

PLATTE, SD  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
**NEWSLETTER**

APRIL 2023

## ***Holy Week Through the Eyes of the Disciples***

I cannot imagine what it was like for Jesus' disciples to go through that first Holy Week. Four days so filled with power and love that they transformed the world forever. What a roller coaster ride they had! On Maundy Thursday, Jesus shocked His disciples by picking up the basin and the towel, dropping to His knees before them, and washing each one of their feet—even the feet of Judas Iscariot, the one who would betray Him. Jesus took on the task reserved for the lowliest servant to model for His disciples how they were to live. They were to live as His humble servants, willing to do whatever it took to advance the gospel to those, who did not yet know Him.

As the night continued, they heard Jesus announce that one of the twelve would betray Him. Then, as they puzzled over that news, they saw the Passover meal transformed before them into the Lord's Supper. They saw Jesus pick up the unleavened bread and declare, "This is my body given for you." Leaven had long been a symbol of sin. So, when Jesus took a loaf of bread without leaven, and said, "This is my body," He was declaring that His body was without sin. He was announcing that He was the perfect sacrifice God would use to make perfect atonement for mankind's sin. Then, He said, "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin." Jesus was prophesying how He would die, and how His death would affect mankind. And after each declaration, first for the bread and then for the wine, Jesus reminded them to "do this for the remembrance for me."

After supper on Maundy Thursday, Jesus gave them this mandate found in **John 13:34-35**: "**A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**" Jesus distilled discipleship down to

this one concept: loving others as He had loved them. Simple to grasp, but oh so hard to accomplish.

Maundy Thursday was jam-packed with instruction. Jesus prophesied Peter would betray Him three times before the rooster crowed. He taught them about the Holy Spirit and encouraged them to trust in His teaching and to walk in His truth. He taught them the parable about the vine and the branches and reminded them they were to produce fruit that would last. Jesus prayed His high priestly prayer for Himself, His disciples, and for all who would believe in Him. Then, He led them to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He prayed, was betrayed, and arrested.

Jesus endured a frantic schedule of late night and early morning sham trials, first before Annas, then before Caiaphas, then before Pilate, Herod, and back to Pilate again. Each stop was a new place to be tortured and humiliated. Though they couldn't produce any reliable witnesses, the Jews yelled long enough and loud enough that Pilate finally gave into their wishes and ordered that He be crucified. The disciples watched their Lord and Savior be scourged with whips, crowned with a crown of thorns that was hammered into His head with heavy clubs, and punched with fists. They saw His beard torn out by the roots, they saw Him spat upon, and they saw Him struggle under the weight of a heavy cross. They saw Him endure punishment so brutal and severe that **Isaiah 52:14** was fulfilled: ***His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and His form marred beyond human likeness.*** His disciples saw their once great Lord reduced to a bloody slab of meat and then watched Him be nailed to the cross through His wrists and His feet.

When His disciples saw the Roman soldier pierce His side with a spear, oh, the devastation and confusion they must have felt. How could the Messiah be dead? How could He be wrapped in grave clothes and buried in a tomb? Wasn't His reign supposed to be eternal? Wasn't He supposed to lead His people into a whole new realm? There was nothing good about this Friday as far as His disciples could see.

But then, Sunday comes at last. The women go to

Jesus' tomb, and He is not there! The angels ask: **"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"** **"Then they remembered his words.** Oh, how the hearts of the disciples soared when they were able to see Jesus once again. How they rejoiced to be able to touch Him, and to hear Him, and to share a meal with Him again! How glorious to remember His words and to see them fulfilled!

What about you? Have you witnessed Christ's journey of love and obedience through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday? Have you heard His promise of life and forgiveness in Holy Communion? Have you embraced it, remembering Him and the

cost with which that meal was won? Have you acknowledged the depth of love and obedience required by Jesus to willingly lay down His life for us? Have you marveled at the strength and courage it required for Him to endure the torture both before and on the cross? Have you rejoiced in the truth of Easter? Has your soul and spirit soared with His resurrection? Have you celebrated His victory over sin, death, and the devil and recognized it as your victory as well? Has it registered with you that death has lost its sting? Have you understood that because Jesus withstood His agony on the cross, we aren't subject to that same suffering? If you haven't come to those realizations yet, I suggest you don't know Jesus. Isn't it about time you do get to know Him?

Wishing you a happy and blessed Easter!

Love, *Pastor Dave*

## Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday March 20, 2023.

**Present:** Jim Holter, Kyle Meyerink, Carey Hoffman, Shirley Johnson, Donna Boysen, Pastor Dave Martin, Ryan Lantz, Tony Schrank, Tom Boltjes, Alisha Nachtigal, Jan DuFrain and Mike Gilbertz.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Holter and Pastor Dave led with a devotion and prayer.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The secretary's report was reviewed, Ryan made a motion to approve, Tony seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The council reviewed the treasurer's report. Trinity Lutheran received a nice memorial from Luverne (Sonny) and LaVonne Qualm family. Tom made a motion to approve, Mike seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Trustee's Report:**

There was nothing to report.

### **Deacon's Report:**

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

### **Pastor's Report:**

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

### **Old Business:**

The code lock on the quilting room door has been installed.

Sound System- We are just waiting on the cordless microphones then the sound system should be ready.

Painting Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall-The estimate from Jeff Martin for painting is \$3000-\$3500. The council is going to table this and Kyle is going to visit with Amanda Groon to see what she is able to do and her timeline.

Tony made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ryan seconded it. We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Carey Hoffman

## From the WOW Co-Presidents

*Pearl Feiock & Dee Rasmussen*

### Do Not Be Troubled

There is a way, through at times, we must remind ourselves of this fact. A way to eternal happiness. But you say, what about the in between times, the bind? The solution is trust, believe; Jesus with endurance blessed.

His example is taught throughout our lives, hardship, trials, our lack of faith, all are tools to educate. Yes, we in the school of preparation for Heaven Worship! Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not lie, or fabricate.

*Jesus said, you trust in God, trust also in Me, My Father's house has enough room, I am going there to prepare a place for you.*

You will have restructuring by the Master of heart and mind before you get there, so beware.

The best part of our journey is we are never alone, He walks through it with us, holding our hands. We can look forward with joy and peace to the bone of His faithfulness, our certainty, without demand.

*John 14:1-6 By R Patricia Holmes*

## WOW Mission Project

The food pantry committee is trying to fill backpacks of groceries to send home with students. Some of these items would include non-perishable foods such as soup, crackers, canned chicken and tuna, Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, breakfast bars, pudding 4-packs, cereal, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, veggies, or any items that children would like. A tote will be in the fellowship hall so let's fill it up several times.

## WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand March 1, 2023	\$ 2050.21
No Transactions	
Balance on Hand March 31, 2023	\$ 2050.21

Designated monies to Mission Fund	\$ 260.00
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### Bible Study Groups

#### **Martha Bible Study Group**

meets Tuesday, April 11 at 7 pm  
Lesson 5 – God Is With You in the Valley

#### **Priscilla Bible Study Group:**

meets Thursday, April 20 at 9:00 AM  
Studying Lesson 3  
Lesson Leader: Gladys Kuipers  
Hostess: Joan Falor

#### **Hannah Bible Study Group:**

meets Thursday, April 20 at 1:30 PM  
Studying Lesson 3  
Lesson Leader: Caroline Butler  
Hostess: Joan Hoversten

# Good news flags

Use batik, a unique fabric-dyeing method, to create flags celebrating the good news of Christ's resurrection.



**What you need:**

- Colored chalk
- White linen fabric
- Washable gel glue
- Acrylic craft paint
- Textile medium
- Paintbrushes

**What you do:**

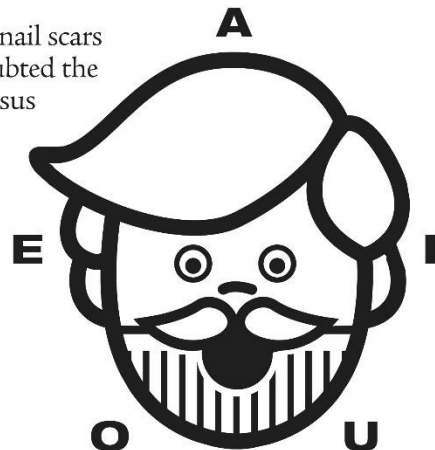
1. Cut fabric to the desired size and shape. Set it on a flat, protected surface. With chalk, lightly sketch an Easter design or message.
2. Completely cover the chalk lines with gel glue. Let dry.
3. Mix equal parts paint and textile medium. Paint the flag with that mixture, which makes paint permanent. Let dry.
4. Soak the dried fabric in warm water a few minutes. Then gently peel away the glue to reveal the unpainted areas. Lay flat to dry.
5. Hang the flags and celebrate!

# PUZZLE



## SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?



**Directions:**

Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.

"B \_ c \_ \_ s \_ y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ s \_ \_ n m \_ ,  
 y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ;  
 bl \_ ss \_ d \_ r \_ th \_ s \_ wh \_ h \_ v \_ n \_ t  
 s \_ \_ n \_ nd y \_ t h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ."

JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV

**Sunday, April 2:** Palm Sunday—The Sunday School kids are invited to wave palm branches at the beginning of worship on Palm Sunday.

**Sunday, April 9:** For campers helping serve Easter breakfast, please come at 7:30 AM or right after Sunrise Service. No Sunday School – Easter Break

## Birthdays This Month

*\*Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call*

4/1	Pastor Dave Martin	4/7	Reganne Engebretson	4/15	Kyle Meyerink	4/25	Jamie Nelson
4/1	Sue Vanderboom	4/8	Mike Gilbertz	4/16	Amanda Hermanek	4/26	Kade Johnson
4/1	Lucy Hegge	4/9	Julie Gustad	4/17	Gary Nelson*	4/27	Jon Hermanek
4/3	Meredith Suits	4/10	David Carter	4/21	Audrey DeHaan	4/29	Bill Hoffman
4/4	Oliver Qualm	4/11	Allie Nelson	4/23	Katie Johnson	4/30	Payton Foxley
4/4	Kendall Warejcka	4/12	Myron DeGroot	4/23	Chris Nelson	4/30	Abby Vanden Berge
4/4	Kip DeGroot	4/13	Carey Hoffman	4/24	Erik Holter	4/30	Vera VandenHoek
4/5	Alison Dykstra	4/14	Jodene Foxley				

April	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
2	Aaron & Nicki Reiser	Lee DeHaan & Spencer DeHaan	Mike Gilbertz, Shirley Johnson, Carey Hoffman	Susan Holter, Casey Holter, Kathy Holter
9	John & Dee Rasmussen	Anthony DeHaan & Dan Daum		EASTER (no cookies)
16	Toby & Wendy Qualm	Anthony DeHaan & Dan Daum	Mike Gilbertz, Shirley Johnson, Carey Hoffman	Tana Huizenga, Darla Johnson, Katie Johnson
23	Eldon & LouAnn Qualm	Mike Konechne & Derek Wollman		Melissa Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Shirley Johnson
30	Bonnie Ringling & Vicky Pavlis	Mike Konechne & Derek Wollman		Wanda Johnson, Estelle Konechne, Dawn Konstanz

## April Mission Offering – Gideon’s

Since Gideons International will be blessing us with a guest presentation on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we felt it fitting to designate them as the recipient of our April Mission Offering. We recognize the great job Gideons International does in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and in making God’s Word available to some 200 nations around the globe. Please help us in promoting their ministry by contributing generously to this special mission offering, which will be collected April 16<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to “Trinity Lutheran Church.”

## Instruction for First Communion Begins April 5th

**Instruction for First Communion** will begin for all fifth graders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Classes will meet from 4:00 to 5:30 PM in Classroom 9 (the old Confirmation room). We will also meet at 3:45 to 5:00 on Wednesdays, April 12, 19 and 26. First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, with First Communion Celebrants and their families receiving Holy Communion before the rest of the congregation.

I encourage a parent or grandparent to accompany their child to each class so you can grow with him/her in your understanding of Holy Communion. I will be providing a light snack for the kids at each class. Please let me know if your child has any food allergies.

## Church Cleaning

We will have our **annual church cleaning Monday, April 16 through Friday, April 22**. Many hands make light work. You will be contacted soon where you what area you will be responsible for. Thank you!



*He is Risen*



*Worship Schedule*  
**HOLY WEEK**

April 6 at 7 pm | **Maundy Thursday** *with Holy Communion*

April 7 at 7 pm | **Good Friday**

April 9 at 7 am | **Easter Sunrise** *with Holy Communion*

Serving 8-9 am | **Easter Breakfast** | Egg Bakes, Rolls, Fruit

*(Free will donation to camping ministry)*

*Join us after sunrise or before regular worship time)*

April 9 at 9:30 am | **Easter Morning Worship**

*with Holy Communion*