

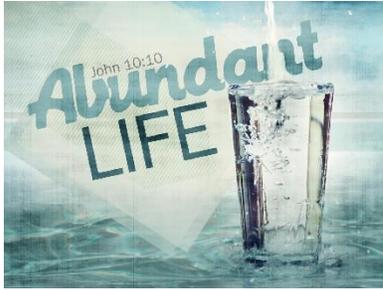
# Sunday, February 4, 2018 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

## Sermon: Really Alive

### Read Romans 6:1-7



We are alive. Seems dumb. Of course we are alive, but as disciples of Jesus we are alive in Jesus. We settle for the ordinary when we do not have to. We are new creations, the Body of Christ, the family of God, people of faith and power. We have abundant life.



What is abundant life? It is not a life of riches or ease, but a life where the fruit of the spirit grows through us. It is a life that people can see Jesus in us. We have a life that is resurrected with Jesus. Jesus is alive in us. We have to be able to let people see that.



We share death with Jesus. Jesus died on the cross so that our old nature could die. This is part of our being a new creation. Because of Jesus we do not need to be victims. We have the ability to make decisions. We are not to abuse our forgiveness but be grateful for it.



We show our gratitude as we live the life. We allow ourselves to be conformed into the image of Jesus. It is our choice. God does not force us to follow. He gives us the ability to follow. When we follow we find the purpose for our lives. We are made in the image of God and that means that our lives are made to be like Jesus. We get frustrated when we try to live on our own. The life is available for us. We have to accept it.



Today we remember what it cost Jesus to give us life. He hung on the cross so that we can have life. As you take the bread and the cup be open to God's grace and allow Him to work in your life in new ways.