Luke 8:40 "So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him.

41 And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, 42 for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. 43 Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. 45 And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "46 But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." 47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. 48 And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

49 While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." 50 But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." 51 When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. 52 Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." 53 And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead.

54 But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise."

55 Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat.

56 And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened."

Turning Mourning Into Joy

As I mentioned last week, this is our last message from Luke for a couple of months. Next week Dale will begin the NEW church year with the first of our Advent messages. Many celebrate this last Sunday of Pentecost, the last Sunday of "normal" time as Christ the King Sunday, which is fitting as we consider His conquest of the final enemy, death, this morning!

Of course, here at Church of the King, we celebrate Christ as King EVERY Sunday. This is one of the beauties of Christian truth: As a reflection of our great Triune God all things are distinct and related: It is proper to see Christ as King at the end of history, but also to remembers as Luke has been teaching us, that Jesus established His Kingdom during His incarnation and now sits enthroned at the right hand of God the Father. With Advent we remember the anticipation of His coming as the suffering Savior, BUT we also look forward to His coming again, giving us new bodies and presenting His Kingdom to the Father! – This is the beauty & importance of the church calendar!

This morning, we come to one of the three resurrections recounted in the Gospels: But we will also see Jesus ministering in a great season of need: A ministerial example of our modern multi-tasking if you will! Many of us face various challenges in our lives and we should look to the example of Jesus everyday day:

- I am certainly learning this as a minister: Always knowing there is just a few more things that need to be done: Remembering to be thankful for the places where things are being done RIGHT and not just always focused on what is wrong!
- You men who strive to raise families on a single income know these pressures. Those running their own businesses can also relate.
- AND of course, anyone who has taken on God's high calling of being a parent... Well those with children know what I mean!

And IF some of you don't feel very busy [had a discussion with one of my granddaughters this week about whether being "bored" is a sin!] perhaps this account will encourage you to begin to minister in today's season of need!

This is our challenge as His Church & just as the man delivered from the legion of demons was clothed and sitting at the feet of Jesus, we must often sit at the feet of the master to learn how and why to serve.

To find this instructions and encouragement from Jesus I want to take a few moments to go through this passage verse by verse to mine at least SOME of the many nuggets that it contains:

Luke 8:40 "So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him.

We see here, Jesus coming back across the Sea of Galilee after confronting the demons of the Gadarenes

Once again we have the crowds gathering for the show!

41 And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, 42 for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

Again, we have someone facing a dire situation, like the Centurion who showed great faith: His great faith now contrasted with this ruler who seems to have faith more like ours or those disciples on the boat!

But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him.

An important detail to understand as we see Jesus minister in this account

43 Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped.

We see here her condition... [explain for kids] & her desperation. She simply touched the garment of Jesus [explain picture of border or tassel]

Numbers 15:37 "Again the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 38 "Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. 39 And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the Lord and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and

your own eyes are inclined, 40 and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God."

- ➤ As we have discussed many times: There is no way we can obey the commands to be holy BUT the Lord Jesus did perfectly: A Holy life given for us! AND it would have included a proper border for His garment which this woman reached out and touched!
- ➤ Also helps us see the proper context & meaning of some of the most discussed verses in the Law:

Deuteronomy 22:9 "9" You shall not sow your vineyard with different kinds of seed, lest the yield of the seed which you have sown and the fruit of your vineyard be defiled. 10 "You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together. 11 "You shall not wear a garment of different sorts, such as wool and linen mixed together. 12 "You shall make tassels on the four corners of the clothing with which you cover yourself."

➤ Jesus the Holy One: Set apart for the salvation of His people!

The woman comes up anonymously touching the border of His garment

and, we see that she is healed: The healing was instant and dramatic!

45 And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "46 But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me."

This healing was NOT automatic: Jesus was not surprised, but knew what had happened and wanted this woman to more fully understand what had happened as well. She was not allowed to be superstitious thinking that Jesus had some 'magic' power or worse yet that the tassels had some sort of special power:

➤ A good warning to those who put their trust in rituals, Saints, icons or any other religious nonsense instead of Jesus Himself!

Peter & the Disciples are wrong yet again: Confused by all the commotion, but they should have noticed Jesus looking around and pondered what was happening rather than reacting...

A lesson for all of us!

47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately.

Again, we have a picture of how we come before the Lord as restored sinners each and every week:

- > We rightly should tremble and fear God when He calls us into worship each week.
- ➤ It is right and proper that we have a time of confession, individually and corporately!
- > Also reminds us that there are NO one-man churches!

This woman was not allowed to go off and "do her own thing!"

48 And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

Here a woman whose condition had kept her suffering and downcast; cut off from the Temple and festivals for twelve LONG years.

- > NOW with a touch and the Word from Jesus she is restored and called to great JOY
- ➤ Note that Jesus refers to His great gift of faith as "your faith"
- > This should remind us that it is the same for us & ALL the Saints

Listen to how the Apostle Paul addresses the Saints at Ephesus: "Therefore I also, after I heard of YOUR faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints..."

➤ We are saved by faith alone and even that faith is the gift of God: BUT once God has given this great gift, it is properly called 'our faith.'

And now we will see a great testing of the faith given to this ruler who has patiently been waiting for Jesus to continue His journey to his home:

49 While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher."

The only way to properly understand this part is to try and put ourselves in Jairus' shoes: How devastating... Would it shake our faith... Would we simply give up and say it was too late? Could he have reacted as some of the disciples on the lake and said in his heart, "Did not Jesus care that my daughter was dying?"

50 But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."

Here we see clearly see the importance of trusting the promises of Jesus: AND we see the compassion of Jesus who spoke immediately before doubt or fear could overtake this man.

When we come to the Lord's Table this morning our covenant children will join us, even the young ones who cannot yet express their faith. We have baptized them & bring them to the Table trusting that Jesus has given them His saving faith, based on HIS promise that His great salvation is unto us and our children.

- > Jairus was to believe that Jesus could raise his daughter from the dead
- ➤ We are called to believe the same for the covenant children God has given us who are born under sin and death.
- ➤ They will be righteous ONLY if Jesus gives them new life!

Many in the Church today do not properly claim this promise when they fail to baptize the children God has entrusted to them: BUT even they believe this promise in some very practical ways:

- ➤ They rightly assure parents who face the death of an infant that their child will be with them in heaven, claiming David's conviction that He would go to be with his child even though it was born in the midst of much sin!
- ➤ Most 'Baptist' churches have some sort of baby dedication, which can often be called a 'dry baptism!'
- ➤ Even those in the Reformed circles who hold their baptized children back from the Lord's Table admit they think their covenant children must be held to a higher standard than a pagan child that converts later in life

➤ We should simply believe Jesus!

51 When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl.

We see here another example of witnesses: Peter, James & John will also join Jesus at the transfiguration and in the Garden of Gethsemane

52 Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." 53 And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead.

These official mourners and other family members mirror what we often see from the crowds who are there for the show: They not only do NOT have the gift of faith to believe, but we see rank unbelief as they laugh at Jesus, the text says they ridiculed.... NOT a good place to be!

Also, we should not be confused by Jesus using the term "sleep."

➤ We must not fail to see death from God's perspective!

Similar language was used by Jesus when his friend Lazarus died in John 11: "3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." 4 When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

> You see God can use EVEN death to show forth His glory...

"11 These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." 12 Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." 13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep. 14 Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead."

Lazarus was dead and so is this young girl at the tender age of 12!

- > Two weeks ago we saw Jesus as the Lord of Nature commanding the winds & waves.
- > Last week a legion of demons was cast out at His command
- ➤ Now we will see that death itself is under His mighty command...

It is demonstrated in a loving and special way with the touch of Jesus:

54 But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." 55 Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately.

We are given three accounts of resurrections in the Gospels: The widow's son at Nain, this daughter and in John's Gospel we have the raising of Lazarus: They seem to cover all the bases:

- > A young girl just dead
- > A young man being buried
- > A man four days in the tomb

And Jesus is seen acting as He sees fit in each situation:

- ➤ A girl taken by the hand
- > A burial mat touched
- > A simple command to come forth!

We are given illustrations in the Gospels of what Paul will clearly outline to the Corinthians:

15:20 "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death...

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in

victory." 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

These great truths that Paul teaches this young church are confirmed here in Luke's Gospel as we see that this was a REAL resurrection:

And He commanded that she be given something to eat. 56 And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened."

Commanding that she eat, like Jesus after His resurrection! We should consider who this evidence is for...

- > The parents have their daughter back
- ➤ The daughter knows she is alive again
- > AND Jesus says NOT to tell anyone, so it was not like the calling forth of Lazarus...

It is here in Luke's orderly account for his friend Theophilus and ALL those who would read this Gospel.

We are to understand that the coming of Jesus HAS changed everything Our sins are forgiven... we are righteous before the Holy God

We have been placed into His Church: Sons and daughters who will follow their Lord in the resurrection of the dead!

And as Paul told the Corinthians, His Kingdom will fill the whole earth.

➤ This is why as Christians; we can boldly turn mourning into Joy whenever we face the death of one of God's Saints!

As we prepare to take our break from this journey through Luke, we have been given much to ponder:

- > A man has been delivered from a legion of demons and restored!
- ➤ A women suffering an incurable ailment has been fully healed
- ➤ And this young girl has been given back life itself and the mourning of her parents has been turned to great JOY!

As we begin the new church year and celebrate a season that even the world says is full of great JOY, let us remember that the coming of Jesus HAS changed everything

That is why we celebrate it with Advent at the beginning of the new church year...

AND it is why we should truly be filled with great JOY

Communion Meditation:

We speak often about Jesus meeting us, having a real presence at this meal: Our passage this morning gives some insight:

Luke 8 "47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. 48 And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

NOT all who "touched" Jesus were healed or changed: ONLY those who have the gift of faith!