At+One: Resurrection

www.wpcarlington.org/atonement

- **1.** Open with prayer: God who opens tombs, open our eyes, hearts, and minds to hear how salvation came down to earth in your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.
- 2. Refresh: What is atonement? At-one-ment
- 3. When did atonement occur?
 - a. Incarnation
 - b. Life & Ministry
 - c. Crucifixion & Death
 - d. Resurrection

4. Powers That Be

a. Read 1 Peter 3:21-22; Ephesians 6:11-12, Romans 8:38-39; Eph 2:1-3. What are these powers and principalities? Are they the same today? What do you think about Walter Wink's phrases: "the domination system" and "myth of redemptive violence?"

5. Ransom Captive theory

- a. Christ pays the ransom to the devil to free humanity from imprisonment.
- b. "Christ has set us free!"
- c. We are saved because Jesus has liberated us from the captivity of sin.
- d. Read Mark 10:35-45; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; John 8:31-36; Hebrews 2:14-15. Who did the ransom get paid to? How much do you think you're worth?

6. Christus Victor atonement theory

- a. Christ conquers death/sin/Satan/evil by dying and then victoriously rising from the dead.
- b. "God has won the battle already!"
- c. We are saved because Jesus conquered death once and for all
- d. Read Romans 5:17-18; Colossians 2:15; 1 Corinthians 15:55-57. What does a victorious Christ look like in your life? Does the military imagery resonate with you?

7. Gift of Love theory

- **a.** In Christ, God absorbs our violence, refusing to pass it on.
- **b.** "God forgives and loves us unconditionally!"
- c. We are saved when our minds are changed, and we can see the image of God in Christ.
- d. Read John 3:16-17; Ephesians 4:31-32; 1 John 4:7-11. Does this change your perception of what love is? What a gift is?
- **8.** Westminster Confession
- **9.** Hymns teach theology:
 - a. Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
 - b. Jesus Messiah
 - c. How Deep the Father's Love For Us
 - d. O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - e. When Israel was in Egypt's Land
- **10.** Close in prayer.