

RESURRECTION NEWS



April 2023

Pastor's Letter
April 2023

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Holy Week is a week like no other in the Church Year. Each day of this sacred week is jam-packed with the most important moments of our Lord's redeeming work for humanity. This is the week for which our Lord came to this world, and this is the week around which our lives as Christians center. We are blessed with opportunity to re-read these events and reflect on the depths of our sin as well as the depths of our Lord's great love for us as well as the promise of new life which Easter brings to all believers.

The Gospel Reading for Palm Sunday is Matthew 26:1-27:66. This is the first of the lengthy passion accounts appointed for this week. In fact, by the close of the service on Good Friday, the Church will have read through the entire passion of our Lord four times—once from each of the four Gospels. Saint Matthew's passion account is long and dramatic, often read responsively with one or more readers and/or the congregation, which heightens the drama of the account. The words of our Lord, *"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* (Matthew 27:48) summarize the suffering which our Lord endured on our behalf in a striking manner.

The Gospel Reading for the Monday of Holy Week is Mark 14:1-15:46. Though slightly shorter than Saint Matthew's account, Saint Mark's passion is no less dramatic. We hear again our Lord's cry of abandonment, and with the centurion, we are invited to confess: *"Truly this Man was the Son of God!"* (Mark 15:39).

The Gospel Reading for the Tuesday of Holy Week is John 12:1-36. With this reading, we take a pause in our reading of the passion accounts. Instead, we read of the events of the early part of Holy Week, as told by Saint John. We hear a re-telling of the Triumphal Entry, also heard in the Palm Sunday processional. And we are reminded starkly of our Lord's death from His parable of the grain of wheat and from the overt prophecy of His death on the cross: *"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself"* (John 12:32).

The Gospel Reading for the Wednesday of Holy Week is Luke 22:1-23:53. Our Lord's passion according to Saint Luke highlights His deep love for sinners, which drives Him to forgive the repentant thief and commit His spirit to the Father with His dying breath: *"Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit"* (Luke 23:46).

The Gospel Reading for Holy Thursday is John 13:1-15, which, again, brings us to Saint John's Gospel. We read the account of our Lord washing His disciples' feet on that first Holy Thursday in which our Lord symbolically acts out the pouring out His life ahead of time. Saint John tells us that *"[Jesus] loved [His disciples] to the end"* (John 13:1). This great love would be demonstrated to the utmost the next day on the cross.

The Gospel Reading for Good Friday is John 18:1-19:42, which is the fourth and final account of our Lord's passion. In this reading, Saint John gives us many significant details of our Lord's time on the cross, including the blood and water which flowed from His side after His death (John 19:34). In the action of our Lord's death, the Church is born as the blood of the Lord's Supper and the water of Holy Baptism cleanse and sustain us.

The Gospel Reading for the Vigil of Easter is Matthew 28:1-7. This reading is a brief and anticlimactic account of our Lord's resurrection. With the women, we see the empty tomb and hear the angel's witness, but the resurrected Lord Jesus we do not see. Our Lord's resurrection has come, but we do not yet experience it fully.

The Gospel Reading for the Resurrection of Our Lord is Mark 16:1-8. Once again, Saint Mark's resurrection account is somewhat anticlimactic. We hear the news of our Lord's resurrection, but we do not see or hear Him yet. In many ways, this reflects our own experiences as Christians living in the light of our Lord's resurrection but who await the fullness of its revealing to us in the new creation.

I pray that this Holy Week will allow you to see afresh the love of Jesus Christ for you so that you might come to Easter with renewed faith and hope in our Lord's life-giving promises.

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Somehow, fish swam into my thoughts this week as I considered what to address this month. They certainly come up often in the scriptures--

Fish are among the first creatures mentioned in the creation account (on the fifth day), and specifically as part of the earth to be cared for by mankind.

The first plague on Egypt included the water of the Nile being turned to blood and the death of its fish.

In the wilderness, after the Exodus, the Israelites recalled how much they missed eating the fish of Egypt.

When Jonah didn't want to obey the Lord's command to go preach to Nineveh, God appointed a particular fish to swallow him, and later to vomit him.

All four gospels relate the feeding of the five thousand men using five loaves of bread and two fish. Matthew and Mark also give accounts of feeding four thousand men with seven loaves and some fish. (As my son once quipped, and I agree—I'm glad that we don't receive fish as part of the Lord's Supper...)

Matthew includes a short account of Jesus having Peter go to catch a fish in which he finds a shekel to use for paying the temple tax.

Luke includes the account at the beginning of Jesus' ministry when he calls the first disciples after a very large catch of fish which he had instructed them to make, and the gospel of John includes the post-resurrection massive fish catch on the sea of Galilee.

Jesus ate fish after his resurrection—as noted by both Luke and John.

As you may have heard before, the origin of the Christian fish symbol comes from the Greek word for fish, which is *ichthys*. *Iesous Christos Theou Yios Soter* translated to Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior, and thus a fish symbol could signal others of this allegiance that Christians had to Jesus. Baptism also ties us to the water like fish—as a second century church father named Tertullian wrote “we, little fishes, after the image of our Ichthys, Jesus Christ, are born in the water.”

I plan to hold three women's Bible studies in April on 4/1, 4/15, and 4/29 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in a downstairs classroom at church. We will continue to examine texts about the women we are encountering as we move through the scriptures following the schedule from Pastor Akers. If the portions we have been reading don't include named women, I entertain recommendations for other texts to study. Let me know if you'd like to join via a Zoom link and be included on my email list before each meeting. You are welcome to join in at any time! We enjoy the fellowship of sisters in Christ, and we also share prayer concerns with each other.

Under his mercy,
Sharon M Conover

“But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.” Job 12:7-10

Holy Week Service

The Holy Week schedule for this year will be as follows. Services marked with a * will be live streamed on Facebook.

Sunday, April 2 ~ Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. **Sunday School** (*Fellowship Hall*)

10:00 a.m. **Divine Service*** (*gather in Fellowship Hall*)

11:30 a.m. **Fellowship** (*Fellowship Hall*)

Monday, April 3

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

Tuesday, April 4

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

Wednesday, April 5

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

Thursday, April 6 ~ Holy Thursday

12:00 p.m. **Holy Thursday Divine Service*** (*Sanctuary*)

7:00 p.m. **Holy Thursday Divine Service** (*Sanctuary*)

Friday, April 7 ~ Good Friday

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

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

Saturday, April 8

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

6:30 p.m. **The Vigil of Easter** (*gather in church entryway*)

Sunday, April 9 ~ Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. **Easter Breakfast** (*Fellowship Hall*)

10:00 a.m. **Divine Service*** (*Sanctuary*)

Men's Breakfasts

The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for **Saturday, April 15**. Breakfast will be served at **8 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall with a discussion to follow at 9 a.m.

Thank You

Thank you for your latest gift in support of our common cause! Your fellowship continues to embody and bring great hope to the people we reach and serve together.

In truth and love,

Pastor Salemink

Lutherans for Life

LWML Craft Fair Distributions totaling \$2,010

The Garuna Foundation \$360

LWML-NED \$100

Capstone Ministries \$200

Lutheran World Relief \$200

Maine Children's Cancer Program \$100

Trinity First Lutheran School \$100

The Light House \$100

Maine Children's Home \$200

LCMS Disaster Response \$250

Lutheran Hour Ministries \$200

AbleLight \$100

April Stewardship

	<u>April 2</u>	<u>April 9</u>	<u>April 16</u>	<u>April 23</u>	<u>April 30</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Elizabeth Akers	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr	Callum Goldsmith	Matthew Akers
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	Brad Fitzpatrick	Charlie MacPherson	Mark Larsen	Brian Watson	Dan Callahan
<u>Ushers</u>	Glenn Carlson Jr.	Brian Watson Mo Cote	Seth Carlson	John Ayotte	Jeff Sammons
<u>Greeters</u>	Christine Thomas	The Batsons	Sharon Klipp	Akers Family	Wilson Family
<u>Altar Care</u>	Amanda Goldsmith	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson	LeeAnne Larsen	Julie Kohl
<u>Flowers</u>	Lent – No Flowers	Akers Family	Akers Family	Gail Carrano	Gail Carrano
<u>Fellowship</u>	Batsons & Wilsons	Easter Breakfast	Akers Family	Larsen/Reed/Doran	The Evertsens

Holy Week

		April 6 Maundy Thursday (noon and 7 p.m)	April 7 Good Friday (noon and 7 p.m.)	April 8 Easter Vigil (6:30 p.m.)
Acolyte	7 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Matthew Akers	Callum Goldsmith	Evan Farr
Worship Asst.	Noon 7 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Brian Watson Jared Goldsmith	Glenn Carlson Sr. Steve Farr	Chris Batson
Usher	Noon 7 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Rick Drageland Chris Batson	Brian Watson Jeff Sammons	Mark Larsen
Greeters	Noon 7 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	James Breslin The Batsons		Julie Kohl
Alter Care		Amy Ouellette	Sasha Fitzpatrick	Krista Carlson

Members of the Month – Esther and John Gould

John Gould grew up in Albion in a house approximately 350 feet from where Esther and he live now. His father and grandfather ran a very small business named, “John Gould & Son.” It was a forest products business consisting of a timber harvesting operation and a small sawmill that produced hardwood squares. John’s mother was a part-time employee of the postal service, primarily at the Albion Post Office as a clerk and substitute postmaster. John has one sibling—a sister, a year older than John, who most importantly to this story, went to nursing school with Esther Amborn, and introduced John to her.

While growing up, John enjoyed activities like fishing, hiking, camping, canoeing, and hunting. He was active in the Boy Scout program and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. John participated in track during high school, but admits being rather unaccomplished as an athlete—earning his varsity letter as a result of the amount of time he stayed in the sport, not through athletic performance.

As a child and teen, John attended the Albion Christian Church with his family. Starting as a young teen, he worked at the family business during summers and after school, both in the saw mill and in the woods. (The first motor vehicle he ever drove was a John Deere bulldozer.)

After graduating high school, John attended Unity College earning an associate’s degree in Forestry. While in college, his sister transferred from a private college to nursing school. She told John several times about a friend she met who was really sweet. She eventually introduced John and Esther, and they later started dating.

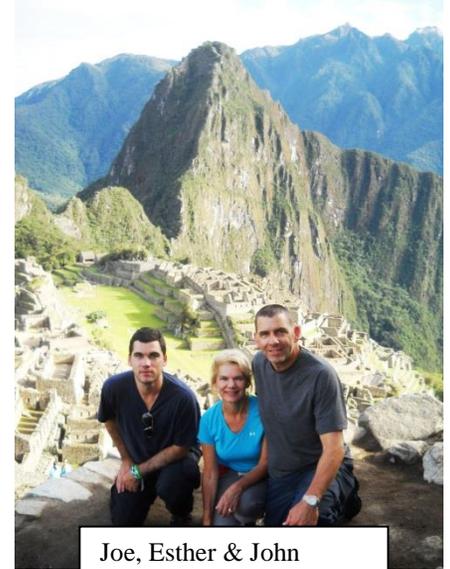
Esther grew up in Lincolnton, the second in a family of five children. She enjoyed activities such as hiking, cycling, and swimming in the Ducktrap Harbor.

The Goulds were married in 1978. They lived in an apartment in Waterville for a short time before moving into a partially renovated farmhouse in Albion. While there, they began building their own house. John says, “While I wouldn’t consider myself a skilled carpenter, I did have some building experience from working on expansion projects on my father’s saw mill. That combined with having some helpful and knowledgeable friends enabled us to build the home we live in that is so far still standing! I would also note that a lot of the lumber used in our house was milled from logs that I harvested using my father’s equipment.”

One week before Christmas in 1980, daughter Jessica was born. Before Esther and Jessica were released from the hospital, John was injured in a logging accident: Mom and baby made it home from the hospital before Dad did. It made for a very memorable Christmas! Jessica is now married to Adam Senesi and they have two children. They live in Massachusetts. Jessica is a Nurse Practitioner and the Clinical Director of Primary Care at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Medical Center.

In 1981, on their third wedding anniversary, the Goulds moved into their current house. It wasn’t completed, but it was livable—and they finished it while living in it. (They won’t say how long after they moved in until it was completed; but they do say that some remodeling had already started before the final finish work was completed on the original building!)

In 1984, son Joseph was born, completing their family. Joseph is now married to Kaori Iwamoto and they have three children. (Kaori is from Japan, and was in New York City studying English when she and Joe met by random chance). They now live in New Jersey and Joe’s a sales executive for Gradient AI, a company which provides artificial intelligence technology to the insurance industry.



Joe, Esther & John
hiking Machu Picchu.



Jessica and Adam with
Ilaria and Rocco

Esther began her career as a nurse shortly after marriage. She continued this career for over 42 years before retiring in 2020. During her career, she worked on a medical surgical floor, the operating room, the emergency room, and many years in the Endoscopy Department.

John's career path changed in 1982. He had started to pursue an interest in law enforcement. On April 28, 1982, he was hired as a patrol officer for the Waterville Police Department.

It didn't take long for him to realize how sheltered his life had been. Growing up in a stable home was something he took for granted until he saw how many people didn't have that advantage. His fourth day on the job found him at his first homicide experience.

John served on the Waterville Police Department for over 27 years. He progressed from Patrol Officer, to Detective, to Patrol Sergeant, to Detective Sergeant. He worked on cases across the spectrum of law

enforcement from minor cases to bank robberies and homicides.

In 2009, three days after he retired from the Waterville Police Department, John began a second career as a Detective with the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles Office of Investigation. This agency is one that a lot of people are unaware of: It is a law enforcement agency with full police powers. The agency investigates matters involving vehicle title fraud, driver license fraud, registration fraud, and also regulates car dealers and salvage dealers. In addition to these duties, the agency is under the authority of the Department of Secretary of State, and also provides assistance with elections.

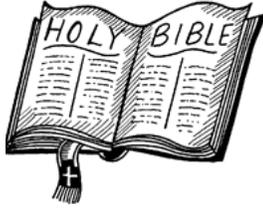
John retired from that job in March of 2022. Since then, he and Esther have enjoyed retirement on a full-time basis. A lot of people asked what they were going to do to keep busy during retirement. So far, that hasn't been a problem. They have always enjoyed hiking, traveling, beaches, and in later years, spoiling grandchildren. Retirement just means more time for those activities.



John & Esther, Joseph & Kaori w/daughters
An, Niko & baby brother Towa.

The Goulds have started working their way through the 4,000 foot mountains of New England; they've completed all but one of Maine's 4,000 footers, and have done three of New Hampshire's 4,000 footers. They have also done some hiking in the Southwest and the Midwest. In 2004, they hiked the Grand Canyon with their kids, and in 2011, they did a four-day hike on the Inca Trail in Peru to the lost City of Machu Picchu with their son, Joe.

Esther and John started attending the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection after being invited by their friend, Nicole Desjardins, in 2000. To young folks just starting out, they say, "Be patient and try to find the career that you enjoy: No matter what it is, always give it your best effort. And, "Don't be surprised how fast time goes by! It's not just something people our age say, it's reality." To seniors they say, "When the time comes, enjoy your retirement...you've earned it."



Monthly Worship

April 2

Palm Sunday

Psalm: 118:19-29

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Holy Gospel: Matthew 26-27

April 6

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 7

Good Friday

Psalm: 22

First Reading: Hosea 5:15b-6:6

Second Reading: Exodus 12:1-11

Holy Gospel: John 18-19

April 9

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 16

Second Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 33

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Epistle: 1 John 5:4-10a

Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 23

Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 23

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:21b-25

Holy Gospel: John 10:11-16

April 30

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Psalm: 147:1-11

First Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:11-20

Holy Gospel: John 16:16-22

BIBLE QUIZ

- 1. What clung to Paul as he carried logs for a fire?**
 - A. Tarantula
 - B. Viper
 - C. River rat
 - D. Green locust
- 2. Who were the three friends of Job who dispersed fault logic to him?**
 - A. Barak, Ben, Ebenezer
 - B. Sheva, Bichri, Rogelim
 - C. Barzillai, Mahanaim, Shemel
 - D. Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar
- 3. After the fall of Babylon, in the book of Revelation, how long will the dragon be confined within the bottomless pit?**
 - A. 1 year
 - B. 10 years
 - C. 100 years
 - D. 1,000 years
- 4. As Jesus was being arrested, one of the disciples chopped off what body part on the high priest's servant?**
 - A. His left hand
 - B. His right ear
 - C. His big nose
 - D. His small finger
- 5. What common item did God use to unleash the plagues onto the Egyptians?**
 - A. A shepherd's rod
 - B. An animal's jawbone
 - C. A ram's horn
 - D. A smooth pebble



- 4/4 Lucia Wilson
- 4/6 Seth Carlson
- 4/7 Gail Carrano
- 4/10 Matthew Akers
- 4/12 Emily Shaw
- 4/22 Josiah Wilson
- 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
- 4/27 Rick Drageland
- 4/?? Chester Gilbert
Charlie MacPherson
Cianan Morris

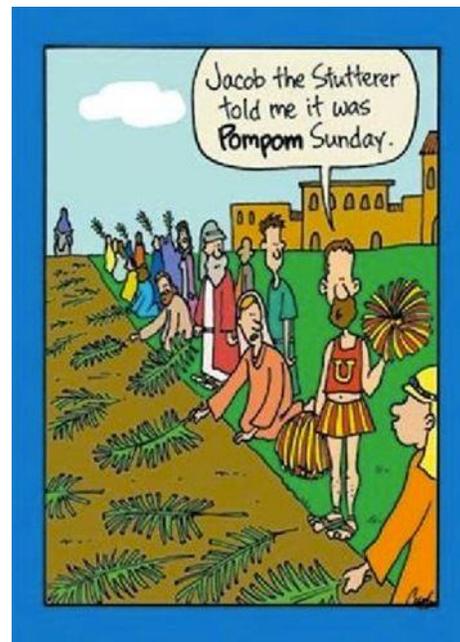


Confirmation Anniversaries

- 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



Mother-In-Law Dies In The Holy Land

A man, his wife, and his cranky mother-in-law went on vacation to the Holy Land. While they were there, the mother-in-law passed away. The undertaker told them, "You can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here in the Holy Land for \$150".

The man thought about it for a while and told the undertaker he would just have her shipped home.

The undertaker asked, "Why.... why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your mother-in-law home when it would be wonderful to be buried here and spend only \$150?"

The man said, "A man died here about 2000 years ago. He was buried here and three days later, he rose from the dead."

"I just can't take that chance."

The Sick Boy At Church On Easter Sunday

A little boy, was in church on Easter Sunday with his mother, when he started feeling sick.

"Mom," he inquired, "can we leave now?"

"No," his mother replied, "the service isn't over yet."

"Well, I think I'm about to throw up," the boy announced.

"Then go out of the front door and around to the back of the church and throw up behind a bush," said his mother.

After about 60 seconds, the boy returned to his pew, alongside his mother.

"Did you throw up?" she asked quietly.

"Yes," the boy answered, embarrassed.

"How could you have gone all the way to the back of the church and returned so quickly?" Doris demanded.

"I didn't have to go out of the church. They have a box next to the front door that says, For the Sick."

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. B. (Acts 28:3)
2. D. (Job 2:11; 42:7)
3. D (Revelation 20:2-3)
- 4 B (John 18:10)
5. A (Exodus 7:15-19)

