

## Letter from Pr. Jane

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Psalms 91:4-6: He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. <sup>5</sup> **You will not fear** the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, <sup>6</sup> nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

As we consider the **promises of God** in Psalm 91, we are certainly in the midst of pestilence and plague-like attack. Please **be safe and stay home** for the next 2-8 weeks or until this blows over. Please take this time at home to reflect on what Jesus did for us during this Lenten season. Keeping our physical distance of at least 6 feet and staying safe shows “love of our neighbor” (Matthew 19:19) as Jesus taught us, by not spreading disease, and use of our knowledge and understanding (Proverbs 1.)

Let us unite our hearts and minds **every night at 7 PM**, wherever we are, to pray for our World, our nation, our community, our families, and all our leaders and decision-makers, researchers, and caregivers. Let our prayers rise as incense before the mercy seat of our God (Leviticus 16:13.)

Finding new and innovative ways to build our faith community and support for each other makes me grateful God has brought us to this digital age with multiple media. Every challenge we have had in life has prepared and trained us for this time (Isaiah 2:3, 28:9.) Paraphrasing Isaiah 28:26: **“Our God instructs us and teaches us the right way.”**

**History tells us** we will survive the attack of evil and thrive again, just as we did in the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918, the flu epidemic of 1968, the 911 attack. Every challenge you have survived has prepared you for this, and God Himself has taught you the skills you now need. **Tell me what you have learned over your lifetime**, long or short. We can learn from and support each other spiritually, socially, and mentally, and together we will get through this.

**Please tune services in** on whatever media you have - radio, Face Time, Fosston TV, or Garden Valley TV. **Holy Week** services will be **Palm Sunday** at 9:30 AM, **Maundy Thursday** at 6:30 PM, **Good Friday** at 6:30 PM, and **Easter Sunday** at 9:30 AM. Thanks be to God that we have access to modern technology so we are not isolated! **Physical distancing** is important, **social distancing** is not needed thanks to modern day communication technology. So we do not need to feel alone.

School dismissal curtails Friday School’s **confirmation and first Communion** class. Our **First Communion** Students will need to **postpone** their classes and first Communion because we just don’t know how to fit it in...yet! We are thinking of a two-day camp at church with a sleep-over when it is safe, to make up for lost class time. Confirmation make up classes are yet to be determined, perhaps mini classes where we can keep our distance, perhaps you have good ideas as to how best complete our children’s spiritual education. **Ninth graders & parents** need to schedule their interview with the pastor & pick up their take home exam. Options for completing **sermon notes** are available. We want to keep our kids engaged.

Anyone who would like to have some private time talking to the pastor, please call the church office (435-6765) or my cell (218-820-2017) for an appointment, or to chat.

**Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday and Palm Sunday:** We considered **Four Options** and after much discussion, prayer and consideration, we decided the safest that also addressed concerns about chaos or lack of sanctity was to order individual communion sets that are sealed and will be blessed at the church by the Pastor before being brought to you at your home. Since these little sets are in high demand, they have

been backordered and we are not sure if they will be here in time for Maundy Thursday or Palm Sunday, our usual communion celebrations. When they come, a team of volunteers **will deliver** the number of kits that you request on the church voicemail message. If you would like to help with these deliveries, please call **Jeanie Stout at 218-435-1921**. Please **keep your kits** until the service is livestreamed or on TV. Lay them out so they are **ready** when we get to that point of the service. Please call the church (218-435-6765) and **leave a message** with your name, address and the number of communicants you will have. We will be checking the messages frequently.

**Thanks be to God for the leaders in our church** who are faithfully and prayerfully planning and arranging so that we may participate in worship and remain well. We are working hard to be certain **the services of the church** are easily accessible for you. Many have taken time off from work to meet and discuss the best options. Evan is ever diligent on face book, Ryan is faithful and technologically adept, Greg and Tim make themselves available in spite of work and family obligations. Many others are working behind the scenes and all of us need your prayerful support. How can we be thankful enough?

We are a thinking, prayerful, faithful people, **counting on the promises** of God. Jesus told the Samaritan woman (John 4: 21) that “the hour is coming” when we will not worship either on the mountain in Samaria or in Jerusalem, but in faith and truth. Wherever we are gathered in His Name, He is there. Now we put our faith into action. The “hour is here.”

Good has given us many gifts that allow us to continue to function safely, if remotely; to be faithful in worship and care of our neighbor. For this we **give thanks** to our Lord and savior who has adequately prepared us to meet these challenges if we use our gifts wisely. We have **reason to rejoice** as we have met and exceeded our \$1,000 match for the Food Shelf for a total donation of just under \$2500. **Thank you for your care** of people around you!!

**What a blessing each of you are!** I long for the day when I can once again safely shake your hand or give you a hug. You see, the best things in life, really are free gifts. In the meantime, I am looking for people who would like to help me be on an Outreach committee, to call, send notes of encouragement, and **help in care-taking of our flock** while the Befrienders’ and I are not able to conduct our normal visitations. Please call me if you are willing and able to help with these **check-in calls, send cards**, if you would like to add to our list of **prayers**, or would like to be on a **prayer team**. Thank you for **praying for our students** who are preparing for first communion, confirmation and graduation.

We are strong, we are faithful, we are people who **live in the promises** given by God and He is faithful. Stay positive. He is in charge. This too shall pass, and we will be better, stronger, more insightful, more careful, and more appreciative. May the **peace that surpasses all understanding** keep your hearts, minds, and health in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen

In His Service,  
Pastor Jane

Please be aware EASTER FLOWERS are still needed for the Altar on Easter when our service will be televised. Thank you to the altar guild that keeps our altar beautifully cared for, and tastefully adorned.

## Youth News



HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY TO: Dawson Bailie  
Brekken Levin

Alex Johnson  
Kora Norland

Breanna Larson  
Faith Quam

If you are a Hope student in grades 7-12 and we missed your birthday, please notify the church office so we can update our list.



### Graduate Spring / Easter Care Packages

Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team seed money, we will be sending out care packages to last years graduates!

What an encouragement these packages were to the graduate recipients last year - they loved the surprise box in the mail!

This is a project from you... the entire congregation!

Please consider donating either items to be included in the box or money that we can use to purchase items!



*Join us in celebrating our risen Lord this Easter season with the beauty of spring.*

**Hope Altar Guild is taking orders for lilies and/or mums (\$16.00 each)** which will be used to adorn the sanctuary on Easter morning.

Following the Easter Sunday service the flowers are yours to enjoy.

**You may order by calling the church office at 435-6765, or emailing [hopezion@gvtel.com](mailto:hopezion@gvtel.com)**

**We will need your name, phone number, how many and what type of flower you want, and in whose names the flowers are in memory or in honor.**

## In Loving Memory

### MARCH MEMORIALS:

Gifts were given to the Audio/Visual Fund in memory of:

Gerald Cote  
Ralph Hove  
Janice Hove Johnson  
Roger Johnson  
Vivian Nord  
David Salvhus  
Martha Sather  
Walter Sylstad

### Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT**



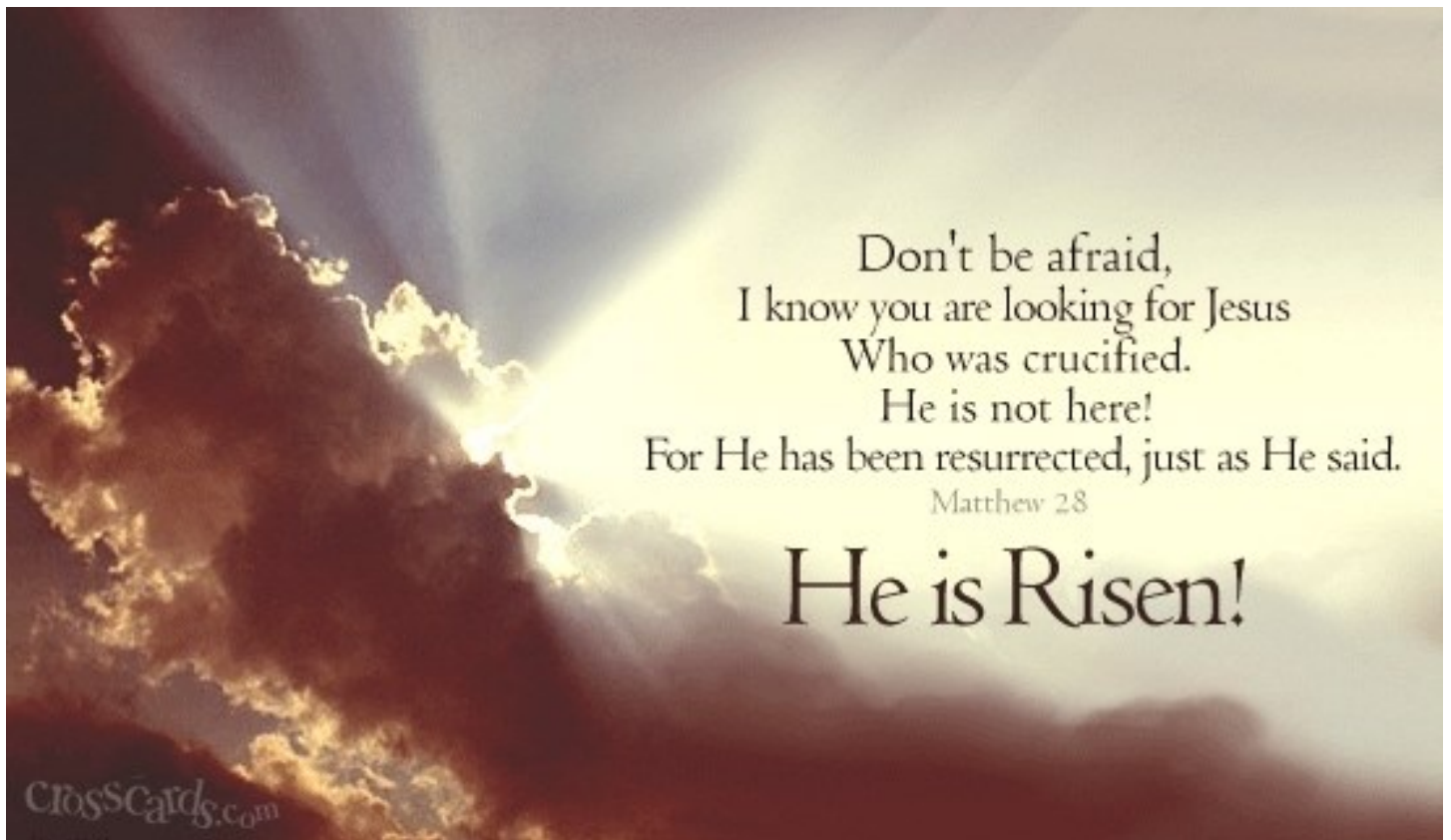
Electronic giving offers convenience for individuals and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

Following is a list of the information that is needed to get started:

- ⇒ Name and Address
- ⇒ Date of First Donation
- ⇒ Frequency of Donation (Weekly, Monthly, etc.)
- ⇒ Amount of Donation
- ⇒ Checking or Savings      Account Routing and Account Numbers

Donations amounts may be changed or discontinued any time simply by calling the church office.

If you would like to sign up for electronic giving, or want more information, please call the church office at 218-435-6765, or email [hopezion@gvtel.com](mailto:hopezion@gvtel.com)

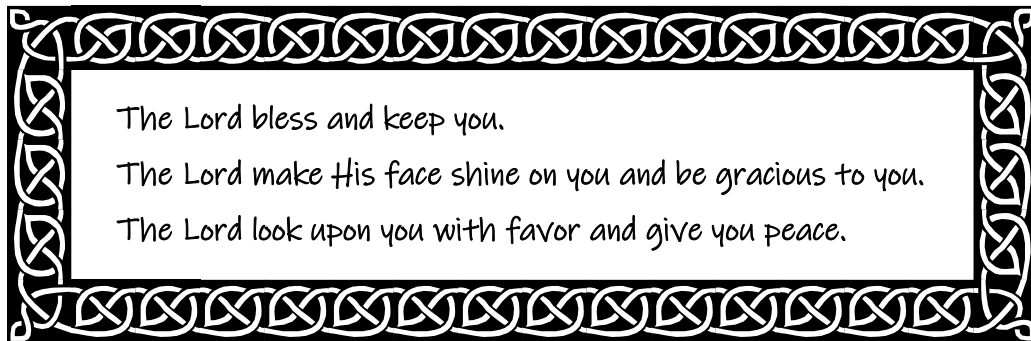


Don't be afraid,  
I know you are looking for Jesus  
Who was crucified.  
He is not here!  
For He has been resurrected, just as He said.

Matthew 28

# He is Risen!

CrossCards.com



The Lord bless and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

## April Bible Readings    KEY CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE

1    Lenten Worship	9    Maundy Thursday	17    Genesis 27	25    Genesis 43
2    Genesis 6	10    Good Friday	18    Genesis 28	26    Sunday Worship
3    Genesis 7	11    Genesis 15	19    Sunday Worship	27    Genesis 44
4    Genesis 8	12    Easter Sunday	20    Genesis 37	28    Genesis 45
5    Palm Sunday	13    Genesis 18	21    Genesis 39	29    Genesis 50
6    Genesis 9	14    Genesis 21	22    Genesis 40	30    Exodus 1
7    Genesis 11	15    Genesis 22	23    Genesis 41	
8    Genesis 12	16    Genesis 24	24    Genesis 42	