



*Celebrate the risen Savior.
Rejoice in eternal life.*

March 17, 2021

Dear St. Luke's Family,

"...when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God...for by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified." (Hebrews 10:12,14)

Thanks be to God that Jesus' death on the cross is all that is needed to take away the sins of all people for all time, including your sins and mine! We cannot add anything to His sacrifice nor improve upon it any way – we can only receive His free gift of salvation by faith with great thanksgiving. Let us do so! Thanks be to God also that the Lord's triumph over death means that we too can live forever! No wonder we celebrate Good Friday and Easter! May we all place our trust in Him and be caught up in wonder and worship as we celebrate this holy season.

I am writing this letter on the one-year anniversary of the first coronavirus lockdown. You may remember that we were not able to meet in person over Holy Week and Easter last year, and that all our services were online at that time. I am grateful that since then we have not only continued online ministry but also been able to do much ministry in person as well (albeit with restrictions). We all continue to pray that the pandemic will soon be over, and that those who have been adversely affected in any way may find healing and restoration in the Lord. I am also praying that there will be no further tightening of restrictions, particularly through Holy Week and Easter.

A) Holy Week & Easter Services at St. Luke's (March 28-April 4):

Online services will be available for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, in addition to Palm Sunday and Easter (and every Sunday). **Kids Church Zoom** continues each Sunday at **10:15am**. Watch also for a special **ANIC online Easter service**.

In Person Services:

Palm Sunday, March 28

- Regular service schedule with palms & communion at 8 & 11am
- Family Service 9:30am with palms & communion

Monday to Wednesday, March 29-31, 6:30pm

- Evening Prayer service & preaching series on Jesus' fulfillment of the Old Testament sacrifices (Deacon Jane will preach)

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 6:30pm

- Meditation, hand washing, communion & vigil with stripping of the altar

Good Friday, April 2, 3pm

- Meditation on the Cross

Easter Sunday, April 4

- 6:30am Sunrise service** & communion (starts in the parking lot)

God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. I JOHN 5:11

Easter Sunday, April 4

- 6:30am Sunrise service & communion (starts in the parking lot)
- Regular service schedule with Easter celebration & communion 8 & 11am
- Family service 9:30am with Easter celebration & communion

Note: Please register with the church beforehand if you plan to attend in person services on **Maundy Thursday or Good Friday**, or if you will be attending one of the Sunday services for the first time. Note also that there will be **no bible studies or Wednesday morning service during Holy Week.**

B/ Online Alpha Course Starts April 14

Alpha is a wonderful program which includes **great videos, fellowship, and opportunities to discuss and ask questions in a fun and informal atmosphere.** Though we will miss meeting in person and eating together (at least I will miss the eating part LOL!), Alpha by zoom will still be a great encouragement both for long time church goers and for people who know very little about Christianity, as it deals with basic questions of faith and life (e.g. Who is Jesus?) in simple, straightforward ways. If you have taken Alpha before you are welcome to take it again, and if you haven't yet tried it, you are invited to do so. And **please pray for the course and invite others to join us** – since the course is online, people can join us from anywhere in the world! We will meet **Wednesday nights 6:30-8pm for 10 weeks – a zoom link will be sent from the church to all on the parish list and anyone else who asks for it.**

C/ Pastoral Care and Other Ministries

Please contact the church office if you would like to arrange **private communion** for Easter. And please contact us if we can be of any help to you in any way. Note too that though some ministries will pause briefly during Holy Week, we are trying by God's grace to continue doing God's work in any way we can (e.g. **new outreach resources** are available for free at the church including gospel tracts prepared by our own Deacon Jane, Our Daily Bread booklets, and Easter resources for children).

If you are receiving this newsletter by hard copy, you will find enclosed an offering envelope which can be used as part of your Lent and Easter thanksgiving – if you receive the newsletter by email you can pick up an Easter offering envelope at the church. **Thank you to everyone who supports St. Luke's with your hard work, offerings, presence, and prayers!** We are truly blessed! **May we all continue to care for each other and reach out to those around us with the love of Jesus!**

Holy Week and Easter are wonderful seasons for spiritual growth as we reflect upon our Lord Jesus in His cross and resurrection. May we lift Him up in our praises and show many others His goodness! I know that Jane, Julie, our deacons, and Parish Council join me in wishing you a truly blessed and meaningful Holy Week, and a joyous Easter.

Yours in Him,



Tim Parent