



# The Beacon

April 2021

Christ Ev. Lutheran  
Church

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Superior, WI  
54880

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Web Site  
[Christlutheran-  
superior.org](http://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.



I get the privilege of submitting an article for our newsletter during “Holy Week.” A major part of Holy Week focuses on the Passion of Jesus Christ. What is the “Passion? The first entry in Webster’s Dictionary under passion correctly explains it as “the suffering of Christ between the night of the Last Supper and his death. This may or may not be new to you, my smart readers. Apparently, it wasn’t a new idea to people in Martin Luther’s day either. So, since he’s a much better writer than I’ll ever be, I’ll let him explain. He writes, “No doubt that you have heard many times what kind of passion and suffering it was.” He continues with this teaching by explaining what it really means for us: “You have also heard why it was that God the Father ordained it, namely, that through it he wanted to help, not the person for Christ, for Christ had no need at all for this suffering; but we and the whole human race needed this suffering. Thus it was a gift which was given and presented to us out of pure grace and mercy.” Therefore we must note in the first place that Christ by his suffering not only saved us from the devil, death, and sin, but also that his suffering is an example, which we are to follow in our suffering. Though our suffering and cross should never be so exalted that we think we can be saved by it or earn the least merit through it, nevertheless we should suffer after Christ, that we may be conformed to him. For God has appointed that we should not only believe in the crucified Christ, but also be crucified with him, as he clearly shows in many places in the Gospels: “He who does not take his cross and follow me,” he says, “is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:38). Therefore every Christian must be aware that suffering will not fail to come. Beyond this, it should be the kind of suffering which we have not chosen ourselves, as the fanatics choose their own suffering. It should be the kind of suffering which, if it were possible, we would gladly be rid of, suffering visited upon us by the devil or the world. Then what is needed is to hold fast and submit oneself to it, as I have said, namely, that one know that we must suffer, in order that we may thus be conformed to Christ, and that it cannot be otherwise, that everyone must have his cross and suffering. If you are willing to suffer, very well, then the treasure and consolation which is promised and given to you is so great that you ought to suffer willingly and joyfully because Christ and his suffering is being bestowed upon you and made your own. And if you can believe this, then in time of great fear and trouble you will be able to say: Even though I suffer long, very well then, what is that compared with that great treasure which my God has given to me, that I shall live eternally with him? Furthermore, every Christian should submit himself to this suffering that he is sure that it will work for his good and that Christ, for his Word’s sake, will not only help us to bear this suffering but also turn and transform it to our advantage.

And again what makes this cross more agreeable and bearable for us is the fact that our dear God is ready to pour so many refreshing aromatics and cordials into our hearts that we are able to bear all our afflictions and tribulations, just as St. Paul says in I Corinthians 10:13, ‘God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.’ This is true. When the suffering and affliction is at its worst, it bears and presses down so grievously that one thinks he can endure no more and must surely perish. But then if you can think of Christ, the faithful God will come and will help you, as he has always helped his own from the beginning of the world; for he is the same God as he always has been.”

A blessed Holy Week and Easter to all!

Pastor Kirk Schield



**March 28 Palm Sunday (9 a.m.)**

**April 1 Maundy Thursday (6:30 p.m.)**

**April 2 Good Friday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)**

**April 3 Holy Saturday Vigil (6:30 p.m.)**

**April 4 Easter Day (9 a.m.)**

### **Easter Vigil Service – April 3**

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!

### **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.

### **New Sermon Series Starting April 7**

Beginning April 7 & 11, we will be doing something different at our worship services. Instead of having the sermons based on one of the assigned Scripture Readings for the day, we’ll be doing a sermon series. For seven Sundays (not counting the Day of Pentecost), we’ll be having a series on the Lord’s Prayer. It will provide a great way to review the significance of the seven different petitions that make up the Lord’s Prayer (plus its Introduction and Conclusion). Hopefully, this series will help us have a better appreciation for the prayer that Jesus gave us!

### **Bible Study is Back!**

Beginning Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, the Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class will resume after the 9:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we begin to view a video series entitled: “*That The World May Know*”. The renowned teacher and historian, Ray Vander Laan, will guide us through the land of the Bible. He will illuminate the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the Bible. Each lesson is filmed on location in the Middle East and elsewhere. This video series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus. Each video session lasts approximately 20 minutes and will be followed by discussion led by Pastors Shield and Bernecker.

### **Wednesday Service Change**

Beginning April 7, Christ Lutheran will be changing how our Wednesday evening service “relates” to the Sunday morning service. For some time, the Wednesday evening service has been a repeat of the **previous** Sunday morning service. It has been decided to change how the Wednesday night service “relates” to the Sunday morning service. Beginning April 7<sup>th</sup>, our Wednesday evening service will **precede** the Sunday morning service. So, as an example, the April 7<sup>th</sup> service will be the same as the April 11<sup>th</sup> service. It may

take a little “adjustment” for congregational members to get use to this new arrangement, but the church leadership believed that the benefits of the change outweighed keeping things the same. So, be ready for the change beginning April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Wednesday evening service will be the same as the **upcoming** Sunday morning service.

## **Church Council Minutes**

**March 11, 2021**

**Members Present:** Len Campbell, Pastor Berneker, John Keske, Mike Kraemer, Don Hauser and Sharyn Vengrin

**Call for additional agenda items:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Don made the motion to accept the February 11, 2021 minutes and Mike Seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried

**Pastor’s Report:** Checking on Homebound parishioners. Communion on Weds.: Very few!

**Treasurer’s Report: Checking Account Balance:** \$58,598.59 Don made the motion to accept Checking Account Balance as written. Mike seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Monthly financials tabled.

### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Board of Deacons:** No Report

**Board of Trustees:** Jeff Allen and Don Hauser did get together and made a game plan for moving forward with some of these items from January meeting.

Reviewed building blueprints and find that most rooms are numbered. Need to order number plates for the rooms and have them attached above the doors.

Once received Trustees will get together and place room numbers above the doors to identify rooms more easily. Looking for free/extremely inexpensive software to map the church and identify where certain items are (electrical boxes, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, etc.) Would like to keep a book in Secretary’s office for quick reference.

Received estimate for timer upgrade. \$2,750 for timer, parts, and labor. Don will purchase the timer. Don will go ahead with upgrade. Will get a new estimate from Belknap for the boilers as prior expired after 30 days. Will ask for one closer to May Voters’ meeting. We will be contacting Johnson Controls regarding the boiler. Len would like it itemized.

### **Board of Stewardship & Evangelism:**

**Old Business:** The group watched the Spiritual Curve Workshop #2, which prepared everyone in ways to have a spiritual conversation with a non-Christian. The group felt this workshop would be beneficial to offer to the congregation. We will open this up to offer the workshops to the congregation at a date/time in the fall. Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

**Board of Education:** Start up next fall.

**Memorial Committee: Monthly Report received and filed.**

**Endowment Committee: No change.**

**Memoriam Garden: Resting!**

**Old Business:** Call Committee update: There will be a virtual interview of applicants.

**New Business:**

**Pastor’s Office Cleaning/Painting:** Don will contact Lawrence.

**New Pastor Salary/Benefits/Housing Discussion:** We will contact the MN North District Financial Person.

Then an Executive Committee Meeting will be called.

### **Requests to use Fellowship Hall:**

Sharyn made a motion and it was seconded by Don that we grant the use of the fellowship hall to Luann Ross for a Shower, May 15, 2021, 9:30am-3:00pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Don made a motion and it was seconded by Sharyn that we grant the use of the Sanctuary to Josh Lytle/Grace

Malwitz Wedding: Use of Sanctuary on October 9, 2021. All in favor. Motion carried

**Next Council Meeting: 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 8, 2021**

**Adjournment-Lord’s Prayer**

## **Stewardship**

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. His atoning sacrifice is the first fruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to His Father, so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him. He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word and His Body and Blood.

As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word. By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (Prov. 3:9-10). How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that, in so doing, you will never lack.

A common counterpoint is: “But that’s from the Old Testament!” Our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents: “For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance” (Matt. 25:29).

And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he

will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money” (Luke 16:10–13).

And in His sermon on the mount, he says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:19–21).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel – the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings. It’s no quid pro quo. It’s all from God’s grace and His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages do in fact say what they say! It’s not the Old Testament’s problem. It’s ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge Him: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need” (Mal. 3:10).

And so, while we don’t give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless your giving with more receiving. As St. Paul wrote in Rom. 8:32: “He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?”

## **My Savior Lives Northland LCMS Service of Worship for the Duluth region televised by KBJR Channel 6.**

"My Savior Lives 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.). MSL 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. Please check your local listings as sometime the program is moved to a different channel due to programming conflicts on NBC. Please send contributions c/o: Mt. Olive Lutheran, 2012 East Superior St, Duluth, MN 55812. Checks should be made to: MSL Northland

## **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? This is currently pretty important as this is how the church is communicating to people.**

Are you receiving emails 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. 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

### **Online Information**

**LC-MS Website**  
[lcms.org](http://lcms.org)

**Minnesota North District Website**  
[mnn.lcms.org](http://mnn.lcms.org)

**Lutheran Witness Online**  
[www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)  
Click on ‘Lutheran Witness’ in left column

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

**Information on Pregnancy, Parenting & Adoption**  
[getrealwithyourself.com](http://getrealwithyourself.com)

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

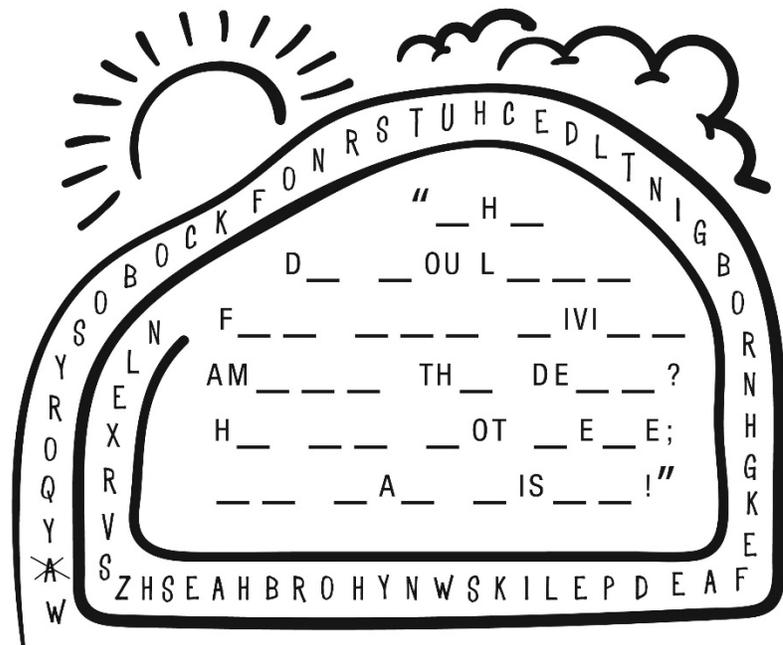
- 1 Amy Kirchoff
- 4 Joann Erdman  
Roni Hauser
- 5 Johanna Kirchoff  
Mary Granstrom  
David Manos
- 6 Anne Schultz
- 9 Nicole Michalski
- 10 Kathleen Derick  
Dale Schumacher
- 11 Dan Filteau  
Colleen Blomquist
- 12 Norman Derick
- 13 James Johnson
- 14 Dorinda Sorenson
- 15 Joye Bedard  
Jessie Mullikin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



**EASTER MORNING**  
*message*

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

*Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.*



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

