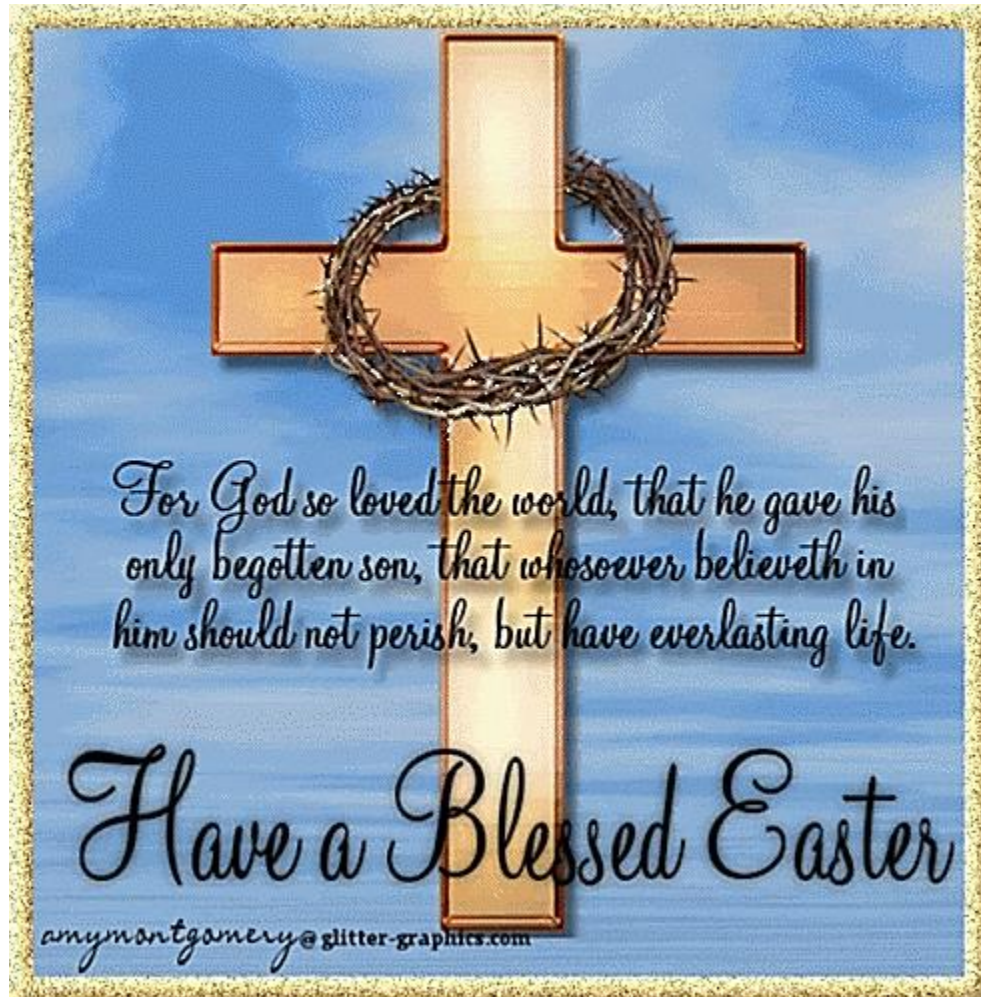


RESURRECTION NEWS



April 2022

Pastor's Letter

April 2022

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This month, we continue exploring the Ten Commandments, focusing on the Eighth Commandment:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? Answer: We should fear and love God so that do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

One of the key word here is reputation. The eighth commandment, above all else, is a call to uphold the reputation of others. This commandment is probably one that we care a lot about when it comes to ourselves. Upholding our own reputation is of utmost importance to us. Yet when it comes to the reputation of others, we're generally happy to not consider the implications of this commandment quite as carefully as we ought.

Another one of the key words here is lies. We're not to tell lies about our neighbor. To put that positively, we are to speak the truth. But even this can be a challenge for a variety of reasons. Perhaps we have done something wrong, and so we're afraid to speak the truth. Perhaps we're afraid of standing up for what we believe among a group of people who don't share our Christian convictions, and so we're afraid to speak the truth. Perhaps we're afraid to "ruffle feathers" or risk upsetting someone by confronting them with the truth, and so we're afraid to speak the truth.

There is much more which could be considered here, but the point has probably been made—this is an extremely difficult commandment to keep. We shouldn't be surprised by this. Saint James warns us of the volatility of our tongues:

"If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things . . . For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison" (James 3:3-5a, 7-8).

It almost seems like a hopeless exercise! No matter how hard we try, we will never be able to control our tongues!

We could allow this to frustrate us and lead us to give up, or we could allow it to drive us to the cross. How small a moment in time it was when Jesus suffered and died on the cross. Yet that small moment boasts of great things. By Christ's death on the cross, which we celebrate on the 15th of this month, our sins have been forgiven. By his resurrection the following Sunday morning, we have been given new life!

It doesn't matter how many times we have sinned against someone with our tongues. It doesn't matter how many times we have told lies or tarnished someone's reputation. Christ's death on the cross offers us a "clean slate." We are forgiven!

Each day that we awaken is a new day to use the gift of the tongue and of speech to glorify our God who has redeemed us and given us new life. It's not always easy to do so. But no matter how many times we fail, we trust that we are forgiven and that there is nothing in all creation which will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:39).

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

I thought this month I would share excerpts of an Easter sermon by Melito of Sardis which he wrote in the middle of the second century. You can see the lines he drew from the Old Testament into the work that Jesus accomplished for us on the cross.

For this one, who was led away as a lamb, and who was sacrificed as a sheep, by himself delivered us from servitude to the world as from the land of Egypt, and released us from bondage to the devil as from the hand of Pharaoh, and sealed our souls by his own spirit and the members of our bodies by his own blood.

This is the one who covered death with shame and who plunged the devil into mourning as Moses did Pharaoh. This is the one who smote lawlessness and deprived injustice of its offspring, as Moses deprived Egypt. This is the one who delivered us from slavery into freedom, from darkness into light, from death into life, from tyranny into an eternal kingdom, and who made us a new priesthood, and a special people forever.

This one is the passover of our salvation. This is the one who patiently endured many things in many people: This is the one who was murdered in Abel, and bound as a sacrifice in Isaac, and exiled in Jacob, and sold in Joseph, and exposed in Moses, and sacrificed in the lamb, and hunted down in David, and dishonored in the prophets.

This is the one who became human in a virgin, who was hanged on the tree, who was buried in the earth, who was resurrected from among the dead, and who raised mankind up out of the grave below to the heights of heaven.

Rejoice in our risen Lord and all he has done for us!

I plan to hold women's Bible studies this month on 4/2, 4/16, and 4/30 at 8:30am downstairs at church or via Zoom. We're working our way through the prophet Ezekiel. Even if you haven't joined us before, you would be very welcome to join us. We spend time in fellowship and sharing prayer concerns as well as read and discuss scripture together. You can bring along your own Bible of whatever translation you like to use, or use one from church.

Under his mercy,

Sharon M. Conover

And I will give you a new heart and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. Ezekiel 36:26-27

Midweek Services & Bible Study

The final Wednesday Lenten Divine Service will be held on April 6. Services are held at **noon** (live streamed) and **6:30 p.m.** Bible Study will meet at **10:30 a.m.** and **7:15 p.m.** There will be no Bible study on April 13, due to Holy Week. Beginning April 20, Wednesday evening Bible Study will move to **6:30 p.m.** Contact Pastor Akers with questions.

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 10

- 8:45 a.m. **Sunday School** (*Sanctuary & Room 201*)
- 10:00 a.m. **Divine Service** (*Gather in Fellowship Hall for Palm Processional*)
- 11:15 a.m. **Fellowship** (*Fellowship Hall*)

Monday, April 11

- 12:00 p.m. **Holy Week Prayer Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Tuesday, April 12

- 12:00 p.m. **Holy Week Prayer Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Wednesday, April 13

- 12:00 p.m. **Holy Week Prayer Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Thursday, April 14

- 12:00 p.m. **Holy Thursday Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:00 p.m. **Intro to Lutheran Doctrine** (*Room 201 or Zoom*)
- 7:00 p.m. **Holy Thursday Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Friday, April 15

- 12:00 p.m. **Good Friday Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 7:00 p.m. **Good Friday Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Saturday, April 16

- 12:00 p.m. **Holy Saturday Prayer Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30 p.m. **The Vigil of Easter** (*gather in church entryway*)

Sunday, April 17

- 8:30 a.m. **Easter Breakfast** (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 10:00 a.m. **Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Monthly Men's Breakfasts

Monthly Men's Breakfasts will resume on **Saturday, April 16**. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00. The study will begin at 9:00. This month's topic will be when and how political resistance is justified. We will be looking at *The Magdeburg Confession of 1550's* interpretation of Romans 13.

Spring Men's Retreat

The spring Men's Retreat is scheduled for **Saturday, April 30**, at the Huesers' camp in St. Albans. Anyone who desires extra fellowship/corn hole time is welcome to arrive on Friday evening (4/29) for unstructured activities and to stay the night. Official activities will begin on Saturday at 10 a.m. Breakfast will be served beginning around 8:30 a.m. for any early birds. We will conclude around 4:30 p.m. Please bring a sack lunch and a snack or drink to share. Contact Chris Batson or Pastor Akers for more information.

New Church Directory

We are in desperate need of an updated Church Directory with Pictures. If you are willing to help make this possible (take pictures, gather contact information, compile the document), please talk to Pastor Akers.

26th Annual Paddle for Pine Tree Camp

Saturday, June 4

Join the LCR paddle team to raise money in support of the Pine Tree Camp's mission to serve hundreds of Maine kids and adults with disabilities. There are two different ways to be involved:

1. Paddle on the Kennebec River on June 4th

Join the LCR fundraising team at 9:30 a.m. as we paddle the Kennebec River for Pine Tree Camp on Saturday, June 4.

The adventure starts at the Evergreens Campground in Solon and ends in North Anson.

2. Donate funds to the LCR paddle team

Each paddler is asked to raise a minimum of \$100, so if you aren't paddling, you can still support the cause by helping the paddling team raise money.

Please contact Kemp Anderson for more information about joining the team:

207-313-8636

kempla71@gmail.com

April Stewardship

	<u>April 3</u>	<u>April 10</u>	<u>April 17</u>	<u>April 24</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Evan Farr	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr	Hayley Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	Brad Fitzpatrick	Charlie MacPherson	Dan Callahan	Glenn Carlson Jr.
<u>Ushers</u>	Dan Callahan	Glenn Carlson Jr	Jeff Sammons Chris Batson	John Ayotte
<u>Greeters</u>	The Akers Family	Julie Kohl	Rachel & Kemp Anderson	Christine Thomas
<u>Altar Care</u>	Amanda Goldsmith	Sasha Fitzpatrick	LeeAnne Larsen	Julie Kohl
<u>Flowers</u>	Lent – No Flowers	Lent – No Flowers	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp
<u>Fellowship</u>	Gail Carrano	The Akers Family	Easter	Sasha Fitzpatrick Kitty Carlson

Holy Week

		April 14 Maundy Thursday	April 15 Good Friday	April 16 Easter Vigil
Acolyte	7 p.m.	Hayley Farr	Evan Far	Hayley Farr
Worship Asst.	Noon 7 p.m.	Glenn Carlson Sr. Mark Larsen	Glenn Carlson Sr. Steve Farr	Chris Batson
Usher	Noon 7 p.m.	Rick Drageland Chris Batson	Rick Drageland Chris Batson	Mark Larsen
Greeters	Noon 7 p.m.	Moe & Becky Cote Sharon Klipp		
Alter Care		Krista Carlson	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson

Defending the Faith

Sometimes the Best Defense is a Good Defense

Defeating Darwin, Part 2 – a multi-part series focused on disproving the atheist’s favorite tool for denying the reality of God’s existence.

This month, we’ll look at the Intelligent Design argument. This argument is designed to go easy on the atheist. We’re not trying to get them to admit to God – just to an unnamed intelligent designer of the universe and Creator of life. Of course, we know that that so-called intelligent designer really is God Almighty, but like the formula for eating an elephant, we’ll walk the atheist through one bite at a time.

Here's a good place to start. Where, my dear Mr. Darwin, did first life come from? What is the origin?

Atheists will do almost anything to avoid the “God” explanation, so they have come up with some alternatives. One favorite theory is that a lightning bolt hit a puddle of primordial goo (the technical term is “ick”) and created amino acids – one of the building blocks of life. In fact, two scientists named Stanley Miller and Harold Urey set out to prove that life is actually quite simple and that they could create it in a test tube. Their goal was to create a complete living cell.

The experiment made some, shall we say, generous assumptions, like the early earth being rich with certain reactive compounds, namely ammonia, methane and hydrogen.

The experiment showed (after many, many failures and iterations of the experiment) that when mixed in precise proportions with water and shocked by a continuous electric current (not quick jolts like those of the lightning bolts they proposed), amino acids were indeed produced. Not a cell. An amino acid.

In fact, the predominant gases in the primordial earth were oxygen, carbon dioxide and water vapor. The gases were different. The electricity was different. So what did they prove?

They proved that even producing a simple amino acid takes an intelligent design of the experiment!

Their problems get worse. While an amino acid is a building block of life, it’s just a building block. To claim that as the explanation for first life is like claiming that the New York City skyline just appeared on its own because you know how to make a brick.

One more issue for the Darwinist. If all of life is a result of natural processes, like molecules in motion, reacting with each other, please explain how life arises from non-life without the intervention of an intelligent designer.

Or to ask it another way, how did molecules develop a guilty conscience?

That’s a chasm too big for even Darwin’s imagination to bridge!

As always, I’m happy to receive comments, suggestions and criticisms at charles.j.macpherson@gmail.com.

Charlie MacPherson, SDG.

Members of the Month - Rachel and Kemp Anderson

Kemp Lauri Anderson was born in Ulster County NY, and was raised along with his two brothers and two sisters in Woodstock NY. He attended Christ Lutheran Church in Woodstock, and following high school attended Hartwick College in Oneonta with a Bachelor's degree in History and Environmental Studies. During college he spent a semester studying British History in Olmskirk England, and a semester doing ecological field studies in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains (through University of California at Santa Cruz).

Rachel Bondly Bradford was born in St. Louis, Missouri. Her father's career with paper companies had the family relocating several times during her childhood to California, Arkansas, Mississippi, and back to Missouri. Rachel attended Saint Louis University, spent two semesters studying at the University in Madrid, Spain, and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Psychology. After college, Rachel worked for Jefferson Smurfit Paper Company. While a good job, with great pay and benefits, it was not her calling: She had little time for the things she loved—hiking, camping, canoeing, biking...and country western dancing! After five years, and to the surprise of parents, friends, and family, she quit her job, got rid of/stored her apartment full of stuff to take a job as a "Wilderness Instructor." She worked for Project U.S.E. in New Jersey running outdoor trips with inner city kids from Newark and Philadelphia.



Meanwhile, Kemp met an alumni Fraternity brother at a college career fair who happened to be the director of an outdoor education company in (you guessed it) New Jersey: Kemp decided to take a job there. Unbeknownst to Kemp...this was a serendipitous decision!

While working together, Rachel and Kemp had several weeks off every winter: Thus, they were able to take two separate trips hiking and camping together in the desert southwest, exploring a beautiful part of the country and becoming fast friends. After two years in New Jersey, Rachel left to work for Hurricane Island Outward Bound in Maine, and then took a job as the director of an outdoor education facility in Luray, Virginia. Kemp worked another year in New Jersey, preparing to pursue his passion for rock climbing—which eventually took him across the U.S. through famous rock climbing areas in the desert southwest, Utah, California, and the Pacific Northwest. But after living in a slide-in camper on the back of his truck with his climbing partner, it became crystal clear that he needed to find Rachel again. Lucky for him, the company Rachel was working for in Virginia was hiring!

Soon after reuniting in Virginia, Rachel and Kemp became engaged. But what about church? Although their Christian faith was important to both of them, it had not been central in their early adult lives. Kemp was raised in an LCA congregation which then became part of the ELCA. His grandfather was a Lutheran pastor, as are a cousin and a brother. Rachel was raised a Roman Catholic, and that tradition was strong and important to her and her family. Rachel and Kemp began by alternating churches every other Sunday. Pre-Cana classes were taken with the priest at the local Catholic Church, and the couple decided to have Kemp's cousin officiate at their wedding. An outdoor ceremony at a local Bed and Breakfast where they would also have the wedding reception was planned. One week before the wedding, Rachel called to check in with the wedding venue—but they had gone out of business! After some mad scrambling and changing plans, the wedding took place in God's house at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Luray. To be married in a church full of faithful witnesses is one of many blessings God has bestowed on them.

Agnes and Henry, Rachel and Kemp's children, were both born in Virginia. Although loving Virginia, having a good job and a nice home—they realized the need to raise their children near grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Rachel's brothers were not yet married, so they moved to Kemp's home town with not only grandparents, aunts and uncles—but a growing number of cousins as well! The Andersons became members of Redeemer Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Kingston, NY.

Agnes and Henry attended Catholic grade school in the early years until it became apparent that home schooling would be best. Mom became school mistress—delivering classical education—including Latin dinner classes with uncle David, and a very active “home school orchestra” in which their Grandfather also played. Agnes went to public High School in Kingston, going on to study and row Crew at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland. She graduated in 2021 and is now a licensed whitewater raft guide in California. Henry chose the local Catholic High School, and is now a junior at the University of Maine in Orono. He works as the climbing wall manager in the Maine Bound Adventure Center at UMO during the school year, and is a rock-climbing guide for Acadia Mountain Guides in the summer.

After the children were born, Kemp and Rachel took career paths apart from the outdoor field in which they met and fell in love. Kemp worked for many years in the building trades, moving into Construction Project Management. Rachel stayed home raising the children and keeping up with the house and large garden while also working part-time jobs to fill the income gaps: Doctor's receptionist, house cleaner, teaching swim lessons and aquarobics. The family spent 18 years in New York State, but once the children were in college, they were up for new adventure in the next chapter of their lives. In the spring of 2019 Kemp became a Project Manager at Colby College, working on the new Creative and Performing Arts building. They sold the house they had spent many years building with their own hands, and moved to South China, Maine.

Although they had been very active in the ELCA congregation—they had never been very comfortable with ELCA. In Maine, the Andersons attended a couple of services at LCR, as well as the local “multi-denominational” church in South China. They met Pastor Nielson and attended the “newcomer's class” at LCR and realized that God was bestowing another huge blessing on the Andersons! They said, “If all the other great things that we love about Maine were to fall away, the move here would have been worth it just for Resurrection and the Word that we have heard preached and studied, and the people we have met!”

The Andersons embrace life fully: Kemp is now a licensed architect in Maine and though he had major back surgery in 2020 and can't do “bumpy things” like run or mountain bike, he loves road biking and rode his first “Century Ride” last fall. Kemp still loves to rock climb (when he can get his kids to take him along). Rachel is the kitchen manager for the mid-Maine homeless shelter. At home, she grows Shitake, Oyster, and other mushrooms on their property in China. Rachel loves to paint and draw, walk the dogs (Billy and Waldo), grow things, snow shoe, read, and swim. They have a small maple sugaring operation on their land, which is a “tree farm”. They are active members of the Maine Woodland Owners association. In addition, the Andersons love to cross country ski in winter and for warmer weather have converted a cargo trailer into a small camper for camping. This winter, they've been taking ballroom dance lessons and love dancing together. Resurrection Lutheran Church has been blessed with this beautiful couple, and rejoice at the energy they bring to us!



Monthly Worship

April 3, 2022
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Psalm: 43
First Reading: Genesis 22:1-14
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15
Holy Gospel: John 8:46-59

April 6, 2022
Midweek Lent 5

Psalm: 91
Holy Gospel: John 10:22-28

April 10, 2022
Palm Sunday

Psalm: 118:19-29
First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12
Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11
Holy Gospel: Matthew 26:27

April 14, 2022
Holy (Maundy) Thursday

Psalm: 116:12-19
First Reading: Exodus 24:3-11
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 11:23-52
Holy Gospel: John 13:1-15

April 15, 2022
Good Friday

Psalm: 22
First Reading: Hosea 5:15b-6:6
Second Reading: Exodus 12:1-11
Holy Gospel: John 18-19

April 17, 2021
The Resurrection of Our Lord

Psalm: 118:15-29
First Reading: Job 19:23-27
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
Holy Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

April 24, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 33
First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Epistle: 1 John 5:4-10
Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31

BIBLE QUIZ

1. **According to John 1, who were born "not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man"?**
 - A. Jesus and John the Baptist
 - B. The children of God
 - C. The angels
 - D. The prophets
2. **What malady did Paul suffer from for several days, during his conversion?**
 - A. Lameness
 - B. Blindness
 - C. Paralysis
 - D. Deafness
3. **Who convinced the church in Jerusalem that they should convert Gentiles, as well as Jews?**
 - A. Philip (the greater)
 - B. John
 - C. Paul
 - D. Peter
4. **How long did Moses wander in the wilderness?**
 - A. Forty years
 - B. Four years
 - C. Six months
 - D. Forty days
5. **What was the name of the father of Abraham?**
 - A. Terah
 - B. Haran
 - C. Nahor
 - D. Milcah



4/4 Lucia Wilson
4/6 Seth Carlson
4/7 Gail Carrano
4/10 Matthew Akers
4/12 Emily Shaw
4/26 Maria Kubeck
4/28 Glenn Carlson Jr.
4/29 Emily Larsen



4/3 Laverne Pelletier
4/13 Dan Callahan
4/17 Darryll Zahner
4/19 Elizabeth Reed
4/21 Matthew Akers
Lucia Wilson
4/26 Taylan Thomas
Tiana Thomas
4/27 Rick Drageland
4/?? Chester Gilbert
Charlie MacPherson
Cianan Morris



4/5 Miriam Schiebel
4/7 Corina Wilson
Darryll Zahner
4/8 Lydia Bendas
4/10 Dan Callahan
4/12 Rev. Robert Fischer
Chris Batson
4/14 Sharon Klipp
4/17 Nathanael Batson
Emily Larsen
Sarah Kohl
4/?? Yvonne Batson
Dorothy Evertsen



4/2 Dan & Jessie Shaw
4/7 Chester & Evelyn Gilbert



SMARTEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

A doctor, a lawyer, a little boy and a priest were out for a Sunday afternoon flight on a small private plane. Suddenly, the plane developed engine trouble. In spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane started to go down. Finally, the pilot grabbed a parachute, yelled to the passengers that they had better jump, and then he bailed out.

Unfortunately, there were only three parachutes remaining. The doctor grabbed one and said "I'm a doctor, I save lives, so I must live," and jumped out.

The lawyer then said, "I'm a lawyer and lawyers are the smartest people in the world. I deserve to live." He also grabbed a parachute and jumped.

The priest looked at the little boy and said, "My son, I've lived a long and full life. You are young and have your whole life ahead of you. Take the last parachute and live in peace."

The little boy handed the parachute back to the priest and said, "Not to worry, Father. The 'smartest man in the world' just took off with my back pack."

A THE WISDOM OF CHILDREN

You can't fool the kids in Sunday school, they are way too smart...

'If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?' I asked the children in my Sunday school class.

'NO!' all the children answered.

'If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into heaven?'

Again the answer was, 'NO!'

'Well,' I continued, 'then how can I get to heaven?'

A five-year-old boy shouted, 'You gotta be dead!'

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. B. (John 1:10)
2. B. (Acts 9:16-18)
3. D (Acts 11)
4. A (Exodus 2)
5. A (Genesis 11:26)

The Daily Lectionary

April 2022

- 4/1 *Leviticus 23 / Leviticus 24*
- 4/2 *Leviticus 25:1-16 / Leviticus 26*
- 4/3 *John 8:46-fin / Jeremiah 2*
- 4/4 *Jeremiah 3 / Jeremiah 4*
- 4/5 *Jeremiah 5 / Jeremiah 6*
- 4/6 *Jeremiah 7 / Jeremiah 8*
- 4/7 *Jeremiah 9 / Jeremiah 10*
- 4/8 *Jeremiah 11 / Jeremiah 12*
- 4/9 *Jeremiah 13 / Jeremiah 14*
- 4/10 *Matthew 21:1-9 / Jeremiah 16*
- 4/11 *Jeremiah 17 / Jeremiah 18*
- 4/12 *Jeremiah 19 / Jeremiah 20*
- 4/13 *Jeremiah 21 / Jeremiah 22*
- 4/14 *1 Corinthians 11:17-32 / Matthew 26*
- 4/15 *Isaiah 53 / Matthew 27*
- 4/16 *Psalms 22 / Romans 5*
- 4/17 *Mark 16:1-8 / Exodus 12:1-24*
- 4/18 *Luke 24:13-35 / Exodus 13*
- 4/19 *Luke 24:36-47 / Ezekiel 37*
- 4/20 *John 21:1-13 / Acts 3:12-15, 17-19*
- 4/21 *John 20:11-18 / Acts 3:26-fin*
- 4/22 *Matthew 28:16-20 / 1 Peter 3:18-fin*
- 4/23 *John 20:1-9 / 1 Peter 2:1-13*
- 4/24 *John 20:19-fin / 1 John 5*
- 4/25 *Revelation 1 / Revelation 2:1-17*
- 4/26 *Revelation 2:18-fin / Revelation 3*
- 4/27 *Revelation 4 / Revelation 5*
- 4/28 *Revelation 6 / Revelation 7*
- 4/29 *Revelation 8 / Revelation 9*
- 4/30 *Revelation 10 / Revelation 11*

Note: "fin" is Latin for "end."