

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

I continue with the introduction to Psalter that I wrote last week. And I hope this will encourage your use of it!

As you will note in the "Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer" that we send and make available to you each week, there is a selection of two Psalm readings for each morning of the week, and two for each evening.

The Psalms are included in the Lutheran Book of Worship. They are also found in every Bible, no matter what translation you use. We promote the English Standard Version in our congregation, but through use you may be at home in another. That's okay! Many, for in-

stance, are fond of the elegant language in the King James Version. Use the one with which you are most at home.

No matter which translation you use, with constant use you will develop a comfort level with it. One advantage of the Lutheran Book of Worship is the pointing that allows for chanting. This is especially helpful in our corporate gatherings. Otherwise, the Psalms in any translation can be read responsively by alternating reading parts by odd and even numbered verses.

There is a knack for learning to appreciate the Hebraic poetic style, but with time and repetition the rhythm and evocative images become memorable. For en-

couragement, remember that the prayers of our Lord and his followers were often the words of the Psalter! And the beauty of this collection of hymnic prayers is that they cover the full range of emotions found in us. They capture our inmost thoughts and petitions. They express our laments. They even give voice to our complaints.

Especially at this time in the face of a pandemic, Psalm 46 helps me pray with boldness: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea..." it goes on. Pray it for yourself!

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What are we observing on "The Sunday of the Passion?"

The Sunday of the Passion mixes triumph and tragedy, the palms and the passion, observing Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem as well as looking ahead to

his passion and death on the cross.

As the prelude to the Sunday of the Passion focuses on reading the Passion Narrative, the Procession with Palms provides an appropriate burst of joy which does not lose sight of the solemn

goal of Jesus' triumphal entry. *(taken from the Lutheran Planning Calendar, publ. by Augsburg Fortress)*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 4/1

6:30pm Lenten Midweek Service

Friday, 4/3

6:30am Men's Breakfast at church

Sunday, 4/5 5th Sunday of the Passion

8:00am Choir Practice

9:00am Divine Service

10:45am Adult Class

Thursday, 4/9

6:30pm Maundy Thursday Agape Feast

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...

I am sending by email the Midweek Devotional Service using the LBW's Vespers Service so that the Midweek Services can continue in the home at this time.

The Biblical narratives for our Lenten Midweek Services will be as follows: **3/4** The Spirit hovering over the waters at Creation; **3/11** The Flood, Noah and the Ark; **3/18** The Crossing of the Red Sea; **3/25** Naaman's leprosy cleansed at the Jordan; **4/1** Jesus walks on Sea of Galilee while after a few steps, Peter

almost drowns.

In keeping with the concern over the **COVID-19** virus, and in compliance with the Governor's orders, we are only allowing small groups (maximum of six) to come in for Holy Communion. Call Pastor Tim to make arrangements.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of March will be directed to the **North American Luther-**

an Seminary (NALS).

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for the **Holmen/Onalaska Food Pantry.**

The Duesenbergs are signed up to clean the church the week of March 15. Heidi Traver is listed for week of April 19.

Having compassion and showing mercy to our neighbors is always the finest witness that we can do.

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

Mar 26..... Asher Roll
Mar 26..... Benjamin Roll
Mar 29..... Phyllis Christensen
Apr 1..... Jarrod Roll
Apr 7..... William Lu
Apr 7..... Janie Uly
Apr 9..... Leslie Duesenberg

Anniversaries

May 3..... J & J Schoonover
May 6..... T & L Duesenberg
May 7..... T & N Risløw

Church Humor

One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for church, to which he replied, "I'm not going."

"Why not?" she asked.

"I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "1), they don't like me, and 2) I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why you SHOULD go to church: 1) You're 59 years old, and 2) you're the Pastor!"

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. "This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased. He continued on,

"You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?"

The Rabbi looked at the Priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

4/5 Sunday of the Passion/Palm Su

Asst Minister: Cole Warner

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: Calvin Swaney

Acolyte: Kylee Kernan

Ushers: Jarrod Roll

Counters: Tom Risløw/Jarrod Roll

Comm Asst: Heidi Traver

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tba

Acolyte: Elyse Schoonover

Ushers: Mary Bartos

Counters: Naomi R/Hannah S

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Tom Risløw

Fellowship: tba

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tba

4/26 Third Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Connie Meunier

Crucifer: Jed Roll

Acolyte: Asher Roll

Ushers: Tom Kruse

Counters: Jane K/Nikki H

Comm Asst: Leslie Duesenberg

Accompanist: Tom Risløw

Fellowship: tba

4/12 Resurrection of Our Lord

Asst Minister: Naomi Risløw

Reader: Jeremy Schoonover

Crucifer: Sam Schoonover

4/19 Second Sunday of Easter

Asst Minister: Tom Risløw

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Drew Staff

Ushers: Wendell Halderson

Counters: Heather R/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

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