

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Awakening the Sleeper (Inspired by John 11: 1-4 NLT)

Note: Before the reading, make sure all but four violet candles are lit including the white Christ candle.

Reader #1 - Jesus had previously made the claim, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

Reader #2 - Such a claim was followed by the last of seven miracles conducted by Jesus and recorded by John.

Reader #1 - From the Gospel According to John we read, “A man named Lazarus was sick.”

Reader #2 - “So the two sisters (Mary and Martha) sent a message to Jesus telling him, ‘Lord, the one you love is very sick.’”

Reader #1 - “But when Jesus heard about it he said, ‘Lazarus’s sickness will not end in death.’”

Reader #2 - “Jesus continued, ‘No, it is for the glory of God. I, the son of God, will receive glory from this.’”

Reader #1 - After some time, Jesus approached the grave of Lazarus, sealed with a stone, and shouted, “Lazarus, come out!” And Lazarus came out.

Reader #2 - Thus Jesus demonstrated his power over death and darkness.

Now, please extinguish a fifth violet candle ... and return to your pew ...

(Thank you!)