

Good Morning and Welcome. We extend a very warm welcome to each of you who are visiting family and friends in Southbury and have chosen to worship here today with us. Our celebration is richer because of your presence.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Resurrection of Jesus, and for the next fifty days we reflect on the Scriptural accounts of those who walked and talked with Jesus, those who witnessed his healings and heard his teachings.

In these readings we will discover the struggles of the early Christians as they tried to live what they experienced in Jesus - the triumph of hope over despair, of peace over conflict, of life over death. Jesus showed them another way, a better way and in their following in his footsteps they became the living legacy of Jesus.

What do these readings and the Resurrection of Jesus mean for us today in our time and place? How are we called to be the living legacy of Jesus in our families, in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and on the global scene? How would our lives be different, if we believed, really believed, in the power of the Cross and the triumph of Jesus over sin, death, darkness and despair? What would it be like to live as a people of hope?

As we gather around the table of the Risen Christ let us pray that we may more and more become the living legacy of the peace, joy and love of Jesus Christ. What Jesus has done for us, may we do for one another.