

**"ALIVE AND WELL, IN THE RUSH OF THE WIND"**  
**JUNE 13, 2021 - THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**EZEKIEL 17:22-24; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10,14-17; MARK 4:26-34**  
**Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

**To be alive means to grow and change. How something grows or changes has a lot to say about one's life. A tree is either properly nourished and grows to give life to other parts of life, or the tree is not able to grow, it withers away, or perhaps even chokes life out of those around it. If the life circle works the way it was intended; eggs hatch, cocoons open, mothers give birth to their young, and life begins. If a bird does not grow or does not use its wings, it is in great danger. While growing and changing are part of life, they are not always easy. As Jesus makes clear in Mark's gospel today, the Kingdom of God gives life, beyond our understanding, and yet, with faith the size of a mustard seed, we feel the rush of The Wind, we are alive and well in power and grace!**

1. We are alive and well, in the rush of The Wind! Jesus has given us as individuals, as the people of God, all the miracles of life.
  - A. We are alive and well in the life giving gift of faith.  
2 Corinthians 5:7; Mark 4:31
  - B. We are alive and well in the life giving gift of forgiveness.  
2 Corinthians 5:10
  - C. We are alive and well in the life giving gift of growth.  
2 Corinthians 5:17; Mark 4:32
  - D. We are alive and well in the life giving, life changing, gifts of grace and hope to spring forth anew, to live!
  
2. We are alive and well, in the rush of The Wind! Jesus has given us as his holy Church, as the Kingdom of God, the miracle of life for daily living, for eternal life!

- A. We are alive and well, for we are the seeds of God. You, God's people, are his every day, not so simple, miracles. Mark 4:26-27
  - B. We are alive and well, for we have been nourished by God. God's gifts and blessings are his every day, not so simple, miracles. 2 Corinthians 5:14
  - C. We are alive and well, for we have been given life in The Light. God's presence is his every day, not so simple, miracle of hope in our lives.
  - D. We are alive and well, for we are blessed to grow and to bear fruit, in the ever growing awareness of life in Christ. God's promises, springing forth fruit and life, are his every day, not so simple, miracles. Ezekiel 17:24
3. Trust and feel the rush of The Wind, for you are alive and well in the saving grace of Jesus Christ, springing forth life, where only God has planted seeds of new life, springing forth belief where only God has planted seeds of new faith, springing forth fruit where only God has planted seeds of change and difference and impact, springing forth hope where only God has planted seeds of truth, promise and reassurance. Trust and feel the rush of The Wind, for the Kingdom of God gives life, beyond our understanding, and yet, with faith the size of a mustard seed, we are alive and well in power and grace!