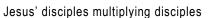
Jesus has empowered you to love other people, to free other people, to proclaim the reality of his love and affection him saving. For no for other people.

So Jesus invites us not to be pretenders: simply doing things to I simply want to be gain other people's approval. All that does is show how truly lost we are. All that does is show how far from knowing Jesus' loving presence in our life we are.

When I find myself playing the pretender. I weep. I don't want to be a pretender: I want to be living in the reality Jesus created through his crucifixion. So I weep and invite the Spirit to heal me, to grow me, so that I can be living true to who I am in Jesus, I want to be

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am Pastor: Tim 0427326553



as I live out his love

and affection, doing

saving what I hear

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crucifixion; not

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this relationship that I

pretender. Jesus is

my treasure; it is in

seek life. It is this

relationship with

through his

trying to win

realise he knows me.

know him. and

Jesus world changer, Jesus that I want all people to know and celebrate living in. what I see him doing, today, tomorrow, forever.

> So I'm inviting, asking Jesus to send the Spirit that over this Lenten season I get to share him with a new person each day: so that Jesus might be a living, breathing, loving reality in their lives.

6 March 2019 WEEP; PROCLAIM; LIVE IT

Ash Wednesday

Tonight I'd just like to not blackens Jesus' look at a few phrases name. from our readings and see how they might apply in our

From the prophet Joel we hear these words: "Don't let your special possession become an object of mockery. Don't let them become a joke for unbelieving foreigners who say, 'Has the God of Israel left them?" (Joel 2:17)

lives.

Sadly when people look at the behaviour of the 'church' as a whole, I think many people see us as an object of mockery. Have you ever heard people say that the church is full of hypocrites? Have you don't suit. lamented as another the name of the church: which whether we like it or

I even had someone ask me; 'What has God done lately. Sure he rose again 2,000 years ago, but what has he done lately.' It felt like I was being asked; 'Has the God of Israel left us?' 'Has Jesus left the building, leaving us an empty, powerless, gathering?'

Who was the last person you saw healed by faith in Jesus? Has Jesus left the building? Are we just a gathering of behaviour and lies of people with good moral principles that seem to be conveniently forgotten when they

sex scandal blackens So Joel asks; 'Let the you are bad, but priests, who minister in the LORD'S presence, stand and

weep between the entry room to the Temple and the altar. Let them pray, 'Spare your people. LORD!." (Joel 2:17)

Who are the priests who minister in the LORD's presence, if it isn't you and I? Jesus is inviting us to weep. to weep because his love for the people of this community has been hidden, lost in an array of unrepentant behaviour, and plain lies of the devil. So I weep, and invite you to weep too. This unrepentant the devil aren't what Jesus gave his life for. It isn't what we're called to proclaim.

Jesus invites you to weep, not because because so many people fail to see him for who he is. So



many people fail to find life in him, the very thing Jesus offers. Life; life lived in a conversational relationship of love and affection, where Jesus supernatural love is lived out naturally.

living reality in my life of every person I meet. This is what is on God's heart, he can't passively standby and see a single person be lost: it breaks his heart.

I want it to break my heart as well. I invite vou to weep too, to weep for those you know who don't know. let alone have experienced Jesus love for them. Weep and invite the Spirit to we might know his lead you each day of the Lenten season to really is, in an a person that you might share your faith of love. Jesus has with. Invite Jesus to give you the words to say, and the actions that flow from his

heart for these people.

That's why Paul wrote: "So we are Christ's ambassadors (that's you, Christ's ambassador); God is making his appeal through us (through you). We speak for I weep for this to be a Christ when we plead. 'Come back to life, in your life, in the God!' For God made

> I weep for this to be a living reality in my life.

Christ, who never sinned. to be the offering for our sin. so that we could be made right with God through Christ." (2 Cor. 5:20,212)

What amazing love we have in Jesus: he has given his life that Father for who he intimate relationship given his life so that this might be the reality for everyone, and amazingly he has invited you to join

him in this wonderful adventure.

Jesus' passion is for all people to discover in him an eternal purpose for their lives, a value way beyond anything they could ever do, and live loved – loved by God himself. This is why he is crucified: to make this a reality

and not some pipe dream. I think people have had enough of pipe dreams and what to know the reality of God in their lives. And Jesus is the reality of God. in flesh and blood, so that we might be living with him right now. Todav is the day of salvation.

Jesus has sent the Spirit that we might know the reality of his presence in our lives today: that we might be living from the value, acceptance and love we have in him, and not be held as slaves to evervone else's opinions, striving to

gain what we don't have.

Today is the day of salvation, for Jesus wants you to be living contact with. in the reality of his life giving presence today, through the Spirit. Letting his acceptance shape the way you treat other people; accepting them for who they are in him, not for what they might or might not offer you.

Today is the day of salvation. for Jesus wants you to be living from the value he fills your life with. What worth we have to live out in aives for us to infuse in every aspect of our happenings of life; lives.

In Jesus what I do doesn't aive me value, through Jesus and to everyone you I give value to everything I do. What freedom Jesus invites you to be living today. In Jesus you are a world changer, for the

world doesn't shape you, your life in Jesus in him. has the power to liberate the people you come into

Today is the day of salvation, for Jesus wants you to live loved, for in him that is your reality; you are loved. Jesus crucifixion spells out

Today is the day of Salvation...

love: for he withholds I certainly want to be nothing from you. He has given his all, that Jesus, in that you might live loved today, no matter what conversational happens or doesn't Jesus. What value he happen. You're not a and affection he has slave to the you get to live this supernatural love of Jesus, naturally into everything you do meet.

> I certainly want to be living that way. So I weep, and yearn for Jesus to grow me to

ever greater maturity

What about you; is that the way you want to be living: accepted in Jesus, valued in Jesus, loved in Jesus, living your salvation today and into a wonderful future where you get to live face-to-face with Jesus in a world where all that would steal, kill or destroy who we are is gone. Not even a fading memory.

living intimately with wonderful relationship of love created, so that I can be living out his supernatural love, quite naturally.

So Jesus in our reading from Matthew reminds us to keep it real and not to play games. Don't lose your salvation by playing games to impress other people. What a waste, when