

April 1, 2018
The Resurrection of Our Lord
8:30 AM



First Lutheran Church
BOTHELL

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. **We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life.** We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

Pastor
Rev. Tor Kristian Berg
tberg@flcbothell.org

**Director of
REACH Ministries**
Roger Steinke
rsteinke@flcbothell.org

Office Manager
Kristin Smith
ksmith@flcbothell.org



10207 NE 183rd Street
Bothell WA 98011
(425) 486-2314
office@flcbothell.org
www.flcbothell.org

WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the white card in the pew rack and hand it to an usher on your way forward for Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a “Pray Space” under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. If you desire the nursery ask an usher for directions.
- + Public Wi-Fi password: MartyLuther.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. www.flcbothell.org

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE: *Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne (D. Buxtehude)*

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT: *Alleluia, Christ is Risen (C. Wordsworth/J. Althouse)*
Brass Ensemble: Cris Sherman, Trent DeVerter,
Karen Mildes, Dale Light & Nathan Light

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and Naamah and their family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* (ELW 365)



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you sent your only Son to live among us, but the world rejected him and put him on a cross to die. You turned this into an act of redemption by raising Jesus from the dead. You delivered us from the power of death.

Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *We Know That Christ Is Raised* (ELW 449)



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re-born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

CHORAL ANTHEM: *Christ is Risen! Christ is Alive (B. Wren/L. Larson)*

Cris Sherman, Trumpet

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: John 20:1-10

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Word of God,
word of life.

ENSEMBLE ANTHEM: *Alleluia! Christ is Risen (Luis Bojos, trans. M. Seltz)*

SECOND READING: John 20:11-18

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Word of God,
word of life.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* (ELW 377)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

On this day of rejoicing, we pray for the life of the church, the world, and all people in any need.

You give life to your church by joining the baptized to the body of Christ.

Bless the newly baptized as we proclaim the one whose death and resurrection makes us one in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give life to the creation by renewing the earth in every season. Curb our exploitation of natural resources, and cause us to preserve the health of plant and animal habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give life to the world by laying a cornerstone among the nations. Rebuild the powers and principalities around us in ways that protect the vulnerable and raise up the lowly. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give life to those in need by the anointing of your Holy Spirit. Comfort those who suffer, encourage those who care for the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and wipe away the tears of all who mourn. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give life to this community of faith by infusing us with love for one another. Inspire us to reach out to our neighbors in meaningful ways and bring the joys of community to a wider family of people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give life to your saints by setting a banquet table of rich food. Feed us with the bread of life and bring us with all your saints to the feast that has no end. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the spring of new and everlasting life.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* (ELW 367)



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
set heart and will on things a - bove that we
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

COMMUNION: *We will receive the body of Christ as gluten-free bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

WHO MAY COMMUNE? *All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.*

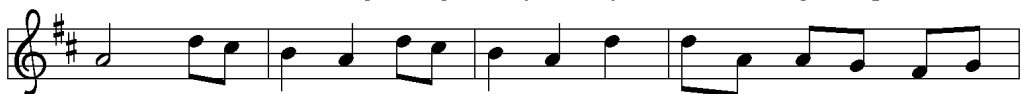
DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION: *Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.*

COMMUNION HYMNS:

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! (ELW 393)



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (ELW 382)



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re- turns to life once more;
now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! (ELW 385)



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, ☐ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Thine Is the Glory* (ELW 376)



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Toccata in G Major* (T. Dubois)

Assisting With Today's Service

Presiding	Rev. Chienyu Jade Yi	Preaching	Rev. Tor K. Berg
Organ/ Choir Director	Lucy Kay Osborne	Ushers	Dan Bormann, Brian Midtbo, Walt Stoll & Dave Richards
Ensemble Director	Richard Edmonds	Communion Assistants	Paul Desilet, Donna Hillard & Kathy Konieczka
Ensemble	June Condra, Scott Eiler, Rachel Jackman, Curtis Koger, Doug Peterson, Gordy Phelps, Donella Robbins & Johannes Skjonsby	Sound Tech	Ann Bormann
Guitar	Connie Wolter	Lector	Jeffrey Kosman
Percussion	Eric Daane, Trent DeVerter, Kevin Prather, Dan Strothman & Nora Strothman	Acolyte	

April 8, 2018 Second Sunday of Easter

John 220:19-31

Thomas

Weekly Financial Report

March 25, 2018

Attendance: 240

General Offerings: \$7,807

Mortgage Fund: \$920

Amount needed per Sunday:

General Offerings: \$9,907

Mortgage Fund: \$1,098

Easter Breakfast

8:00 - 10:30 am

Free will offering for FLC Youth Ministries
All are welcome!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayers of sympathy for the family of Ardyce Johnson in her death last Sunday.

Our Ministry Partners:

Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services, Lutheran Counseling Network, Lutheran World Relief

Those living with cancer:

Paul Aldrich (Lageson Family friend), Barbara Bastin (Clint Bastin's mother), Debbie Bell (Renee Markert's cousin), Larry & Marcie Clure (Dan & Sandy Hendricks' friend), Joyce Daily (David Osborne's aunt), Janice Davidson (Sandy Flying Cloud's friend), Bob Davis (Curcio family friend), Patricia Dwonch (Stephanie Almeida's aunt), Mikee Eppl (Elodie Ragan's friend), Mason Gordon (Curcio Family friend), Cami Grillo (member), Edith Holbrook (member), Darryl Lageson (member), Tom McMaster (Dawn Bastin's father), Mark Nesse (Darci Desilet's stepfather), Susan Oja (Cathy Tanner's friend), Pam (Melanie Veazey's cousin), Kenneth Rapp (Loretta Rapp's son), Marvin Richter (Renee Markert's father), Richard Robillard (Ruth Neitzel's brother), Audrey Sheffler (Sherrill Baker's friend), Jen Shirley (Curcio family friend), Pam Steig (Marlys Pehling's niece), Sylvia Stevens (wife of Steve Stevens and Bob Berg's friend), Sue (Paula Glandon's friend), Mary Beth Torgerson (Cathy Tanner's friend), Roger Tuck (Michelle Tuck's brother-in-law), Kip Van Alstine (Paul Desilet's uncle), Joanne Wejak (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law), Danna White (Cathy Tanner's friend), and Michael Wilson (Vicki Kastning's friend).

Those who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery:

Peter Barnard (Pastor Berg's friend), Judy Bigham (Frequent visitor), Cathy Edwards (member), Nancy Graumlich (member), Ardyce Johnson (member), Swede Johnson (Sherrill & Larry Baker's friend), Greta Nelson (member), Dee Oughtred (Sue Toyoda's aunt), Larry Prather (Kevin Prather's father), Elodie Ragan (member), Judy Richards (member), Kevin Sailand (Karey Coble's brother), Sarah (Cathy Edwards' grand daughter), Mona Shogren (member), Debbie Slaughter (Keven & Vicki Kastning's friend), Eunice Williamson (member) & Connie Wolter (member).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Margie Bannister (member), Phyllis Enger (member), Arlene O'Neill (Ruth & Mark Neitzel's friend), Lillian & Lawrence Romaniuk (Leon Romaniuk's parents), Eleanor Simonsen (Lisa Graumlich's mother-in-law), Joyce Sullivan (member), Fran Tazuma (member), Sigrid & Manfred Thode (Carsten Thode's parents), & Phyllis Watters (member) .

Please remember to pray for peace in these war torn areas:

Israel/Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, North Korea, Somalia and Iraq.

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: Tyler Ripley (Jeanne Koruga's nephew) and Erin Siebert (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)
ARMY: Shaun Cunningham (Cris Sherman's son-in-law), Lucas Peters (Jim & Vernita Steege's grandson), Asis Montalvo (Adjorlolo family friend)

MARINES: James Bacon (Jeanne Koruga's friend) and Olav Wampler (Elizabeth & Randall Wampler's son)

NAVY: Karl Krueger (Karin Ulvin's husband), Kelsey Schunk (Jack Schunk's granddaughter), Kyle Warner (Karen and Paul Gabrielsen's grandson) & Christopher Whipple (Carolyn & Richard Whipple's son)

We are honored to be able to pray for your family members and close friends in need. Our policy is to publish immediate concerns for 2 weeks, unless we hear from you that an illness or situation is ongoing.

An Easter Message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

It all started with such promise - the angel announcing to Mary that the child she would bear would be called Son of the Most High; the conviction of Mary that this child would be the embodiment of God's promised justice, that the hungry would be filled with good things and the rich sent away empty; angels announcing his birth; thousands being fed; the sick healed; the dead raised.

And then, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" It was over. The world hadn't changed. Might still made right. How ridiculously naïve to believe that any reversal of the old order could come about. Hope is for the gullible. Looking at this broken man hanging utterly helpless, naked and broken on a cross, the powers and principalities, earthly and spiritual, death and the devil must have said, "You fool."

This, as St. Paul reminds us, is the wisdom of the world. And the world can present plenty of hard evidence that it is right: children killing children in horrific school shootings, 60 million displaced people - all of this supported by our rebellion against God, our idolatrous claim that we are in control and the world is ours. In the face of this and all of the suffering others cause and we cause others, we, too, might cry out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

I believe that the beginning of Psalm 22 expresses the anguish of the psalmist and the anguish of our Lord, but there is more going on here. Citing the first words of a text was, in the tradition of the time, a way of identifying an entire passage. The psalm ends this way: "All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. ... Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it." This is the wisdom of God. Jesus' crucifixion is the death of our death. His innocent suffering has reconciled all of creation to God. He has done it. We stake our lives on this.

This year, Easter falls on April 1. We shall have come through the Lenten desert to the Easter garden. We shall say, "Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" And we shall confess this and live this in the face of worldly wisdom that is based on death. Life wins. Love wins. And if the world wants to call us April fools, we are glad to claim that title.

SERMON NOTES

Interesting things I heard:

My favorite quote:

Main message:



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.