



# The Beacon

April 2019

Christ Ev. Lutheran  
Church

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Superior, WI  
54880

Office Phone  
715.398.3680

Web Site  
Christlutheran-  
superior.org

## **Divine Worship Services**

Sunday - 8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

## **Bible Study & Sunday School**

Sunday - 9 a.m.



## It is Finished

It is finished may seem like a strange title for an essay but in this case it is appropriate. The Bible records that Jesus said, "It is finished" just before "he bowed his head and gave up his spirit (John 19:30). What Jesus meant was that all that he came to our world to do- was finished.

God, through Jesus, created all things that exist from nothing. Then God did something unique. Or actually, he formed someone: And the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living creature" (Genesis 2:7).

That first person was the man that God named Adam. And then, using a rib from Adam, God created the first woman, Eve (Genesis 2:18-25). God's plan for Adam and Eve-and all people who would be birthed by them, was for them to live in his presence and enjoy that wonderful place. In his unfathomable wisdom God had placed a tree in that garden called "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." You probably know the rest of the story: Satan, an angel that rebelled against God, tempted Adam and Eve to eat of that tree, and in eating the fruit they committed spiritual suicide. What they were thinking was, "Yes, we want to be just like God." And still, today, we think we are capable of being just like God. But we are not just like God. He is the creator-we were created by him. God could have just destroyed everything-and we wouldn't be here today reading this newsletter. But, again, in his unfathomable wisdom and love God began to carry out the plan he had even before he created all things: he would send his own Son, Jesus, into human history to be born like us and live the perfect life that we as sinners couldn't live. Then, this perfect God-man would sacrifice his life as the payment for our sin. Jesus really died. But since he was God he rose from the dead. All who trust God, who believe that the Bible is his true Word and that his Son Jesus is their Savior from sin will have a restored relationship with him.

So, back to the title, "It is Finished." Our sinful tendency is to say, "It can't be finished. Surely I must do something to fix my problem; I must do my best. There's no such thing as a free lunch!" In this world wracked with sin and greed that's true. But in God's economy there is such a thing as a free lunch. God wants us to enjoy this world he created; he wants us to live with him forever in the restored garden, or heaven, to come. So he paid the entire cost for us to be there-no strings attached. That means that when we trust that what he says is true we have that gift of joy here, now, and eternal life, there, then.

When we realize that his love is so wonderful, our response is "Thank you God. Because of the love you've shown me, I want to love my neighbor in return. I want to help them in whatever way I can." That is why a Christian does what he or she does: they are responding to what God has done for them in Jesus. We do what we do not because we HAVE to, but because we WANT to. All our sins are forgiven by God because of Jesus. "It is finished!"

*Pastor Schield*

## Midweek Lenten Series

### “A Lent to Remember”

Midweek Lent services at 12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
Soup and Sandwich suppers at 5:30 p.m.

**April 3 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)**

“Remember Sins No More” Jeremiah 31:34

**April 10 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)**

“Remember Steadfast Love” Psalm 98:3



**April 14 Palm Sunday (8 & 10:30 a.m.)**

**April 18 Maundy Thursday (6:30 p.m.)**

“Remembrance of Me, 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

**April 19 Good Friday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)**

“Remember Me” Luke 23:39–43

**April 20 Easter Vigil (6:30 p.m.)**

**April 21 Easter Day (8 & 10:30 a.m.)**

“Remember Jesus Risen” 2 Timothy 2:8, 11

**Musicians (instrumentalist and vocalist) who wish to participate in Holy Week Services should contact pastor immediately.**

### Easter Vigil Service – April 20

Commit to attending the 6:30 p.m. Service on **Holy Saturday** called **the Easter Vigil**, which is actually our first Easter service.

The Easter Vigil is one of the oldest, most unique of all Christian liturgies (definitely NOT “same ol’, same ol’). In it we hear key Old Testament passages, waiting like the ancient people of God as they waited for the fulfillment of the promises. We wait in physical darkness as they waiting in spiritual darkness for God’s faithfulness. But then breaks in the light and the glory, as “Christ is risen” breaks out and we celebrate the first remembrance of Christ’s resurrection. It is a candlelight service, it may include baptism and will include the Eucharist. The Easter Vigil involves all of our senses and is very moving.

One of the fathers of the church, Chrysostom, issued an Easter proclamation that began with these words: *“Are there any who are devout lovers of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Are there any who are grateful servants? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord! Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages!”*

The celebration of Christ’s passion and resurrection is worthy of our time for it is the center of our faith and joy. Join us during Holy Week for as many of the services as you are able—and bring a friend!

**Candidates (both infant and adult) for Holy Baptism at our Easter Vigil should immediately contact pastor or the church office to make arrangements.**

### Potluck Easter Breakfast

Each Easter we have a wonderful breakfast between the services. As always volunteers are needed to bring the food, help get things ready for serving and especially with clean up.

The Easter Breakfast will start at 9 a.m. on Easter Sunday. It will be a potluck again. Please sign up on the office door (**Note:** sign up will be up a couple weeks before Easter). There are a lot of options to sign up for so please consider helping out.

### Easter Egg Hunt

Once again there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after the breakfast at 9:45 a.m.

### The Time of Easter

This is a time God places special people in our lives—a time when the unchurched see the Christian community celebrate Easter. They see every Christian setting aside time to remember their baptism and practice their Christian lives in preparation for Easter with devotion and care.

It is at this time that you can invite the unchurched to learn about Jesus and to be active in the church. A Christian can take this time to really show an act of kindness which may disarm some of the skepticism, hurt feelings and mistrust some unchurched people might harbor.

### Things to Watch for During Easter

We’ve celebrated a good Lent and used the 40 days to prepare. We’ve celebrated Holy Week as a time to walk with Christ in His passion. Now it is Easter, a Pentecost (“fifty”) day celebration of new life.

Notice the *color* on the altar and pastor’s stole is white reflecting the heavenly glory of Christ and summoning us to joy. The *paschal candle* is lit during all the services of Easter. It reminds us of the pillar of fire that led the Israelites through the Red Sea and He who led us out of death in the waters of Baptism. (In some congregations *water* is kept in the baptismal font during this season so people may visit the waters from which our life springs). The living *flowers* that adorn the chancel speak of that same life in Christ. The *celebration of Holy Communion* is yet another mark of the paschal (Easter) celebration. The new Passover which brings us a potent medicine of immortality in the holy Body and Blood of the Christ is offered to us by the Savior Himself through his called minister.

## Christ's Care for Children - Kenya Mission Project

The Christ's Care for Children project is a child sponsorship program, initiated through the LCMS Office of International Missions. This program offers more than food and shelter. It is designed to give children lifetime skills, with a focus on daily devotions, choir practice, Bible study and catechesis. The children are full, contributing members of the Evangelical Church of Kenya, which is a partner church of the LCMS. Financial assistance is needed to sustain the program. If you are looking for more information or you are interested in ways you can help out financially, brochures are available on the table next to the office door in the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Schield, or Jennifer Hummel, Coordinator for the Christ's Care for Children: Kenya program at 800-248-1930, ext. 1326 or via email at [jennifer.hummel@lcms.org](mailto:jennifer.hummel@lcms.org). Thank you.

## Church Council Minutes

There was no council meeting in March

## Stewardship

"Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out" (Deut 28:3-6).

This is God's promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises blessing to His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their fruit of their work to prosper, whether from the ground or their wombs, their flocks or their herds. He will make them to prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there's a catch. He would do this for Israel only "if you obey the voice of the Lord your God" (Deut 28:2b). If they did that, He would cause that "all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you" (Deut 28:2a).

If they didn't obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn't keep the commandments of the Lord and walk in His ways (Deut 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh, fulfilled the law for us – in our place and for our benefit; died for us – in our place and for our benefit; and is risen from the dead for us – in our place and for our benefit.

By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God

is promised to us in Christ Jesus. It depends upon His work and not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and thereby it becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbor.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is not in order to receive blessings but because in Christ we already have.

It is with this in mind that we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (1 Cor. 16:2).

## Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy Why does the Divine Service always open with confession of sins and absolution? And what is the difference between corporate and private confession and absolution?

Actually, the Mass doesn't "open" until *after* the confession and absolution\* The corporate confession and the absolution then given by the pastor are preparatory to the Mass itself, which opens after the absolution, with the Introit, Corporate confession, whose technical term is the *confiteor* (Latin for "I confess"), is usually introduced by an opening hymn of invocation, which calls upon God, and then the Invocation itself ("Lvdie name of the Father," etc\*). This *corporate* confession and absolution is actually an adaptation of *individual* confession and absolution, which at one time was the norm. Christian people would routinely go to the church to confess their sins *privately* before the pastor, and receive private absolution. This practice has sometimes been called "the forgotten Sacrament" because it fell into disuse in much of Lutheranism, Though corporate confession to some degree replaced it, corporate confession does not provide an opportunity for the penitent sinner to confess in particular those sins which have been grieving to his conscience, as the Catechism teaches. The Catechism speaks highly of this blessed gift, for its abiding comfort for the Christian and his tormented conscience. In recent years there have been attempts to recover the practice of private confession. Some newer hymnals provide brief liturgical formats for individual (or private) confession, \*

(Taken from Burnell Eckhardt's "Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy")

## LWML Meeting

All women are welcome to join us for our monthly Lutheran Women's Missionary League meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m., here at Christ Lutheran. We will share in devotions, a Bible study, a short business meeting and fellowship. If you have any questions please contact Donna Manos at 218-729-5056.

## LWML Spring Rally

Spring Rally will take place on Saturday, May 4 starting with registration at 9 a.m. and running until 2 p.m. at St. Matthew's in Esko, MN. Registration is \$10 and includes lunch. Come celebrate the joy & energy of Missions. At this women's gathering you can expect to be..... Engaged, Encouraged, Educated, Equipped & Entertained

## Christ's Men

### Men, Let's Do Lunch

Christ's Men will meet on Tuesday, April 2 at 12 noon at the Fuller's Family Restaurant. This is an opportunity to gain guidance and spiritual support from God's Word as well as an excellent opportunity for Christian friendship.

## Main Street Living Northland

### LCMS Service of Worship televised by KBJR Channel 6 – 9:30a.m.

"MAIN STREET LIVING NORTHLAND" is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Hour Ministries (starting at 10:00 a.m.). Main Street Living Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations. All current shows and information about Main Street Living can be found at <http://www.mainstreetliving.com> and past programs are archived on <https://vimeo.com/user82955593>

Thank you for your support! You can send comments or contributions to:  
Main Street Living Northland  
c/o Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
2012 East Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55812

Sunday April 7, 2019 - Pastor Jim Anthony, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Deer River & Centennial Lutheran Church, Squaw Lake - "By His Anguish in the Vineyard"

Sunday April 14, 2019 - Pastor Matt Kohl, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cloquet  
"Out of Love for You"

Sunday April 21, 2019 - The Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of the Lutheran Hour  
Sunday April 28, 2019 - Rev. Don Fondow, President of the Minnesota North District  
"Fear NOT!"

## Attention Choir People

The Main Street Living Northland Choir will tape hymns on Saturday, April 6 at noon, here at Christ Lutheran. If you would like to participate please show up.

## The Heating Season

The heating season is upon us again, please double check that all doors are locked, all lights are turned off (including bathrooms), and thermostats are turned down before your group leaves the church. Thank you!

## Defending the Faith, Teaching the Truth

Issues, Etc. is a talk radio show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Recent topics include: Same-Sex Marriage, Reformation *Solas*, Depression, Radical Islam, What Boys Need, Pro-Life Women and more. Listen to what you want when you want at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org).

## Food for the Local Food Shelf

The first Sunday of every month is when you need to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. You may put your items under the table in the narthex. This is given to those in need and then to the local food pantry

## Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

Are you receiving email from Christ Lutheran? If not, you are missing important and timely information from your church. We will not flood your inbox or share your email address (addresses are always hidden when sent from church). Please help us keep you informed! Call the office at 715-398-3680 or send it to [clcoffice320@gmail.com](mailto:clcoffice320@gmail.com)

## Looking for something?

The LCMS staffs the "Church Information Center", which offers a great deal of help and resources on a variety of topics. To contact the CIC with your questions, you may write: [infocenter@lcms.org](mailto:infocenter@lcms.org) or call toll free 1.888.843.5267

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Amy Kirchoff  
4 Joann Erdman  
Roni Hauser  
5 Johanna Bennis  
Mary Granstrom  
David Manos  
6 Anne Schultz  
9 Jeffrey Austin  
Dale Schumacher  
Nicole Michalski  
10 Bonnie Andersen  
Kathleen Derick  
11 Dan Filteau  
Colleen Blomquist  
12 Norman Derick  
13 Jim Johnson  
14 Dorinda Sorenson  
15 Joye Bedard  
Jessie Mullikin  
17 Loudella Swanfeld  
18 Jean Becken  
19 Hannah Blomquist  
20 Marvin Pitt  
21 Helena Frost  
Mark Anderson  
22 Jeffrey Nestrud  
26 Karen Ahola  
Cole Mack  
29 Eleanor Oexemann  
Troy Filteau  
Mary Ann Ross  
30 Roger Dittbrender  
Morgan Amundson

### **Online Information**

**LC-MS Website**  
lcms.org

**Minnesota North District Website**  
mnn.lcms.org

**Lutheran Witness Online**  
www.lcms.org  
Click on 'Lutheran Witness' in left column

**LC-MS Synod Radio Stations**  
www.kfuo.org—or—classic99.com  
[www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org)

**Information on Pregnancy, Parenting  
& Adoption**  
getrealwithyourself.com