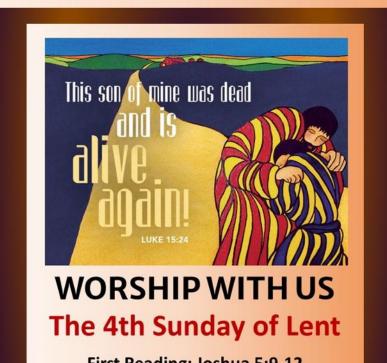
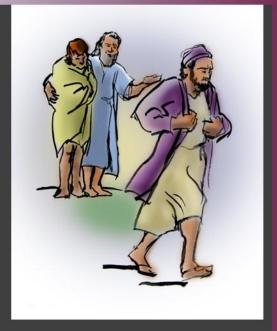


CLC Weekly Update - March 27th, 2022
The Fourth Sunday of Lent
"this brother of yours was dead
and has come to life"

IN-PERSON WORSHIP this Sunday, March 27 at 9:30AM Pastor Erin Evans preaching



The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away...the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the



father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

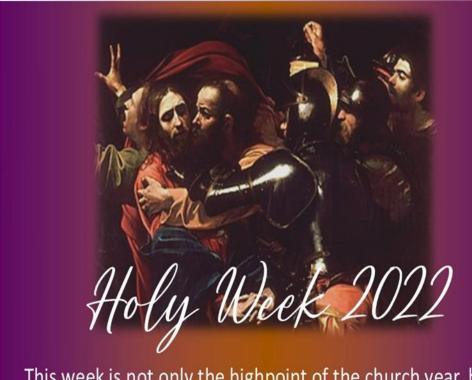




### REGISTRATION FOR CAMP LUTHERLYN

For more than seventy years Lutherlyn has been combining the love of God, fun, friends, swimming, playing in the woods, adventure challenges, Bible study, worship, cookouts, campfires, discoveries in nature, games, and a few surprises into an unforgettable experience! Lutherlyn offers a variety of week-long, half-week, and day programs for children entering 1st grade through those who have finished their senior year of high school. In addition to summer camp programs for school age children and teens, Lutherlyn offers Family Camp for campers of ANY age to enjoy.

CLC has scholarship money available for all young persons who would like to attend camp! Please speak to Ray Lardin, CLC



This week is not only the highpoint of the church year, but the very core of our faith. The story of Christ's death and resurrection is retold anew each year for us.

Please make an effort to worship with us for these special services.



Palm Sunday April 10th 9:30am: Join us for a special procession for the youth of the church, blessing of the palms and a reading of the passion from Luke.

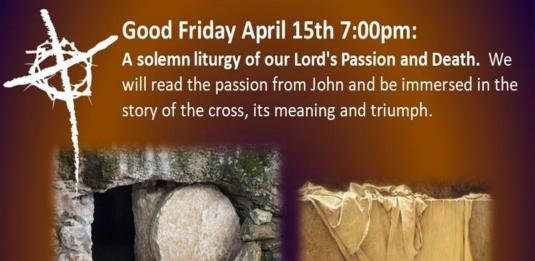
Maundy Thursday April 14th

7:00pm: This moving liturgy will include laying on of hands with absolution, footwashing, and Holy Communion. The washing of feet has



long been practiced by the church as a tangible symbol of the humility and service we are called to offer to one an-





Easter Sunday April 17th 9:30am: A Resurrection Celebration for the whole family! Each Sunday we gather is a mini-Easter, celebrating our Lord's resurrection, but this Sunday will be filled to the brim with joyful alleluias! Coffee with a light breakfast will be offered afterwards in The Gathering Place for a time of fellowship and reconnecting.



# RESPONSE TO THE WAR IN UKRAINE

The Council has decided to send a portion of our benevolence offering to Lutheran Disaster Response. LDR is currently on the ground working with other partners and local churches to serve refugees from Ukraine in several Eastern European countries. Offering collected from the special Lenten Offering envelopes will also be sent towards

## **CLC Food Pantry Updates**

We have received a generous grant from the SWPA Synod's Ethel L. Verney Fund! This fund was established in 2014 with a \$4 million bequest for the purpose of "relief and support of people living in poverty." More news to come on how we will use this money to serve our neighbors!

Starting mid-April, the food pantry will be open Monday and Friday mornings (9:30-11:30) and Wednesday evenings (5:00pm-7:00pm). We will also pick one Sunday afternoon a month to open the pantry and enlist volunteers after church to help with inventory, clean-up,

and restocking shelves. We have the support of nearly 20 volunteers already! The next couple weeks we will be informing our clients and spreading the word! Stay tuned!

CLC FOOD PANTRY DONATION NEED:
Small Cans of REGULAR OR DECAF Coffee



The CLC Food Pantry is open 9:30-11:30am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

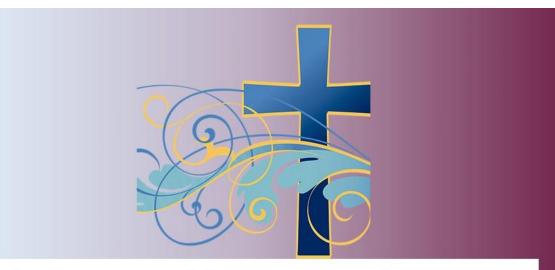


Now is the time for members and friends of CLC to step up their support of our Food Pantry!

The outpouring of generous donations is evident, but can you spare a few hours of your time each month to work at the Pantry?

The Food Pantry is currently open from 9:30am-11:30am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. We would like to keep this same schedule through March, while thinking about ways we can make changes and involve more volunteers (and feed more clients) who typically work weekdays. The council is committed to this work, and we'll be putting together a group of supporters soon to brainstorm next steps.

Pight now we need volunteers to pack greening for clients on weekday marning



### Announcement Announcement . . .

Joseph Imhoff

This week I found several very interesting Commemorations and one Festival on the liturgical calendar that are worthy of comment.

Monday, March 21, was the Commemoration of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury (Martyr) who shaped The Church of England, that we know of as The Anglican Church, under Henry VIII incorporating many of Luther's and Melanchthon's ideas into his reforms. He was executed on this day in 1556 by being burnt at the stake for treason by Queen Mary I who was attempting to restore Catholicism to England after Henry VIII's son Edward VI died at the age of 15.

On the 22nd we remembered the American, Jonathan Edwards (preacher, missionary), Congregationalist minister, 3rd president of Princeton University, preceded by Aaron Burr, and best know for his sermon, 'Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God' with it's strong imagery. "The God that holds you over the pit of Hell much as one holds a spider, or some loathsome insect, over the fire, abhors you, and is dreadfully provoked;" Delivered at the height of The Great Awakening in a monotone it must have been frightening but not in the way it seems to modern listeners, he was actually a broadminded person who found peace and God in nature and the things around him. He died this day in 1758.

That Christians and the Church are still persecuted is exemplified by Óscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdámez (Martyr) who was assassinated on March 24, 1980 on the steps of the altar at the Chapel of Hospital de la Divina Providencia in San Salvador after evening prayers. As Archbishop of San Salvador he had been outspoken about the violence throughout El Salvador and the persecution of the Church, its members and especially the priests and nuns.

**Friday, March 25,** marks the Feast of the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced that had been chosen to become

# As We Forgive Others

Jesus' parables are not simple fables with fixed meanings, but unsettling plot-twisting narratives that raise



more questions than they answer. If we set aside the most familiar interpretations of today's gospel and enter into the story through another door (or another character's point of view), we may find surprising new insights.

What if the story of the prodigal son is not only about the steadfast love and forgiveness of God the Father? What if it is also a story about the complexity of family life, grudges held for years, words left unspoken, and scores unsettled? That is, what if this is a story about us?

Like most parables, the story ends unfinished, and we're left to ponder what happens next as it continues to unfold off the page. Does the older brother accept his father's invitation and come back to the party? Does anyone ever thank him for his years of loyalty? Is the younger brother really changed by his experience, or is his father enabling him? Do the mother and sisters show up? Will the family fall back into the same old dynamics, or will there be accountability and repair?

The good news in this story is that God loves all of these characters: the selfish son, the foolish father, the resentful brother, the absent mother. And God's love frees them to change.

Forgiveness is complicated. While we draw strength from the power of being wholly and unconditionally forgiven by God, human relationships are messy. It is rare that one party is entirely wrong and another entirely gracious. We pray



Saster Flowers 2022

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### **CLC Council News:**

- Council recently filled two vacancies for this year. Thanks to Jean Thens and Joe Imhoff for agreeing to take those spots on council!
- Pastor Evans' interim contract will be up for renewal in April, and this discussion will be a part of our council agenda for March. If you have any input or questions regarding this process please don't hesitate to reach out to Council President, Lennie Jansen.

#### **Upcoming Commemorations**

### Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824 Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

### John Donne, poet, died 1631 Thursday, March 31, 2022

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.



The Lord bless you 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.

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