

THE REDEEMER RECORD

Vol. 111, No. 4

April, 2016



Christ has Risen!

Easter 2016

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Rev. James Erlandson, Pastor

285 North Dale Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

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www.redeemerstpaul.org

Tahnea Brown, Office Manager

Dr. Jon Strommen Campbell, Music Director

Katie Thompson, Organist

A Letter From Pastor Erlandson

Dear Friends:

"Christ is risen!" **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

It was just last week that we celebrated the Resurrection of Our Lord with an awesome festival Eucharist. The music from the choirs, orchestra, and organ singing praises for God's mighty act in raising Jesus from the dead still echoes in our memories. *Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!* Now the sanctuary lies silent, the fragrant smell of incense still hangs in the air, but all is quiet. So strange, after the activities of the previous week's celebration.

What happened last week? Once again, we re-enacted the drama of Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday, when we processed from outside into the church sanctuary like Jesus entered Jerusalem to the peoples' *Hosannas!* We heard the story of Jesus' Passion in the dramatic reading from Luke's gospel, led by our own assembled group of readers. On Thursday, we gathered to remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples, received the laying on of hands in forgiveness of sins, washing one another's feet in obedience to Jesus' greatest commandment "to love one another as I have loved you." Then, following Eucharist, we stripped the altar bare of all vessels, symbols and furnishings to enter the Sacred Three Days.

On Good Friday evening we heard the Passion of our Lord from the reading of John's gospel, and then a moving song of Mary, the mother of our Lord's grief, in the *Stabat Mater* (set to music by Antonio Caldara), sung by soloists, choir, and orchestra. We then carried the cross into the sanctuary for the Adoration of the Cross, and left in silence to ponder what we had done to our Lord. On Holy Saturday we gathered again for the Great Vigil of Easter, with friends from St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church and Christ Lutheran on Capitol Hill, with our combined choirs and cantors leading our musical responses.

We came together in worship one last time on Sunday morning for the Feast of Easter, with choirs, handbells and Easter orchestra in a great celebration of song, Word and Sacrament. The word? *Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

We owe many thanks to all our musicians, soloists, choirs, our organist Katie Thompson, and our music director Jon Strommen Campbell for their leadership throughout the week, and to all who helped lead worship, decorate, and prepare the feast.

So now, what do we do? We have a week of "quiet" to rest and recover. We come back to gather again in worship without so great a sound – but the message is the same: *Christ is risen!* For every Sunday is Easter again! Thomas the disciple comes to seek the Lord whom he did not see the first time, and professes his faith. Like Thomas, we come the week after Easter, centuries later, seeking to meet our Lord so that we, too, can follow in faith. With so much discord and strife, with poverty and racism in our communities, terrorism and war in our world, we, too, are looking for hope. So much distrust, anger and hopelessness around us, we come seeking faith and peace.

CONTINUED . . .

We find our peace in the Lord, who came to his disciples saying "*Peace be with you.*" We greet each other with these same words before Eucharist every Sunday. Jesus invites us to bring these words of peace out into the world, to bring the peace of the Lord to our neighbors. This is how we can respond to Jesus' commandment to love: by sharing peace with others and serving our neighbors with love. How will they know that Jesus is present in our world? When we share Christ's peace, and serve with love as Christ serves us. In Jesus' name.

Christ is risen! He is our peace!

Pastor Jim Erlandson

April Calendar

Recurring Weekly Events

- Sun. 10:00 am ~ Worship
11:15 am ~ Coffee Fellowship
12:00 pm ~ Universal Life Church of God
12:00 pm ~ Praise Covenant Church
Wed. 7:00 pm ~ Senior Choir
8:00 pm ~ Courage to Change N.A.
Thur. 6:30 am ~ Prayer & Meditation A.A.
Fri. 8:00 pm ~ Words into Action N.A.
Sat. 8:00 am ~ Siloé Church

Other Events

- | | | |
|------|----------|---|
| 1st | 7:00 pm | 60's Party |
| 2nd | 9:00 am | ISAIAH Domestic Violence Task Force |
| 4th | 3:00 pm | Shakespearean Youth Theatre Workshop |
| | 7:00 pm | Minnesota Renaissance Choir Dress Rehearsal |
| 5th | 7:00 pm | Vestry Meeting |
| 6th | 3:00 pm | Shakespearean Youth Theatre Workshop |
| 8th | 3:00 pm | Shakespearean Youth Theatre Workshop |
| 9th | 9:00 am | Kodai Friends International Brunch |
| 11th | 3:00 pm | Shakespearean Youth Theatre Workshop |
| 12th | 7:00 pm | Elders Meeting |
| 13th | 3:00 pm | Shakespearean Youth Theatre Finale |
| 15th | 7:00 pm | Augsburg's Men's Choir |
| 16th | 10:00 am | Girl Scout Party |
| 19th | 7:00 pm | Brainstorming Session |

WOMENS GUILD

Will meet Thursday, April 7th at 11:00 am. Hostesses Ruth Belmonte & Mary Lou Knipe will provide coffee and dessert. Bring a sandwich or salad.

April Altar Servers

If you are unable to serve, please contact an elder or the church office no later than the Tuesday of the week you are signed up to serve so that a replacement can be found.

	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Subdeacon</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
	Michelle Geschwill	Leilani Drake	Diane Jacobson	Jared Geschwill
April 10	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Acolyte
	Bob Paddock	Tammy Cownie	Ray Hayes	Theodore Strommen-
April 17	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Acolyte
	DeAnne Hilgers	Trudy Cretsinger	Ruth Belmonte	Jack Sprung
April 24	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Acolyte
	Joel Michael	Joann Connroy	Leilani Drake	Neal Caerwyn

APRIL SCRIPTURES

We invite members and friends of Redeemer to read the appointed scriptures for each Sunday. This is a meaningful way to prepare for worship. It also binds us to our homebound sisters and brothers who we also encourage to read the same scriptures weekly.

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
April 3 <i>Easter 2</i>	Acts 5:27-32	Ps 118:14-29 or Ps 150	Rev 1:4-8	John 20:19-31
April 10 <i>Easter 3</i>	Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]	Ps 30	Rev 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
April 17 <i>Easter 4</i>	Acts 9:36-43	Ps 23	Rev 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
April 24 <i>Easter 5</i>	Acts 11:1-18	Ps 148	Rev 21:1-6	John 13:31-35

THANK YOU!

Thanks go to everyone who did so much to make Holy Week and our Easter celebration so inspiring this year! Thanks go to many individuals, who served in many ways: worship leaders, readers, singers, choir, ushers, altar preparers and servers, those who decorated the sanctuary, and those who prepared and served food for our guests, to Project Home volunteer hosts, greeters and everyone who contributed in any way to Redeemer's ministry of Word and Sacrament, fellowship and hospitality. Most of all, we thank God, who has shown such mercy and grace for us all through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the focus and reason for all that we do as the Church.

Thanks be to God! To God be the glory!



BRAINSTORMING THE VISION

In 2015 we celebrated our 125th Anniversary as a congregation. But we have never stopped looking to the future, as our ministry continues in the present day. Our focus now is on how we can continue to worship and serve God, following our Lord Jesus Christ, both today and tomorrow. We want to do all that we can as disciples of Jesus to grow in faith, love our neighbor, and bear witness to God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

On the night before Ash Wednesday, March 9, several of us gathered to celebrate *Mardi Gras* and to begin to brainstorm ideas for ministry in the future. Many ideas were raised, centered around our worship, stewardship of Redeemer's building and grounds, and our outreach into the community.

We propose to gather again on **Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 pm** to continue this visioning conversation. We will begin with devotions and prayer, then divide up into small groups to share ideas and start to develop some of them. Our hope is to define some key ministry goals and directions, and develop a process so that individuals can bring ideas to the congregation that can be heard and acted on. Everyone from Redeemer's faith community is invited to join the conversation, both members and friends, with leaders from our Vestry and Board of Elders present. The conversation will be facilitated by Pastors Jim Erlandson and Trudy Cretsinger, so that every person will have opportunity to contribute ideas. Please join us that evening!

ADULT FORUMS

April 3, 2016 9:00 A.M.

"Repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery" Presented by Joan Conroy. In a Memorial Resolution for the 2016 Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly the Saint Paul Area Synod has repudiated "The Doctrine of Discovery." The synod offers repentance and reconciliation to Native nations in this country for damage done in the name of Christianity and "civilization".

April 10, 2016 9:00 A.M.

" Caring for Caregivers-Our Healing Ministry." Presented by Mary Lou Knipe Our aging population puts this issue in the forefront.

April 17, 2016 9:00 A.M. Lyngblomsten Sunday.

An Update on our Participation with Lyngblomsten as a corporate congregation. Presented by Mary Lou Knipe and Marie Failinger.

April 24, 2016 9:00 A. M. " Living as a Muslim"

Presented by Nahal Peterson. Meet Redeemerite David Peterson's wife, Nahad, who is from Iran and will share with us her experiences as a Muslim in America.

Midweek Bible Study

will begin Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 2:00 P. M. in the library. The Reverend Robert Hausman will lead a Bible study on the prophet Jeremiah

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation class will meet on **Wednesday, April 13 at 7:00 pm**, after a short 2-week break following Lent and Holy Week. We are preparing for the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) worship service on Sunday, May 15, the Feast of Pentecost. So we will take a look at the three ecumenical creeds (statements of faith) of the Church – the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds. How did they come to be, how are they different, and what is similar?

Then we will talk together about what it is that God is calling us to in affirming our baptisms. What is Jesus asking when he invites us to "follow me?" What does it mean to affirm our baptisms, and what are we promising (to God, who has promised to always love us, and to give us life forever)? We promise to *live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.* We discussed these promises during our Lenten evening prayer services, and we will repeat them as a whole Church on Pentecost Sunday, when we all affirm our baptisms.

4TH
ANNUAL
STEPS
to
Success



The Power of Partnerships

Together, We Make a Difference

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Registration begins 11:30 a.m.

Reserve your seat today!
651.204.3043 – or – www.Daily-Work.org

Midpointe Event Center • 415 Pascal St. N.
Just north of I-94 between Snelling & Hamline • St. Paul

**No cost
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PROJECT HOME

Once again, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 Dale St N, will be hosting guests from Project Home - providing safe, clean, and comfortable overnight shelter for local families facing homelessness. Project Home partners with The Family Place in downtown Saint Paul, which provides many daytime services including life skills classes, meals, showers, and laundry facilities.

Even as the economy improves, many Minnesotans have been left behind - especially in Ramsey County, according to the most recent Wilder Research study. Many of the families we host have one or more parents working, but low wages and high rents keep stable housing just out of reach for too many people. Project Home lends a helping hand as these families work toward a better life and you can help.

This is truly a community effort for Lutheran Church of the Redeemer and **we specifically need help filling the Evening Volunteer Shifts each night in April.** Evening hosts (a minimum of two adults each night) help from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **Come spend 3 hours in the evening providing basic hospitality to our guests – set out snacks, play with the kids, and visit with the parents.**

For questions, please call or email Shari Mader-Brown, Project Home Program Assistant, at 651-789-3840 or smader-brown@interfaithaction.org.

April is National Advanced Care Planning Awareness Month

The 5·5·1 Club of Lynblomsten is sponsoring "Honoring Choices Minnesota - Advanced Care Planning: Let's Start the Discussion" Deb Bowman, Lyngblomsten Community Wellness Nurse, will lead a guided conversation about end-of-life care wishes and preferences on Thursday, April 14th, 2016 at Lyngblomsten, 1415 Almond Ave, St. Paul, MN. 2:00 to 3:00 pm presentation; 3:00 to 4:00pm individual counseling. FREE! RVSP: (651) 632-5330 or 551club@lyngblomsten.org.

National Healthcare Decisions Day is Saturday, April 16th, 2016. Centennial United Methodist Church, 1524 W. County Road C2, Roseville, will host a panel discussing why Advanced Care Planning is important in the work of a hospital, physician, a first responder and a lawyer, and why ACP should matter to you. 9:00-10:00 am panel discussion
www.centennialumc.org. RSVP at (651) 633-7644x21. See bulletin board in Undercroft.

ISAIAH CORE TEAM NEWS

PAID FAMILY LEAVE

The Paid Family and Medical Leave Act (SF2558) is scheduled to be heard in Senate Natural Resources Economic Development & Agriculture Budget Division on Wednesday 4/6 at 12pm in Room 1100 (MN Senate Building, 95 W. University). Please attend if you're able!

Join the phone-bank Tuesday 4/5 from 6-9pm at ISAIAH's office (2356 University Ave W, Suite 405). For more info contact Alexa at AHorwart@isaiahmn.org

ALSO: With just one week left until it needs to pass through all policy committees, Paid Family & Medical Leave has not even received its first hearing in the MN House. When will the House Jobs Committee hear Rep Jason Metsa's Paid Family & Medical Leave bill (HF2963)?

Contact House Jobs Chair Rep Pat Garofalo (651-296-1069) and your state representative. Ask them to stand up for workers and families by scheduling a hearing & supporting Paid Family & Medical Leave!

EDUCATION EQUITY

Minnesota Coalition for Educational Equity news conference

Tuesday, April 5, 10:15 - 11:15 am

Senate Building Room 2237, 95 University Ave. W., St. Paul

Join ISAIAH, NOC, the Coalition for Quality Public Schools, MPIRG, SEIU 284, NAVIGATE MN, and Education Minnesota as we unveil a new initiative to remind our legislators about the morality of investing the budget surplus in education instead of refunding the money to our wealthiest citizens in the form of tax relief.

A powerful slate of speakers, including faith leaders, parents, students, and educators, will highlight the need to invest in full-service community schools, student support services, teachers of color, higher ed debt relief and high-quality, public preschool for all. Featured speakers include ISAIAH President Pastor Paul Slack and ISAIAH Faith Leader Shonda Allen of Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Hashtags: #ChooseEdEquity #EdEquity4MN. For more info contact greg.king.family@gmail.com.

RACIAL JUSTICE

Please be sure to MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Tuesday April 19, 9am – 12pm -- ISAIAH Racial Justice Action at the Capitol to stand against prison expansion, private prisons, & predatory lending; and for sentencing reform, juvenile justice, driver's licenses and investments in equity!

THE MINNESOTA RENAISSANCE CHOIR



Jon Strommen Campbell, artistic director

SACRED MOTETS

Works by Josquin, Willeart, Sermisy, Victoria, Lasso, Gibbons, Scarlatti, and Rosenmuller.

CONCERT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

APRIL 16TH, 7:00 PM, THE BYZANTINE CHAPEL
AT LAKEWOOD CEMETERY, MINNEAPOLIS, MN.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 N. Dale St.
St. Paul, MN 55103-2486

