's expression of faith
 - She knew it doesn't end here
- Jesus shouts the liberating words to Lazarus "Lazarus, come out"
 - Did He have to specify "Lazarus"
 - Is He shouting that at me – at you?
 - What part of our lives have we buried
 - What part of our lives is bound up, no longer alive,
 - Am I willing to hear Jesus when He asks me to bring even that, out of the tomb
 - Why not? Look what He did for Lazarus!
- Over the last year 3 people have been studying to come to full communion
- Like Lazarus, the have been called to come out
 - Clair Ridge and Ken Cox – baptized & on Easter 1st Communion & Confirmation
 - Richard Grycz – unbaptized
 - Church history of 'scrutinies' so Rich – as Lazarus was called out, I call you - please come up