

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 10, 2024

A WORD FROM PT

Normally the first Reading at the Divine Service on Sunday's is taken from the Old Testament. The exception to the rule is during the Easter Season. As you may have noticed, during this Season the Readings are from the New Testament Book of Acts. I love the reason for this.

Jesus rose from the tomb on the third day after His death on the Cross. Many people, mostly his disciples, encountered the Risen Christ over the course of 40 days. According to the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15, on one occasion the Risen Lord appeared to over 500 witnesses. But after His 40th day ascension into heaven, witnessed by His close disciples, His resurrected, visi-

ble appearances mostly ceased. I say mostly. We know of one exception. And that was to the Apostle Paul (cf. Act 9:1-8; 1Co 15:8; Ga 1:13-16).

His resurrected appearances cease, but the impact of the Risen Christ continues. And the Book of Acts chronicles the impact of the Resurrection on Jesus' disciples and in the formation and expansion of the Church. When the New Testament teaches that the Church is the Body of Christ, we should understand that after Christ's Ascension the world encounters Christ's Risen Body as they encounter the Church.

In His encounter with the Risen Christ Paul learned that he had been persecut-

ing Christ. That is what our Lord declared to Paul. You can read about it in Acts 9. And how had he been persecuting Jesus? Well, before his conversion Paul was busy arresting believers, throwing them into prison, and even approving of their executions. In attacking Christians Paul was attacking Christ! Indeed, individual believers make up different members of the Body of Christ.

We very easily lose sight of the Risen Christ's work to knit individual believers into the various members of His Body. Joined to Christ we are knit to other members. We are not meant to live like severed members independent from the Body!

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why Is the Pastor Using cruets to both fill the Communion Chalice and then to cleanse it afterward?

You may have noticed the Pastor using a little water from a cruet poured into the chalice, swirled around

to mix with the remaining drops of wine, and consumed by the Pastor at the conclusion of administering Holy Communion. This is one way to reverently handle the remaining communion element of the cup. And there is a practical benefit. The longer wine sits in pre-

cious metal vessels, the more it begins pitting the surface. By adding wine when needed to the chalice, and then consuming soon after the slight remains with a little water, the metal is preserved.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Tuesday 4/9**
5:30pm Ladies Night Out at Su Casa
- Wednesday, 4/10**
5:30pm Confirmation Class
- Thursday, 4/11**
9:30am Prayer Gathering
6pm Council Meeting
- Friday, 4/12**
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study
- Sunday, 4/14** Third Sunday of Easter
8am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Fellowship
10:45am Worship Team Meeting
- Wednesday, 4/17**
5:30pm Confirmation Class
6:30pm Adult Bible Study



Making Disciples for Life

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

THIS AND THAT...

The **Ladies Night Out** will meet on Tuesday, April 9 this month. They will gather at Su Casa in Holmen at 5:30pm.

Confirmation Class starts up again on Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30pm

The April **Council Meeting** is this Thursday, April 11, 6pm at the church.

The **Worship Team** will meet on Sunday, April 14, at 10:45 (after the Coffee Fel-

lowship). Because of this meeting there will be no **Adult Class** on the 14th.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Molstads will be cleaning the church the week of April 21. The Betlachs are scheduled for the week of May 19.

The April **Designated Benevolence** is for the **Youth Camperships**.

The early Christians demonstrated an amazing commitment to one another and each other's wellbeing. They exemplified a Christlike love which importantly included forgiveness. The way the community lived together as a congregation greatly witnessed to the power of Jesus' Resurrection. People could recognize them as Christians by the love they had and showed to each other.

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

Apr 7 Janie Uy
Apr 9 Leslie Duesenberg
Apr 23 Craig Bartos
Apr 23 Tim Duesenberg
Apr 23 Heide Traver
Apr 25 David Bjornstad
Apr 29 Calvin Swaney

Anniversaries

Apr 27 T&P Betlach

Random Humor

Three boys are bragging about their fathers. "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, and they give him \$50," says the first boy. "That's nothing!" says the second. "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$100." "I got you both beat" says the third.

"My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes four people to collect all the money!"

A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He said, "Call for backup."

A Sunday School teacher asked the children just before she dismissed them to go to church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" Annie replied, "Because people are sleeping."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

4/14 Third Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Connie Meunier

Crucifer: Stella Roll

Acolyte: Jed Roll

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Cole W/Tom R

Comm Asst: Tom Rislow

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Jessica S/Heide T

Livestreamer: Jed Roll

4/21 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Mike Meunier

Crucifer: Chase Repaal

Acolyte: Carter Repaal

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: N/A

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

4/28 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: Benjamin Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: Jarrod Roll

Counters: Connie M/David B

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

5/5 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Brad Benrud

Crucifer: Elliott Cunningham

Acolyte: Regan Cunningham

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Dan M/Naomi R

Comm Asst: Tim Betlach

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Tim Betlach

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS
642 Western Avenue
Holmen, WI 54636
www.giftofgracelc.org
giftofgracelc@gmail.com
(608) 668-1587

Services held at 9am at:
642 Western Avenue
A block north and then
a block west of King Furniture