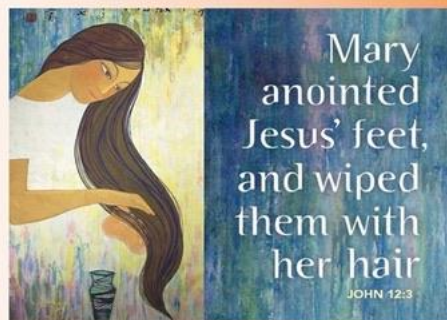


CLC Weekly Update - April 3rd, 2022

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Mary . . . anointed Jesus' feet,
and wiped them with her hair.**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP
this Sunday, April 3 at 9:30AM
Pastor Erin Evans preaching**



WORSHIP WITH US

The 5th Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21


Psalm 126

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Christ Lutheran Church
917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 ~ 412-821-4300 ~
eMail: christlutheran917@gmail.com ~ www.clcmillvale.com



Open Your Hand

"You always have the poor with you," Jesus told the disciple who complained about the extravagance of Mary's anointing (John 12:8). It's not a callous dismissal. In fact, he is likely quoting Deuteronomy 15:11, which continues: "I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'"

No one has ever lived in a world that has solved the crisis of poverty. It can be disheartening to see the same social problems we have addressed for years continuing to grow.

Throughout Jesus' life and teaching, he repeatedly offered examples of our ongoing responsibility to care for each other. "You will always have the poor with you" may feel deflating when we focus on always, but what if we put the emphasis on with? How are we with people who are poor, in diverse communities of various experiences, incomes, needs, and insights?

We live in a time and place of considerable financial instability without much room for error. One health crisis or job loss can sink us into poverty, so we need each other. Mary's extravagant generosity shows us we are not on our own. As members of the body of Christ, we are in this together. We can let generosity flow through us because God pours life into us, fragrant and overflowing, bursting with possibility.

We pray not for "my daily bread" but for "our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11), so we must be with each other, to share, to give and receive, to love and be loved. We are children of a God who, like Mary with her perfume, does not hold back but lets love flow. This love flows richly through us, through the body of Christ that gathers together and cares for each other and for others. Together we have enough. ~

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.



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 Treasurer, for info regarding our scholarship, and speak to Pastor Erin with any questions about the outdoor ministry experience! Visit online at: https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/summer_overview.html or call the office at 412-821-4300 for a flier.

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Good Friday April 15th 7:00pm:

A solemn liturgy of our Lord's Passion and Death. We will read the passion from John and be immersed in the story of the cross, its meaning and triumph.



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.



Easter Breakfast

We will Meet in the Gathering Place for Fellowship and Easter Breakfast after the Service on Easter Sunday!

Everyone is welcome, we are so happy to be able to break bread together! Plan to attend!

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Holy Week 2022

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 another. Pastor Erin will wash the feet of all in the congregation who desire it. You may remove your shoes in the pews, and come forward as you are ready. A basin of warm water and clean towels will be ready at a chair for you, and Pastor Erin will kneel at your feet.



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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.



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 this cause. **See your CLC Weekly Update to Click-On connect.**

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/Eastern-Europe-Crisis-Response>

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

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Easter Flower Orders

You can call-in your Order to the Office Voicemail at 412-821-4300

before April 3 with your Name and Phone

Please mail-in your payment immediately:

CLC, 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209.

Lilies, Tulips

Hyacinths

Easter Flowers 2022

LILIES:

_____ **5+ Bloom Lilies- \$10.00**
White (ONLY)

TULIPS: 5/6 Bloom 6"- \$7.00
Circle color choice and #

Red White Pink Yellow

_____ # _____ # _____ # _____

Orange Purple Bi-Color

_____ # _____ # _____

Hyacinths: 4 Bloom 7"- \$9.00
Circle color choice and #

Pink White Blue

_____ # _____ # _____

Please write down name, in honor of; or, in memory of a loved one.

☐ check here to give to homebound member as a gift from CLC

Please mark total of purchase:

Due date April 3 ,2022

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Spring

Joseph Imhoff

"Spring is sprung, the grass is riz; gee, I wonder where the flowers is?" Many people probably remember that silly little ditty usually recited around the first day of spring. Spring arrived with the Vernal Equinox on Sunday March 20 at 11:33 AM amid snow and ice and cold temperatures, the daffodils poking their stems through the drifts only to bloom a few days later on Wednesday with higher temperatures. A few inches of tulip and hyacinth stems have pushed through the soil while the forsythia flowers are now bright yellow, all signs of spring. Some flowers "is" here!

In the Northern Hemisphere Spring is March, April, and May; and in the Southern it is September, October, and November. In some places it is marked by the position of the sun and stars in the sky, in the changes of migrational directions of wildlife, the budding of vegetation and the planting of crops. As Geoffrey Chaucer in his Canterbury Tales:

Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote,
The droghte of March hath perced to the roote,
And bathed every veyne in swich licóur
Of which vertu engendred is the flour;
Whan Zephirus eek with his swete breeth
Inspired hath in every holt and heeth
The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne
Hath in the Ram his halfe cours y-ronne.

Christians have a unique perspective concerning Spring and some of the words used whose origins are lost in the history of languages no longer spoken but having evolved into the present day forms. I refer to the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Lent, according to one source, comes the late Old English or early Middle English verb for lengthen; the days start to become longer and soon the first fruits will arrive. Easter stems from the Dutch and German words Ost, or East where the day begins, or Norse from Eastru, a northern goddess for whom the month of April was called before Anglo-Saxon melded with Norman French.

For the moment we shall bide our time until we again experience the culmination of our waiting through the forty days of the Church's Lent!



pray&crochet

No matter your skill level, we'll pray together and make blankets for those who might need an extra layer of compassion...Join us!

Pray&Crochet is cancelled for April.

CIC MILVALE

Feel free to come get more yarn from our donation closet to keep making laprobes!

Upcoming Commemorations

Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589

Monday, April 4, 2022

Born into slavery on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community.

Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's re-forming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Saturday, April 9, 2022

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.



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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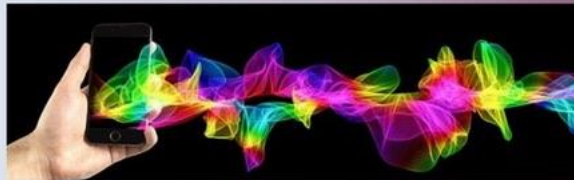
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