Title: He Said Her Name
Text: John 20:1-18
Target: The empty tomb of Jesus is more than a grave that was robbed, but a grace that is revealed!

I. **The Tomb was a place of Consolation:** “Now on the **first day** of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.” (Vs. 1)
   
   A. **Mary’s Character:** “Mary, called Magdalene, from whom **seven demons** had gone out.” Luke 8:2
   
   B. **Mary’s Calling:** “who provided for them (Jesus & disciples) out of their **means**.” Luke 8:3
   
   C. **Mary’s Concern:** “So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” (Vs. 2)

II. **The Tomb was a place of Consideration:**
   
   A. **Stone rolled away:** (Back to Vs. 1)
   
   B. **Grave clothes remained:** (2x) “...he saw the **linen cloths** lying there” (Vs. 5, 6)
   
   C. **Face cloth folded:** “and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.” (Vs. 7)

III. **The Tomb was a place of Complication:** “for as yet they did not understand the **Scripture**, that he must rise from the dead.” (Vs. 9)
   
   A. **Lack of Understanding:** “Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.” Luke 24:46
   
   B. **Left Unbelieving:** “Then the disciples went back to their homes.” (Vs. 10)

IV. **The Tomb was a place of Confirmation:** “But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb.” (Vs. 11)
   
   A. **Entertained Angels:** “And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.” (Vs. 12)
      
      1. **Placement:** Ark of the Covenant
      2. **Pronouncement:** “They said to her, **Woman**, why are you weeping?” (Vs. 13)
   
   B. **Encountered Jesus:** “Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.” (Vs. 14)
      
      1. **Power of a Question:** “Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? **Whom** are you seeking?” (Vs. 15)
      2. **Point of Observation:** “Supposing him to be the **gardener**, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” (Vs. 15)

V. **The Tomb was a place of Celebration:** “Jesus said to her, ‘**Mary**, She turned and said to him in Aramaic, ‘Rabboni!’ (which means Teacher).” (Vs. 16)
   
   A. **Mission Accomplished:** “go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my **Father** and your **Father**, to my **God** and your **God**.”’ (Vs. 17)
   
   B. **Messenger Appointed:** “Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘**I have seen the Lord**’—and that he had said these things to her.” (Vs.18)

**Take Away:** The empty tomb is a place that invites sinners just like you and me. It is a place of grace for the world to see, where all that is lost can be forever redeemed. Oh, Praise the One who is the KING OF KINGS!