

THE SHEPHERD'S LOVE

New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Church • 315 Main Ave South • New York Mills, MN 56567 Vol 3 No. 33

From the Pastor's Desk

April 2023



"20 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. ²Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the LORD out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. ³Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. ⁴So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. ⁵And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. ⁶Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, ⁷And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. ⁸Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. ⁹For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. ¹¹But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and

looked into the sepulchre, ¹²And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. ¹³And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my LORD, and I know not where they have laid him. ¹⁴And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. ¹⁶Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. ¹⁷Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. ¹⁸Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the LORD, and that he had spoken these things unto her." John 20:1-18

John begins his account of the resurrection by noting that it was the first day of the week. As Jesus was killed on Friday (6th day of the week), rested in the grave on Saturday (7th day of the week), and rose again on Sunday (1st day of the week). She goes to take care of his body; from the other gospels we

know she wasn't alone. When she gets there, she does not find a dead body. Jesus is risen, the empty tomb speaks to his resurrection, but Mary doesn't see it yet. She's concerned that someone has stolen his body. Even when she sees Jesus, she doesn't recognize him until he calls her by name.

The resurrection of Jesus changes everything for us. Paul tells us that we were dead in our trespasses and sins until God made us alive together with Christ. That we have been saved by grace through faith. God saves us by his Word, just like in that place with Mary, Jesus calls us by name to himself and forgives us all our sins. The resurrection of Jesus is our resurrection and we already experience the new life in him. This is why we worship on Sunday. It's the Lord's day.

I have a devotional book that is made from Luther's lectures on Genesis, it's called "Day by Day with Luther" I highly recommend it. In commenting on the covenant of circumcision, which was done on the 8th day, Luther makes a stunning connection to Easter.

"Let the first answer to this question why God wanted the infants to be circumcised on the eighth day be: Because God wanted it this way. In the second place, one can give reasons that are probable and are not fraught with danger, namely, that God had consideration for the weakness of the infant, lest it die. ...

Con't on next page

In an allegorical sense the eighth day signifies the future life; for Christ rested in the sepulcher on the Sabbath, that is, during the entire seventh day, but rose again on the day which follows the Sabbath, which is the eighth day and the beginning of a new week, and after it no other day is counted. For through His death Christ brought to a close the weeks of time and on the eighth day entered into a different kind of life, in which days are no longer counted but there is one eternal day

The congregation is asked to bring pies for dessert for the Easter dinner.



John is the only Evangelist who mentions the incident of the washing of the feet of the disciples by Christ; hence it might seem that this occurrence was of but little importance. John, however, introduces it with so much minuteness and care, that we cannot but believe that Christ intended to teach an important lesson by it; for after its performance He admonishes His disciples to observe this example and to wash each others' feet. Hence many Christians still continue this practice. The Papists, however, in this, as in other matters, do not understand the true meaning; they are satisfied with the mere external observance of the custom, and have therefore no benefit from it. Hence it is necessary to preach about this occurrence, and to instruct the people as to its true meaning.

Again, we must bear in mind that John refers to the "love" which the Lord manifested towards His disciples, in order that we may learn, from this washing of feet, the great condescension of Christ to men, yea, even unto us. Hence we assert the great importance of this incident for the following reasons: It occurred just before His death, and in it He exhibited His great love and condescension. We, therefore, must not slight this deed and its admonition: for when love and mercy prompts the Lord to action, His deeds cannot be insignificant.

The Papists call this ceremony of feet-washing by a Latin term which means a

mandate, a command. But Christ does not mean the outward act when He says: "Ye also ought to wash one another's feet;" for He immediately explains this in the words: "I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord." These words are plain enough. If we are honored on account of our position in life, we ought to remain humble and serve our inferiors with such gifts as they do not possess. In full accordance with this, the Lord afterwards gives His mandate concerning love when He says: "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another." Now the true nature of love is humility and charity, kindness and compassion. When Christ commands the washing of feet, He requires the presence of such a love. It is evident that our Lord, by His action in the Gospel, did not intend to teach us the outward washing of feet, which is done by means of water; for then it would be obligatory to wash the feet of all; or rather, which would certainly be more serviceable, to prepare a regular bath for the people, in which they could wash their whole body. This of course cannot be the meaning of Christ's command in this regard. He simply gave us by His example an important lesson, that we should be humble, and properly employ the gifts and graces which we have, to the advantage of our brethren, and that we should despise no one, but rather excuse the shortcomings of our fellow-men, and help them to become better.

In this sense, washing of feet must be practiced not merely upon this day, but every day of our life, and we must not grow weary in well-doing towards our fellow-men. For such a purpose, and for such feet-washing, Christ set us the example which we are now considering. Let us remember this.

Those whom God has endowed with much wisdom and honor, and who are called to the office of the ministry, should be especially intent on practicing zealously this feet-washing, that they may not become guilty of abusing the gifts and authority which they have, but employ them faithfully to the service and welfare of the Church. For if our Lord and Saviour, who well knew that the time of exaltation into His eternal kingdom of majesty and grace was approaching, yet humbled Himself so low that in obedience to His Father's will He gave Himself for us into death, even the death of the cross, how much rather do we poor creatures need such humiliation, we who are tempted by the devil day and night, and who are in constant danger of falling into the meshes of pride, avarice and self-esteem! The devil knows full well that he has gained the field, and is not injured by all our preaching, if we as servants of the Church forget the command of Christ to be humble, and if we seek after temporal honor and authority.

Excerpts from Martin Luther's sermon for Maundy Thursday.

The late 1960's were dark days for singers, Bill and Gloria Gaither. Both of them were struggling with health problems, and Gloria was pregnant with their third child. The world around them was swirling with news of the Vietnam War, civil unrest, the drug culture and violence in the streets.

Discouraged and disheartened, they looked for signs of hope. One day in the spring, Bill walked out of his office to inspect a newly paved parking area. Bill was satisfied with the job that was done, but as he turned, he noticed a tiny blade of grass poking through the layers of rock and tar to reach into the sunlight.

In early summer the baby was born, and when Bill and Gloria brought their child home, they wrote this song of joy, remembering the blade of grass that prospered even in a hostile environment. More important, they remembered that their baby could indeed face uncertain days because Christ lives. This song is number 122 in our hymnal.

Because He Lives

*God sent His son, they called Him Jesus, He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.*

CHORUS

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow, Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worthy the living just because He lives!*

*2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby, And feel the pride, and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because He lives!*

CHORUS

*3. And then one day I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.*

CHORUS

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES.

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my everliving head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives all-glorious in the sky;
he lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.

4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
he lives to guide me with his eye;
he lives to comfort me when faint;
he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

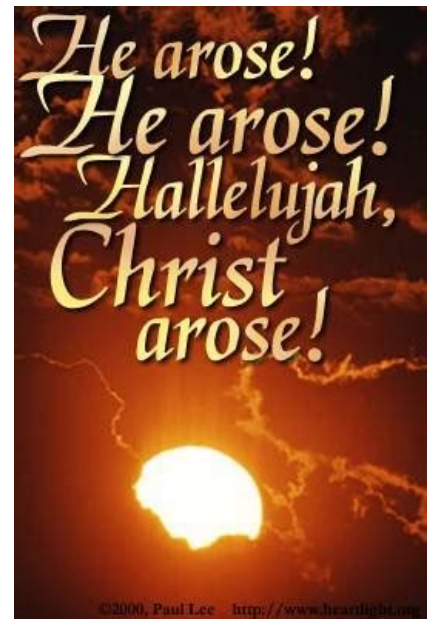
We want to express our thanks to Adam and Ames for stepping up to lead our singing. It brings back memories of the years we had "lukkari's".

A huge thank you also to Louise, Janet and Norma for their dedication to playing for every service.

Dennis & Dee

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our Salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Psalms 95:1-2



Before publishing or sharing emails and phone numbers, please consider obtaining permission to do so

Church Information

Apostolic Lutheran Church
315 Main Ave South
New York Mills, MN 56567

Pastor Nicholas Kandoll
Cell: 218-316-1365
Church: 218-385-2166

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-noon

Church Website
www.nymalc.org
View live or archived services

Federation Website
www.apostoliclutheran.org

Board Chairman
James Keskitalo
218-385-3067

Kitchen Chairwoman
Norma Tumberg
218-385-2046

Care To Share
Sheila Keskitalo
218-639-9017

Newsletter Editor
Norma Tumberg
218-385-2046

Bryan_norma@arvig.net

If you want to be added or removed from our mailing list please contact me. All newsletter items to be considered can be emailed to me at the above address by the 20th of each month.

Echoes of Mercy
Radio Broadcast
920 AM KWAD

Sunday mornings
English at 8:05 am

*Sponsored by
New York Mills, Spruce Grove
and Menahga Apostolic
Lutheran Churches*

Church Hours

Sunday School @ 9:15
Worship @ 10:30

If you choose to watch the services online and would like to donate to the church please send checks to:

Louise Amberg-Jokela

206 South Broadway #107 New York Mills, MN 56567.

Thank you to everyone that has taken the time to send contributions. It is greatly appreciated!

Meals/potluck, will be served on

the
first Sunday
Group 9 in April
Group 10 for
Easter dinner
Group 7 in May
Group 8 for Sunday School
Picnic May 21

The serving group will make the main dishes for **potlucks** (unless announced otherwise) and others are asked to bring salads or desserts.

There is a sign up sheet for Sunday coffee in the dining room.



NYM Emergency Food Shelf

**FOR EMERGENCY HELP CALL NYM
CULTURAL CENTER 218-385-3339**

CONNIE WARNER

218-385-2853 (work)

218-385-3669 (home)

TERESA MUCKALA

763-843-3269

KAY TOUGAS

218-298-0272

ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION:

400 S WALKER AVE

NYM MN

FOOD SHELF HOURS

HOURS 9-NOON

MARCH 27, 2023

APRIL 24, 2023

***MAY 22, 2023**

JUNE 26, 2023

***Food shelf is open 1 week early due to holiday.**

**Usage limit 1 time
per month**