

Easter Vigil
Wicker Park Lutheran Church
Rev. Jason S. Glombicki
April 15th, 2017

For the full experience, listen to this song in background as you read this homily:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDxbugRKZ8g>

This is the night. This is my favorite night. Oh, what a night! It's my favorite night mainly because it both clarifies & muddies resurrection. Oh, what a night, that I will remember.

Now, in contemporary Christianity, I think we've taken the resurrection and limited it far too much. You see, in our continuous repetition of a figure of speech sometimes we turn a metaphor into a definition. For example, since the church seldom calls God "rock," the language is recognized as metaphor, but because the church often calls God "father," some people imagine God to be literally a father in the sky.

But, oh, what a night.

Tonight, we're experiencing something new. You all are witnesses to the resurrection of the Easter Vigil at Wicker Park Lutheran, for the first time in 5 years - oh, what a night! And tonight, we're taking back the resurrection. Tonight, we're both

muddying and clarifying our baptismal waters. Tonight, we're celebrating God's resurrection in every generation.

Oh what a night, is right!

So, what is resurrection exactly?

Is resurrection, ordering chaotic waters?

Is resurrection, parting the waters?

Is resurrection, dancing in joy?

Is resurrection, Wisdom's feast?

Is resurrection, Jonah barfed up on the shore?

Is resurrection, surviving the fires of life?

Is resurrection, newness in baptism?

Is resurrection, Mary's garden encounter?

Is resurrection, tonight? *Oh, what a night!!*

Yes, yes, yes! It is all resurrection!

Is resurrection, this assembly?

Is resurrection, springtime?

Is resurrection, our shared meal?

Is resurrection, our shared font?

Is resurrection, that giraffe finally giving birth?

Is resurrection all around us?

Yes, this night. Yes, resurrection is now. Yes, oh what a night!!

Alleluia, Christ is risen! This is the night! Oh, what a night! Amen.