

Easter Sunrise Service *at Gentry Ranch*



The angel said "HE IS NOT HERE! HE HAS RISEN!"

As the crowd gathered before the empty tomb to celebrate and glorify God, they felt the presence of Jesus, the risen Son of God. Rev. Everett Boyce, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Bronte, welcomed everyone into the presence of Jesus, the risen savior. All joined in prayer, giving thanks for all the blessing He has given. David Bedford led as we sang our praises, "Up from the grave he arose...and he lives forever. Hallelujah! Christ arose."

Rev. Lee Bevly, First Baptist Church, gave everyone the opportunity to pray for someone they knew that needs special prayers, some needs of our community, and for each of the churches. He gave thanks for God's love in our lives, our families, Bronte, and for all of the churches in Bronte. He then led in the Lord's Prayer.

Rev. David Lewis, preacher at the Church of Christ, read Matthew 28:1-10, which gives the account of Mary Magdalene and Mary going to the tomb at dawn on the first day and seeing the angel sitting on the stone by the empty tomb. "Don't be afraid, Jesus has risen" said the angel.

As everyone sat below the lighted crosses, David led the congregation in singing "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "The Old Rugged Cross", reminding us that someday we will share in His glory and exchange the cross for a crown.

Mr. James Brunson from the Cowboy Church invited those present to acknowledge God as our Savior, thanking him for the strength and guidance he gives us. We can share God's love by giving to the Bronte Community Chest, which assists people with their needs. An offering of \$1,137.00 was given.

The Blackwell Youth group presented a skit, giving a chilling description of the feelings of His followers after the death of Jesus, then reenacting the scriptures of the biblical events - from finding the empty tomb to the appearance of Jesus proving He is Alive and He has Risen. Those in the youth group sharing the resurrection story included Tori and Brendan Scott, Zach Pazer, Jarod McMurtrey, and Nicole Kitten. Narrating were the group leaders, Chad and Brandy Scott.

Special music, "Because He Loved Me", was sung by the Oak Creek Boys - Ray Barnett, Steve Clark, Martin DeLa Garza, and Bro. Lee Bevly. Accompanying them included Wes Henson, and Ryan Jones.

Rev. Dale Patterson, Central Baptist Church, declared today is Resurrection Sunday. Because Jesus lives - 1) We have His presence. He will never leave us or forsakes us. 2) We have His peace. Even with all the problems we face, we still feel God's peace. 3) We have His power to sustain us. 4) We have His promise to secure our future. My Redeemer Lives.

Rev. Everett Boyce challenged everyone to go forth to share God's love and the resurrection story. We do not go alone for God the Father, his Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit go with us.

A large breakfast of casseroles, sausage, nut breads, cinnamon rolls, fruit, coffee, hot chocolate, orange juice and other goodies were shared.

He is Alive! We are Forgiven! He has given us Salvation!

Thanks to all:

Participants in the service: the ministers, the youth, and the song leaders.
Those who set up the lighting, the tent, the sound system, and the breakfast area.
The coffee cooks and all who brought food. The Coke County Sheriff's Office.
ALL who came to share in the Glory of the Resurrection.

*Thank you,
Juanette Gentry*

