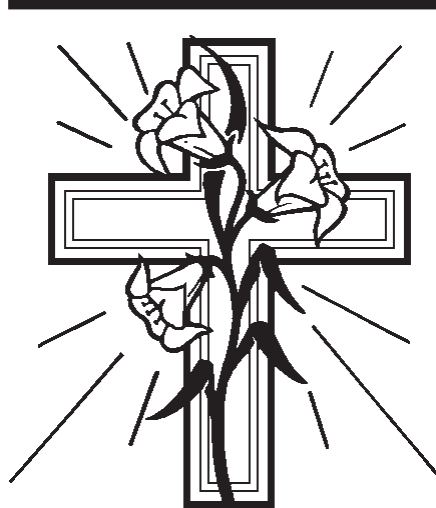


Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas

2021



Pastor's Easter Message

"And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you."

Romans 8:11

As we celebrate Christ's resurrection at Easter, it is a good time to look at what we mean when we say in the Apostles' Creed, "I believe in . . . the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting," and in the Nicene Creed, "And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

Jesus promises, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me, even though he die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25). For all who trust in Jesus, death is the beginning of eternal life.

At the moment your body dies, your soul goes immediately and directly to be with Jesus in heaven. As Jesus promised the repentant thief on the

cross, "Today, you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). St. Paul describes the soul departing the body this way: "Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:6, 8).

The souls of those who have departed are described as being "asleep" in Jesus (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14), but it is a sleep in which their souls actively enjoy the bliss and peace of Paradise while awaiting the resurrection of the body at the Last Day (Luke 16:25, 23:43; Philippians 1:23).

Spring Promise

Tender buds on shrub and tree

Boast of Spring's bright victory

Dormant seeds beneath earth's floor

Leap from darkness through life's door

The world has changed its winter scene

To fertile fields with glint of green,

Blossoms burst to meet the sun—

The glad awakening has begun!

Somewhere beneath Death's winter sleep

Mortals too will wake from the deep—

For Christ arose that He would bring

His promise of eternal spring!

Iris W. Bray

Concerning the resurrection, Jesus says: "For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and

believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the Last Day" (John 6:40). To us, how the resurrection of the body will take place is incomprehensible. But, Jesus reminds us that "all things are possible with God" (Mark 10:27). "Do not be amazed at this," Jesus says, "for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear His voice and come out" (John 5:28).

The very same bodies we have now will be raised up and restored to life.

As Job testifies: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own eyes—I, and not another" (Job 19:25-27).

And in Ezekiel 37:1-14 there is a fascinating vision of the resurrection and restoration of our bodies. The prophet sees the bones coming together and being covered with tendons, flesh and skin, and the Lord breathes back into the bodies the breath of life. The Lord concludes the vision with a promise: "I am going to open up your graves and bring you up from them."

Our resurrected bodies will be transformed into glorious, heavenly bodies. As St. Paul says in Philippians 3:20-21: "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body." In 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 St. Paul discusses at length what our transformed and glorified bodies will be like.

"Because I live," Jesus says, "you also shall live" (John 14:19). Because Jesus rose from the dead in the body on Easter morn, your body also will be raised to eternal life.

Pastor Kevin Vogts



**“Here I Stand!”
Anniversary Service
April 18**

Several years ago we observed the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, commemorating Martin Luther posting his 95 Theses on October 31, 1517. That date is usually counted as the beginning of the Reformation, and three years ago Lutherans and other Protestants all around the world celebrated that 500th anniversary with great fanfare. You may recall that our own congregation, which is in fact the “Mother Church” of all the Lutheran congregations in the Kansas City area, sponsored a wonderful city-wide Reformation Festival at the Kaufmann Center downtown.

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April, 2021*

But, in some ways, the 500th anniversary of the decisive event that resulted in the formation of the Lutheran and other Protestant churches came some three years later, on April 18th, 1521. For, it was on that day that Martin Luther stood at the Diet of Worms before the emperor and princes of the Holy Roman Empire, bravely defied all the threats of both church and state, and boldly proclaimed: *“My conscience is bound by the Word of God. I cannot, I shall not, I will not recant. Here I stand, I can do no other. So help me God!”*

If Luther had recanted, Christendom would have once again forgotten the Good News of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, based on Scripture alone, and been plunged back into another Dark Age of spiritual ignorance. On Sunday, April 18 we will have a special service to observe this 500th Anniversary and remember Luther’s bold confession of the true faith.



Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific missionaries around the world who are supported by our congregation through our mission offerings to our Synod.

April 4

*Chelsea Irwin
Czech Republic*

April 11

*Rev. Paul & Genevieve Nelson
Indonesia*

April 18

*Rev. P.A. Richard-Wokoma
Nigeria*

April 21

*Rev. Herb & Markie Burch
Belize*

**Sermons
for
April**



Complete videos of all our services, as well as audio and printed text of the sermon only, are available on our church website at www.trinitylcms.org/sermons. Printed copies of that day’s sermon and several of the most recent sermons are also available in the Gathering Room.

April 4 (Easter Sunday)

“The End of the Road?”

Mark 16:1-8

April 11

“Our Advocate with the Father”

1 John 1:1-2:2

April 18 (“Here I Stand”) 500th Anniversary

“Here We Stand”

Matthew 10:17-39

April 25

“Do Not Love the World”

1 John 2:15-17



April

**BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 913-849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

- April 1 Lori Schlegel
- April 1 Elaine Stewart
- April 3 Brigitte Rodewald
- April 4 Joy Hinds
- April 4 Kristina Jenkins
- April 5 Shamron Ferrell
- April 5 Tyler Hieber
- April 5 Wesley Medlen
- April 5 Joe Mueller
- April 6 Kelsey Debrick
- April 6 Dennis Johns
- April 6 Bill Koelsch
- April 8 Leslie Prothe

- April 8 Ella Durham
- April 8 Dawson Garrison
- April 9 Emma Haley
- April 10 Karlie McMullin
- April 11 James Fanning
- April 13 Suzanne Peckman
- April 14 Matt Oberheide
- April 14 Venita Prothe
- April 14 Layla Schlegel
- April 14 Dana Simonson
- April 15 Lois Holtz
- April 16 Erika Hall
- April 17 Gavin Kaiser
- April 17 Rev. Kevin Vogts
- April 18 Melissa Richardson
- April 19 Katie Taylor
- April 20 Loren Herrs
- April 21 Ashley Debrick
- April 22 Chloe Maisch
- April 22 Lori Richardson
- April 22 Nicholas Minden
- April 23 Eric Ritch
- April 24 Bridget Medlin
- April 26 John Gerken
- April 26 Austin Reyelts
- April 26 Tyler Reyelts
- April 29 Krista Munzer
- April 29 Abigail Koelsch
- April 29 Erin Meyer
- April 30 Ellen Pinneo
- April 5 George & Pam Holtz (31)
- April 5 ... Burl & Shemene Peckman (35)
- April 11 Mark & Jan Minden (6)
- April 13 ... Alan & Jeanne Hutchison(30)
- April 20 .. Max & Jennifer Boydston (36)
- April 26 Dan & Cathy Hieber (34)
- April 26 Kenny & Vera Kaiser (76)
- April 26 Keith & Laura Prothe (41)
- April 27 Kevin & Marla Prothe (30)
- April 28 Chris & Denna Jones (20)



Thank you to all those who donated so many lovely lilies to beautify our sanctuary for Easter! Special thanks to Barb Dillenbeck for the lovely arrangement of the Lily Cross and Easter flowers.

Given By

In Memory or Honor Of

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Nina Gerken (2) | Dan Morgan
Lela Sands |
| Gayle & Stan Plummer | Leland Gerken
John & Bonnie Plummer |
| Arlin & Venita Prothe (2) | LaVern & Vivian Wilson
Verneal Pipes |
| Gladys Prothe Family (2) | Bob Prothe
Myrtle Thoden
Elva Prothe |
| Doris Rodewald | Herman Rodewald |
| Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts (3) | Don & Lucille Schmidt
Leroy & Ruth Vogts
Grandparents
Great-Great Grandmother Katherina Windler |



Bible Class on Titus

Our current study in Adult Bible Class is "Titus: The Conduct of the Christian and the Life of the Church." Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the basement Fellowship Hall!



Our Heartfelt Sympathy

Frances (Peckman) Minter
Born November 15, 1923
Entered Eternal Rest
April 9, 2021

"Come unto Me, all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. . . you will find rest for your souls."
Matthew 11:28-29



The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held following worship on Sunday, April 25. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00pm.



The new quarterly issue of the devotional booklet *Portals of Prayer* for April thru June is available in the Gathering Room at church, in regular size, large print, and a medium "digest" size (same size as *Reader's Digest*). A great way to keep close to the Lord!

Our second annual "Drive-In Sunrise Service" on Easter Sunday was another great success! The Lord blessed us with beautiful weather to celebrate His Son's resurrection, with an estimated 150 worshippers in attendance. Thanks to the elders for setting up for the service and Communion, which also went very smoothly, and especially Clint Haley for the sound system and local area FM broadcast so that people could listen on their car radios, and Lori Schlegel for serving as our song leader during Communion.



MISSION NEWS

Building Up the New Lutheran Church in Rwanda

The Lutheran Mission in Africa—Synod of a Thousand Hills (LMA-STH) is a young Lutheran church body that began in Rwanda, Africa about six years ago.

In November, the church held a conference, "The Means of Grace in the Midst of a Growing Church," led by Bishop Selestine Seburikoko. The purpose of the conference was to bring together pastors, students and other potential church leaders from different

doctrinal backgrounds to learn more about confessional Lutheran doctrine.

For five days, conversations centered around Holy Scripture, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. It was a fruitful time, and the deaconesses in attendance asked if such a seminar could be available for pastors' wives and women from the parishes.

In December, seven ladies gathered together in Rwamagana for the first ever LMA-STH women's retreat. Topics included marriage, being a pastor's wife and the role of family in the ministry. Additionally, the women studied the Bible, prayed and spent time in fellowship. Seburikoko and his wife, Ruth, shared about the church's achievements and challenges and helped facilitate the retreat.

Since not all of the wives could attend, future retreats are being planned, with the hope of meeting at least three times a year.



Pastors and their wives gather in Rwanda to learn more about Lutheran doctrine.