

THE PATHFINDER

Website: www.ctslutheran.net

E-Mail: ctslutheranpf@gmail.com

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 41 Issue 4 April 2025

EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARTIN



I can still remember the pound of my heart to this day. It was Good Friday in the year 1995. I was working at Lutherdale Bible Camp as a year round staff and my task that day was to dismantle the several hundred foot zipline. It was a warm spring day, but I still experienced the wind that caused the tree that I was attached to to sway far more than I wanted it to. The tree itself was dying and thus it could no longer serve as the anchor of the zipline where the platform was. It was on that platform where youth and staff alike would find themselves transferring the rabbit ears attached to their harness to the zipline that would lead to the ensuing rush of emotions. As I stood on that platform, connected to a couple of tree staples with my own rabbit ears, I loosened the hardware that secured the zipline cable to the tree, bolt by bolt. It was quite a surreal experience.

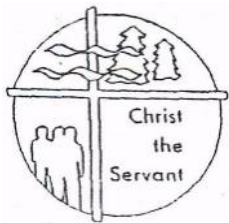
As I loosened the final bolt, that cable released about a foot away from my face, causing my heart to beat in a way it has never beaten before or since. The sound haunted me for those few seconds as the cable fell to the ground about 40 feet below. Once I collected myself, all I could think about was how appropriate it was to watch the death of the zipline on Good Friday. That element was always the climax on the high ropes course. It was the final adventure for countless youth as they experienced the challenges of that course. Just step off the platform, trust, and fly!

I was saddened to see that zipline fall. But then I was overjoyed to see it rebuilt in a new and more secure location! It reminds me of that great Easter spiritual that states, "It's Friday, but Sunday's coming." It's the reminder that we call it Good Friday only because as Christian believers, we know that Easter is coming. Without Easter Sunday, Friday would have been even more devastating as it already was. Jesus' followers were lost, confused, and in deep sorrow. Those emotions resulted from the trauma that they were experiencing. But Easter reversed the pain of that trauma and turned it into a joyous chorus of "Alleluias" where we can now see God's almighty power being revealed! We can see how God has power over death itself and not just for Jesus. God's power to give life to all believers in all times and in all places through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what brings us joy, hope, comfort, and faith itself! God's power to renew our lives each and every day through the gift of forgiveness cannot be understated. God's desire to heal our broken relationship because of our sinfulness indicates the depth of that love, knowing that God so desperately desires to be with us forever.

That old zipline was a source of joy for so many people. But when contrasted with the joy we can experience daily, it simply pales in comparison. Friends, live into that joy of the resurrection. Remember the gift that Jesus embodies that is truly the greatest gift we've ever had - the gift of God's unconditional love. Despite the various losses that we grieve each year, some that appear to be quite unbearable at the time, remember the gift of Jesus. We are a resurrection church. We are a forgiven and forgiving people. And we bask in the glory of God's amazing grace.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Bishop Martin

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Pastor Gwen's April Office Hours:

Monday 1-4 PM

Wednesday 2-5 PM

No Office Hours on April 2nd and 7th.



Woman's Group meets every
Tuesday from 10AM -2PM.



Men's Group will meet
Saturday, April 12th at 8AM.



April Bible Readings

April 6, 2025 – 5th Sunday in Lent

Old Testament Reading	Isaiah 51:1-6
Epistle Reading	2 Corinthians 1:3-7
Gospel Reading	John 11:17-27

April 13, 2025 – Palm Sunday

Old Testament Reading	Zechariah 9:9-11
Epistle Reading	Hebrews 12:1-2
Gospel Reading	Luke 19:28-40

April 17, 2025 – Maundy Thursday

Old Testament Reading	Psalms 145:15-17
Epistle Reading	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel Reading	John 13:3-16

April 18, 2025 – Good Friday

Old Testament Reading	Isaiah 53:1-6
Epistle Reading	Titus 3:4-7
Gospel Reading	John 19:17-30

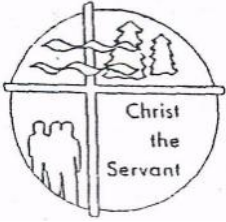
April 20, 2025 – Easter Sunday

Old Testament Reading	Job 19:23-27a
Epistle Reading	Galatians 3:13-14
Gospel Reading	John 20:1-18

April 27, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

New Testament Reading	Acts 5:27-32
Epistle Reading	Revelation 1:4-8
Gospel Reading	John 20:19-31

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**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE AND
REQUESTS IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

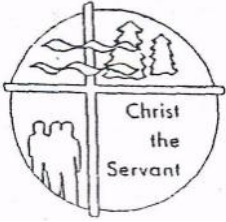
Health/Concerns: Olivia, Stephanie, Carrie, Meg, Autumn, Joan, Mitch, Ann, Jack, Joan, and Paul.

Military: Anton, Brittany, Ryan, Josh and Natalie.

Groups: CTS Church Council, Quilting Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, CTS Youth, those who are struggling with hunger and injustice in the world and the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Ministry.



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My Savior

by Kimberly Chase

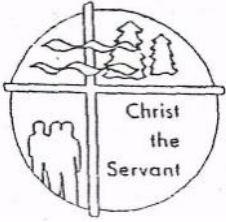
He knelt and prayed all alone in the garden.
Suffering and carrying each one of our burdens.
So much pain and anguish he felt that day,
But His love for us pushed Him as He prayed.
As I think of each blood drop He shed for me,
The sorrow, the pain as he knelt on His knees.
I become so overcome with love and hope,
For He is my harness, my lifeline, my rope.

I think of how then He was betrayed by a friend,
The hurt, the disappointment, could have no end.
He was persecuted and then hung on the cross,
How could they not see, what a great loss.
But it was our Heavenly Father's great plan,
To bring salvation and eternal life to all men.
As our Savior's mortal life was to end,
He asked for forgiveness for all that offend.

So much mercy and love, as death He did greet,
Then He rose from the tomb to make it complete.
Showing each of one of us the ultimate love,
Eternal life with our Father in Heaven above.
I am grateful for the great opportunity,
To live with my family for all eternity.
It was all because of our Savior's sacrifice,
So much love He had that He paid the great price.

Without my Savior, I would be a lost cause,
With all my imperfections and flaws.
But I know that because of the price He did pay,
I can seek forgiveness as I kneel and pray.
As long as I am sincere and repent,
My slate is wiped clean without any dent.
If I try my best and endure to the end,
I will be with my Savior, my Brother, my Friend.





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Bible Study: Our Lenten Bible Study, “Savior Servant Friend” continues on the 6th and 27th of April. Please join us and discover who Jesus really is and what that means to us.

Men’s Group: Men’s group will be meeting on April 12th at 8 AM. The topic of study is Grace. All men are welcome to and encouraged to come! If you have the book, please read Chapter 12.

Lenten Wednesdays: The Lenten Wednesdays service will be on April 2nd at First Congregational Church and Christ the Servant on April 9th. We will continue with the “Holden Evening Prayer” on sung by Mark Donner. Please join us for great fellowship and soup prior to the beautiful evening service.

Lenten and Holy Week Services: “Savior Servant Friend” will be the title of our Lenten series. Lent provides us a chance to explore the extraordinary attributes of our Savior, Servant and Friend in Jesus. Marvel at the many blessings we have received when he laid down his life for us on the cross. Each service in the series focuses on a different aspect of our greatest Friend.

Holy Week Services: Please note the service times for Holy Week.

Sunday, April 13th: Palm Sunday – Jesus’ journey to the cross begins.

Thursday, April 17th at 6:30 PM: Maundy Thursday – Jesus washing the feet of the disciples.

Friday, April 18th at 6:30 PM: Good Friday – Jesus, the servant, gives up his life on the cross.

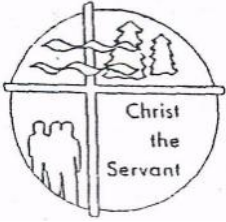
Sunday, April 20th: Resurrection of Our Savior with a potluck to follow worship.

Easter Sunday Potluck: There will be a potluck following worship on Easter Sunday. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the volunteer board by the office. We hope all will join us for this most important day of the religious year to celebrate what God has done for each of us.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace: This ministry in Park Falls continues to need donations of pillows, beds in a bag, quilts, and sheet sets. They are all twin size beds for youth, age 4 through 17, in our community with no bed of their own. Any questions regarding the ministry, please see the Melvolds.

The Lord’s Cupboard: The pantry could use more volunteers to work once a month on a Saturday morning from 8:30 – 11:00 AM. You must be able to lift 35 pounds and work on your weekend! See Pastor Gwen if you are interested.

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Volunteer Schedule April and May 2025

DATE	ASSISTING MINISTER	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	USHERS
APRIL 6TH	Joe Bondioli		Chuck & Barb Schindhelm	
APRIL 13TH PALM SUNDAY	Kurt Wolff	Sarah Wolff		
APRIL 17TH MAUNDY THURSDAY				
APRIL 18TH GOOD FRIDAY				
APRIL 20TH EASTER SUNDAY			POTLUCK	
APRIL 27TH				
MAY 4TH				
MAY 11TH				
MAY 18TH				
MAY 25TH				

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