

THE WATERED LIFE

Romans 6:1-11 | Mark 1:4-11

Being _____ in the water of Baptism

Baptized into _____ and _____

To _____

Into who we _____

READ. REFLECT. RESPOND. REMEMBER.

Who are we? In this week, there have been many people raising that question. Some saying, “This is not who we are” and many saying, “This is exactly who we are.” Since I make my living reading the Bible professionally, I tend to side with the second group. The Bible as a narrative will tell us exactly what life that is not shaped by the cross of Jesus – to be baptized into his death – will look like. It will reek of being unwashed. But I have sympathy for the first voice as well, because we are baptized into the resurrection – we are able to say this is not who we are in the watered life of Baptism. But maybe our question is how did we get here, and what do we do about it?

Read Romans 6:1-11.

Reflect:

Why does it seem so difficult for us to die to our sin? Is Jesus asking us to be something we cannot be? By what power is transformation made?

We do not ask whether we should go on sinning so that grace may increase. We do, in our own ways, ask if we should go on sinning so that we may prosper (in whatever fashion you take that word). How does the death of Jesus, that we are baptized into, speak to our prospering?

Respond:

My identity is in Jesus. I am a loved child of a heavenly father. I am one in whom Christ dwells and delights. That is my identity.

Remember:

“We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?” Romans 6:2b