

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 7, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

Of all the things our Lord Jesus attended to on the eve of His crucifixion, instituting, or establishing, a new meal was an important part of that night. This meal He enjoined upon his disciples for generations to come. And of this meal, Jesus connects and identifies the New Covenant of His blood with it. Now that is saying something! We rightly conclude that participation in this meal is something most special.

Interestingly, the Old covenant was likewise ratified by blood. And gruesomely the sacrificial blood of animals was thrown upon the altar, and then flung at the people so that they might be covered under the covenant

God made with His people Israel. But with the new covenant a more efficacious blood confirms the agreement God makes with man. It is the blood of the perfect sacrifice, that to which all animal sacrifices previously pointed. It is nothing less than the blood of the Incarnate Son of God. And this blood is not flung at us, but rather, it is offered to us in a meal.

And Jesus says of the bread He blessed and broke, “take and eat, this is My body, given for you.” And of the cup that He blessed and shared with His disciples, “take and drink, this cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the for-

giveness of sin.”

It is best to take Jesus at His word. “This is My body. This is My blood.” We get in trouble when we try to understand or explain it. It is obviously in the category of a miracle, and one of the mysteries of the Faith. And yet it is a tenet of the faith that God’s Word is able to accomplish what it purposes. After all, God spoke things into existence out of nothing. We just accept that we need His supernatural, sacramental body and blood to be nourished and sustained in the forgiveness of sins. What a meal!

Skipping such a meal is not conducive to good health...

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Does the receiving of money offerings play a significant role in the worship service? Yes, more than you might think! Cash is one of the strongest symbols in modern culture. When we offer our money on the altar it should represent our time and effort –

our very selves. In early Christian worship gifts-in-kind were handled during the weekly assemblage. In our post-industrial societies, we now exchange in paper or metal symbols. The offering of our selves upon the altar is in response to God’s love proclaimed in

the Good News and in anticipation of how God offers back that which is entrusted to him. During the moment of offering we also offer bread and wine upon the altar, and in return these gifts are offered back to us as the very body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Tuesday, 4/6**
11:00am Prayer Gathering
- Friday, 4/9**
6:30am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study
- Sunday, 4/11** 2nd Sunday of Sunday
9:00am Divine Service (also livestreamed)
10:30am Worship Team
- Tuesday, 4/13**
6:00pm Council Meeting

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- *Christ-Centered*
- *Mission-Driven*
- *Traditionally-Grounded*
- *Congregationally-Focused*

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

THIS AND THAT...

We will be celebrating the principle festival of the Church Year, **Easter**, for a week of weeks. There **seven Sundays of Easter**. And no matter what liturgical season, even during Lent, every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Tune in FM 87.9 from the parking lot for the service.

There is no longer any need to notify Pastor Tim if you

intent to attend the Divine Services. The **expectation for wearing a mask** will need to continue for some while. And livestreaming will also be continued indefinitely.

Don't forget **Food Donations** for the Onalaska Food Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the upcoming month of April is Youth Camperships.

The Hanson family is scheduled to clean the church the week of April 18. And Heidi Traver is scheduled for the week of May 16.

If you would like to commune but are not ready to do so in person at the Divine Service, contact Pastor Tim to discuss ways in which **the meal consecrated at Altar** can be extended to you.

Especially during this pandemic, utilize your computer to share the faith and promote our congregation's ministries.

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 1..... Jarrod Roll
Apr 9..... Leslie Duesenberg
Apr 23..... Craig Bartos
Apr 23..... Tim Duesenberg
Apr 23..... Heidi Traver
Apr 25..... David Bjornstad
Apr 29..... Calvin Swaney

Anniversaries

May 3..... J & J Schoonover
May 6..... T & L Duesenberg
May 7..... T & N Rislow
May 23..... C & M Bartos

Ole and Lena

Lena: "Der is trouble vit da car, sveetheart. It has vater in da carburetor." **Ole:** "Vater in da carburetor? Dat is ridiculous." **Lena:** "Ole, I tell you da car has vater in the carburetor." **Ole:** "You don't even know vat a carburetor is. I'll check it out. Ver is da car?" **Lena:** "In da lake."

Lena once had two chickens. One of them got terribly sick. So she killed the other one to make soup to get the first one well again.

Ole and Lena went to the Olympics. While sitting on a bench a lady turned to Ole and said, "Are you a pole vaulter?" Ole said, "No, I'm Norwegian ... and my name

isn't Valter."

Ole, Sven, and Nels were proud that they had put the puzzle together in only 51 days! "We put the puzzle together in just 51 days," they bragged, "and just tink, the box said 3-5 years!"

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined, positions filled late in the week)

4/11 Second Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Dan Molstad
Crucifer: *not needed at this time*
Acolyte: *not needed at this time*
Ushers: *not needed at this time*
Counters: David B/Jarrold Roll
Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: *not needed at this time*

Acolyte: *not needed at this time*

Ushers: *not needed at this time*

Counters: David B/Tom R

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: *not needed at this time*

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: *not needed at this time*

5/2 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: tbd
Reader: tbd
Crucifer: *not needed at this time*
Acolyte: *not needed at this time*
Ushers: tbd
Counters: tbd
Comm Asst: tbd
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: *not needed at this time*

4/25 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Cole Warner
Reader: Mike Meunier
Crucifer: *not needed at this time*
Acolyte: *not needed at this time*
Ushers: *not needed at this time*
Counters: Cheryl R/Hannah S
Comm Asst: Connie Meunier

4/18 Third Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Jessica Schoonover
Crucifer: *not needed at this time*

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS
642 Western Avenue
Holmen, WI 54636
www.giftofgracelc.org
giftofgracelc@gmail.com
(608) 797-7837

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