

Trinity Tidings

March 21, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
709 W BECKERT RD
NEW LONDON, WI 54961
WWW.TRINITYNEWLONDON.COM
TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
920-982-5833

REV. DR. CHARLES THOMPSON, PASTOR 920-273-5105;
PASTOR.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR: ANGELA KUECHLER
FAMILYFAITH.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM

Thank you all for a wonderful Palm Sunday service and brunch last week!

There are just so many to thank for helping make it such a special morning. Special thanks to Becca Jagla for her wonderful pancakes. We had a great attendance at both the service and the meal. We raised \$209 to go towards our next meal event (I hear next year is the 75th anniversary of something).

Sue Krejcarek
Support and Service Committee

April 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday, March 31 - *Easter Sunday*

- Sunrise Worship 6:30 AM
- Worship 9 AM

Monday, April 1

Tuesday, April 2 - *Election*

Wednesday, April 3

- WIC 9 AM
- Worship Committee 5:30 PM
- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 4

- Bible Study 9 AM
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6:00 PM

Friday, April 5

Saturday, April 6

Sunday, April 7

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Story Time 10 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Support & Service Mtg 10:15 AM

Click [here](#) for the most current calendar.

Click [here](#) for worship.



Trinity Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Journey Through *Holy Week*

March 24: Palm Sunday Worship • 9 a.m.

Children's choir sings at worship + brunch following worship

March 28: Maundy Thursday Worship • 6:30 p.m.

March 29: Good Friday Worship • 1:30* & 6:30 p.m.

*1:30 p.m. Worship is Ecumenical at Trinity Lutheran

March 31: Easter Worship • 6:30 a.m. | 9 a.m.

709 W. Beckert Road, New London, Wis.

For latest details, read the Weekly News at TrinityNewLondon.com.

Watch live or recorded services at TrinityNewLondon.com

Office Hours:
8 AM - 12 noon
Monday - Thursday
Other times by appointment

Prayers & Praises

Email or call with your request.

- Carol - friend of Bob Marcks, health concerns
- Steve Dyreson - recovering from surgery
- Tony Krajna - friend of Dan Wesenick, cancer
- Judy Gregory - cancer
- Jim Schmidt - friend of Dyreson's, recovering from surgery
- Shelley Langkau - cousin of Vigil's, cancer
- Bryan Price - friend of Vigil's, cancer
- Kristin - friend of Kelly Newton, health concerns
- Sue Luba - recovering from surgery
- Carla Fulcer - friend of Sue Luba, cancer
- Keith Krueger
- Genie Shaw - friend of Dixie Hill, cancer and other health concerns
- Mary Jo Driessen - friend of Wesenick's, cancer
- Erin Larson - recovering from surgery
- Paul Bock - recovering from surgery
- Betty Anderson - friend of Amy Kuehl
- Brian Miller - health issues
- Trista Jo Westphal - health concerns
- Ginny Halverson - friend of Lehl's, recovering from a stroke
- Peter H. - friend of Dyreson's, leukemia
- Julie Smith - daughter of Jean Smith, recovering from transplant surgery
- Leslie Larson - uncle of Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Mike Loppnow - cancer
- Beth Cochran - friend of Dan Wegner, health concerns
- Kaden Wegner - grandson of Michael Wegner, health concerns
- Pastor Dean Desilet - friend of Pastor Chuck, health concerns
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Dawn Haag - cancer

Thank you for the flowers that decorate our chancel!

Ron & Joy Flohr

in memory of Herman & Iva Riesenberg, and Robert Flohr

Cherine Gagnow

in memory of my sister, Christine Thomsen

Bill & Sue Krejcarek

Amy Kuehl

in memory of Arvilla Williams

Peter & Allison Kurth

In memory of Allison's dad, Duane Arness

Tom & Sally McCormick

in memory of our parents

Kathryn & Mark Moser

in honor of our family

Mike & Anita Simonson

in memory of family members not forgotten

June Steinberg

in memory of my husband, Leslie Steinberg and deceased family members

Kirk & Amy Van Dreel

in honor of our children and grandchildren Brianna & Jake Guyer, Benjamin, Noah, & baby; Schuyler Van Dreel; Shelby & Jacob Hurajt

Dan Wegner

in memory of my Godparents, Ginny & Roy Gohmann

Mike Wegner

In memory of my wife, Bonnie Wegner

Terry & Lois Wegner

in memory of Anna & Cliff Eglund and Lacy & Andrew Wegner



Thank you to our Sunday School students for sharing your music during the Palm Sunday worship service! Thank you to the teachers and others who worked so hard to make this possible!

MARCH COMMUNITY MEAL

The community meals team served 203 meals on Wednesday, March 27! The Community Meals committee would like to thank Trinity members for supporting this ministry through donations and volunteering their time to prepare, pack, hand out and deliver meals.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



In her Easter message to the church, Bishop Eaton focuses on three words that describe what the women at tomb experienced when the angel announced that Jesus had been raised from the dead: fear, amazement and being seized or possessed.

“These three words really say something about the women, and I think about us and, most especially, about Easter...I think it's very important to take time to be a little amazed, to be standing in a different place, to have a sense of this awe and trembling before the Lord, and to allow ourselves to be possessed by the Spirit, who will give us power and courage in these times.”

Click [here](#) to view Bishop Eaton's video message.

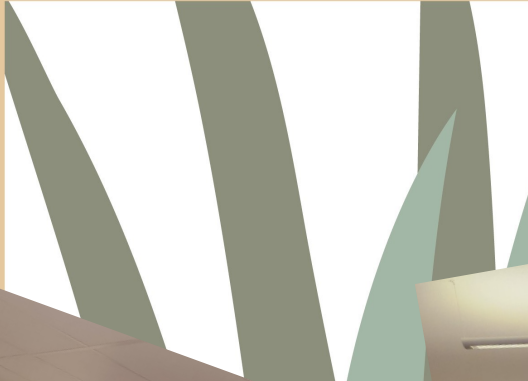
“They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.” - Mark 16:3-4

Dear beloved,
As we enter again into the sacred rhythms of holy week and prepare our hearts for Easter, may you with Mary, Mary, and Salome find the stones of life "already rolled away" and with Hagar, "the well that has been there all along." May God bless your preparations and your gatherings this week as you share the story of God's good news in your communities and with the world. God is faithful and in the death and resurrection of Christ, we have all that we need. Thanks be to God!

Easter Blessings,
Bishop Anne and the Staff of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin

As the church enters into Holy Week, Bishop Anne shares a blessing for the days ahead and for Easter. Click [here](#) to view her video message.

PALM Sunday



PALM Sunday



What did the last supper look like?
This is Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting.
Is this accurate? Did they all really sit on one side of the table?
Here is a reenactment from some mischievous seminarians from Wartburg Seminary:



We do not know what it really looked like. Only have speculation.



We are not sure if there was a seating chart. Probably they were sitting around a

table where they could all see each other. There were no seats of honor. They were all equally guests. Jesus was the host but played the role of the slave. He gets down and washes their feet. This is not proper protocol. This made them very uncomfortable, especially Peter. He protests. Jesus is adamant that everyone needed their feet washed. They needed to let him wash them. His message: as I have washed your feet you need to wash one another's feet. You all need to serve one another. New commandment: "love one another as I

have loved you."

This is where Maundy Thursday gets its name, mandatum means commandment.

We are all gathered today as equals at the table.

We are all called to love one another as he had loved us.

We're not going to foot wash tonight, but we will be all receiving our Lord in the Holy Communion.

None of us have the seats of honor.

We all equally need God's grace given at this meal and to share it with others.

That is what we as Christians need to be constantly addressing: how welcoming are we to everyone?

We joke about seating charts in church, we have our pews, places we are most comfortable sitting.

We are creatures of habit.

We need to ask ourselves if we are living out Jesus' command to love one another, and welcoming everyone to the table as He did.

Several years ago Laura and I went to Indianapolis as she had a pharmacy conference and I had the opportunity to explore Indy a little bit.

On a Sunday morning I had the opportunity to worship at an Episcopal church.

I met nice people at the door and then went and sat down,

Was asked nicely to move as this was the lector's seat.

Then I found another seat and was asked to move again.

That we're nice about it and I obliged.

I enjoyed the worship

Beautiful liturgy and worship.

But it made me stop and think about how other guests would feel being asked to move.

Our mission as a church is to live out Jesus' commandment to love one another as he has loved us, and to extend this love to others.

All of us need his grace.

All of us need his mercy.

All of us need his forgiveness.

That is why we are here.

We are all equally guests of our Lord.

We are here to receive our crucified and risen Lord through the Word and Sacrament so that we can love and serve one another. And when we leave these walls we can join in where God is working in our communities.

We all equally belong at his table.

No reservations needed. Amen.



E. Stanley Jones tells of a missionary who lost his way in the African jungle. He could find no landmarks and the trail vanished. Eventually, stumbling on a small hut, he asked a native living there if he could lead him out. The native nodded. Rising to his feet, he walked directly into the bush. The missionary followed on his heels. For more than an hour they hacked their way through a dense wall of vines and grasses. The missionary became worried: "Are you sure this is the way? I don't see any path." The African chuckled and said over his shoulder, "Bwana, in this place there is no path. I am the path." (Today in the Word, May 1996, p. 24).

In John's gospel Jesus says he is the way, the truth, and the life.

Even in the passion account we are about to hear Jesus is still the way, the path to God.

He is in charge of the situation.

The powers at be thought that they were in charge.

The religious leaders thought they knew the way to God.

God had given them the law, the instruction, as a means for the people to stay close to God.

Instead they turned the law into a club to beat the people into submission.

Naturally Jesus offended them by claiming to be the fulfillment of the law.

What is ironic is that the High Priest Caiaphas said that it is better for one man to die than a whole nation to perish.

He and the other leaders thought they knew the way but were blind to their savior right in front of them.

The Romans thought that they had the right way: the way of force and domination.

Pilate wavers but has Jesus executed to keep the peace.

Through all of this Jesus uses his opponents' blindness to give his life for all.

As difficult as the story is to hear, we can take heart in the fact that Jesus willingly went through it all for us.

He was not a helpless victim.

We can trust him knowing that everything went according to his plan. As he said earlier in John:

"No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." (John 10:18)

Even in his death Jesus has all of the authority.

When we look at the cross today we see how Jesus conquered all of the forces of evil through willingly giving his life.

Jesus has authority over all of the things that overwhelm us.

He went through suffering and death so that we do not need to fear it.

He is the way to salvation, reconciliation with God.

When we are not always sure which direction to go in our lives, we can look to him.

He proved that he is in charge and that we can trust him. Amen





Easter Sunday

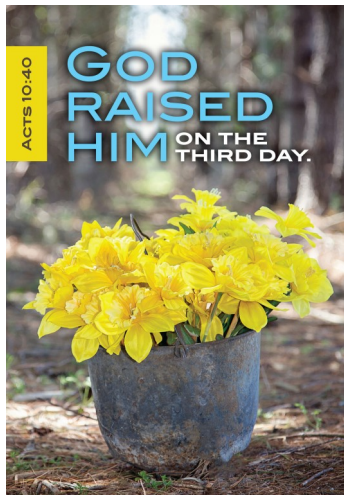
First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank

with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."



Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

God's mercy endures forever.

²Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me

and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was

raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

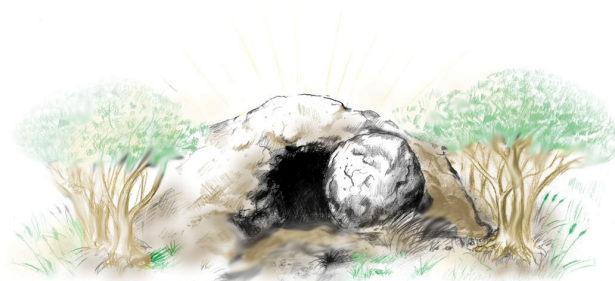
The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body].² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.³ They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there



you will see him, just as he told you."⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



EASTER MESSAGE

Easter

Max Lucado, in his book, "Six Hours One Friday," tells the story of a missionary in Brazil who discovered a tribe of natives in a remote part of the jungle. They lived near a large river. The tribe was in need of medical attention. A contagious disease was ravaging the population. People were dying daily.

A hospital was not too terribly far away — across the river, but the Indians would not cross it because they believed the river was inhabited by evil spirits. And to enter its water would mean certain death.

The missionary explained how he had crossed the river & was unharmed. But they were not impressed. He then took them to the bank & placed his hand in the water. They still wouldn't go in. He walked into the water up to his waist & splashed water on his face. It didn't matter. They were still afraid to enter the river.

Finally, he dove into the river, swam beneath the surface until he emerged on the other side. He raised a triumphant fist into the air. He had entered the water & escaped. It was then that the natives broke into a cheer & followed him across.

This is what Jesus did. He entered the river of death & came out on the other side so that we might no longer fear death, but find eternal life in Him.

The first witnesses of the resurrection were full of fear.

A group of women go to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body. They had been traumatized by his brutal death. Now they were looking for some closure.

Resurrection was the last thing on their mind.

They get to the tomb, the stone has already been rolled away, and they are greeted by a mysterious young man, probably an angel, who says to them:

"Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

Notice he starts with "Do not be alarmed." This phrase is in the Bible 365 times.

Jesus has been raised, he is already ahead of you. You will see him in Galilee.

Do not be alarmed!

Death could not hold him. It was only temporary.

The women were not the only ones afraid.

The men were hiding behind locked doors in a room.

Everyone was scared. Disillusioned. Not knowing what to do next.

No one saw this coming.

When Joseph of Arimathea put Jesus' body in the tomb it was game over.

It was not like this:



Just a little Easter humor.

I highly doubt Joseph expected his tomb to be an Air BNB.

Many Jews believed death was final for everyone, until the general resurrection in the last days.

In the midst of their fear the angels say to the women "Do not be alarmed!"

"Go find him who is ahead of you!"

He has crossed the river of death so that you do not need to fear anything.

Mark ends abruptly with the women saying nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

How would we respond to the angel's message?

The other gospels give us stories of his many

appearances to his followers.

We know that the followers believed so strongly that God had raised Jesus from the dead that they devoted the rest of their lives to sharing this good news.

We believe today that the resurrection was a real historical event.

Without it there would be no church.

However, the resurrection is more than a historical event that happened at a tomb somewhere around Jerusalem 2000 years ago.

I had a friend while I was in seminary who was struggling with his faith. Once we were taking about the resurrection and he asked, "So what?"

It really made me stop and think.

That is the question we deal with today.

How do we answer this?

As was the case of the first witnesses we have many fears today.

All of us have to face our mortality.

Whenever we lose a loved one we face the reality of death.

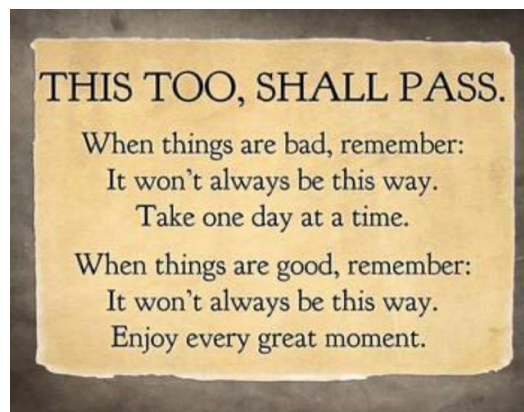
The resurrection tells us death is not the end of the story.

All of the trials we endure are only temporary.

This is the hope we can live for. Because of the resurrection we all have something to look forward to.

How do we live in hope of the resurrection?

Here's one meme that I find helpful.



We can live each and every day in the hope of tomorrow.

Jesus has crossed the river of death for us so that we have nothing to fear, even death.

He is always with us, and ahead of us!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed Alleluia!