

Currents

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2015

To the saints...

...The peoples' voices rasp of a horse-ness that comes of too much screaming, to much yelling.

"Hosanna in the highest!! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!"

They line the road with palms and coats and their voices lifted high, lifted loud. A canopy of green foliage and a covering of great shouts.

And then there are the screams of those being cleared from the temple court. A madman Jesus screams, too. Bellars. Barks. Tipping tables and tipping balances. People scatter and goats scramble and birds flutter fly. "By what authority do you do THIS? Who do you think YOU are?" And voices strain to rise above the chaos, strain to rise above the fierce eyes.

And then the people gather in front of a royal balcony. Voices angry now, accusatory now. Voices fed up.

"Crucify him. Crucify him. Crucify him. We have no king but Caesar. We want no king but Caesar. Free the other fiend and flog this one frail, so near death. And then

finish him, crucify him, kill him."

Voices made loud, vehement with spit and hate and finality.

Voices along the way. Mockingly loud. Cruelly cackling.

"Hail, king of the Jews".

"Who struck you?"

"Save yourself. You saved others ... do it now for you."

"Listen, he calls for Elijah. Ha! Fool. Imbecile. Holy hoax."

Horse. Strained. Stressed.

And Jesus lifts his head, but barely speaks. Barely more than a whisper for this one all out of breath. Quiet. trained, but quiet.

"Father, forgive them ... for it is enough ... and it is finished."

And then all of creation falls silent. Resurrection begins in the silence of a tomb. Creation begins again with a hush ... "Jesus, come out!" And so hope finds a new voice in you, us. And it is good.

...shalom

Pastor Buresh

Church Events

- **April 2** **6:30 p.m.**
Maundy Thursday worship
- **April 3** **12:10 p.m.**
Good Friday worship
- **April 5** **10 a.m.**
Easter worship
- **April 11** **10 a.m.**
Women's Bible study
- **April 12** **11 a.m.**
Coffee and fellowship
- **April 19** **11 a.m.**
Congregation Council
- **April 26** **11 a.m.**
Congregation Meeting
- **April 30** **7 p.m.**
ERC Book Group

Holy Week

Lent is fulfilled as we move into April. Holy Week begins on March 29 with Passion Sunday; we will gather again to worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m. to remember Christ's love for us in water and basin ... in bread and wine; Good Friday is a single worship service at 12:10 p.m. with the Newman Catholic Parish; we finally come in great joy and gladness to celebrate the resurrection of our Christ and the hope of all creation on Easter Sunday morning, April 5, at 10 a.m.

ERC Book Club

The ERC Book Club meets on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the ERC library. This book club is open to anyone, anytime. Books for the coming months are as follows:

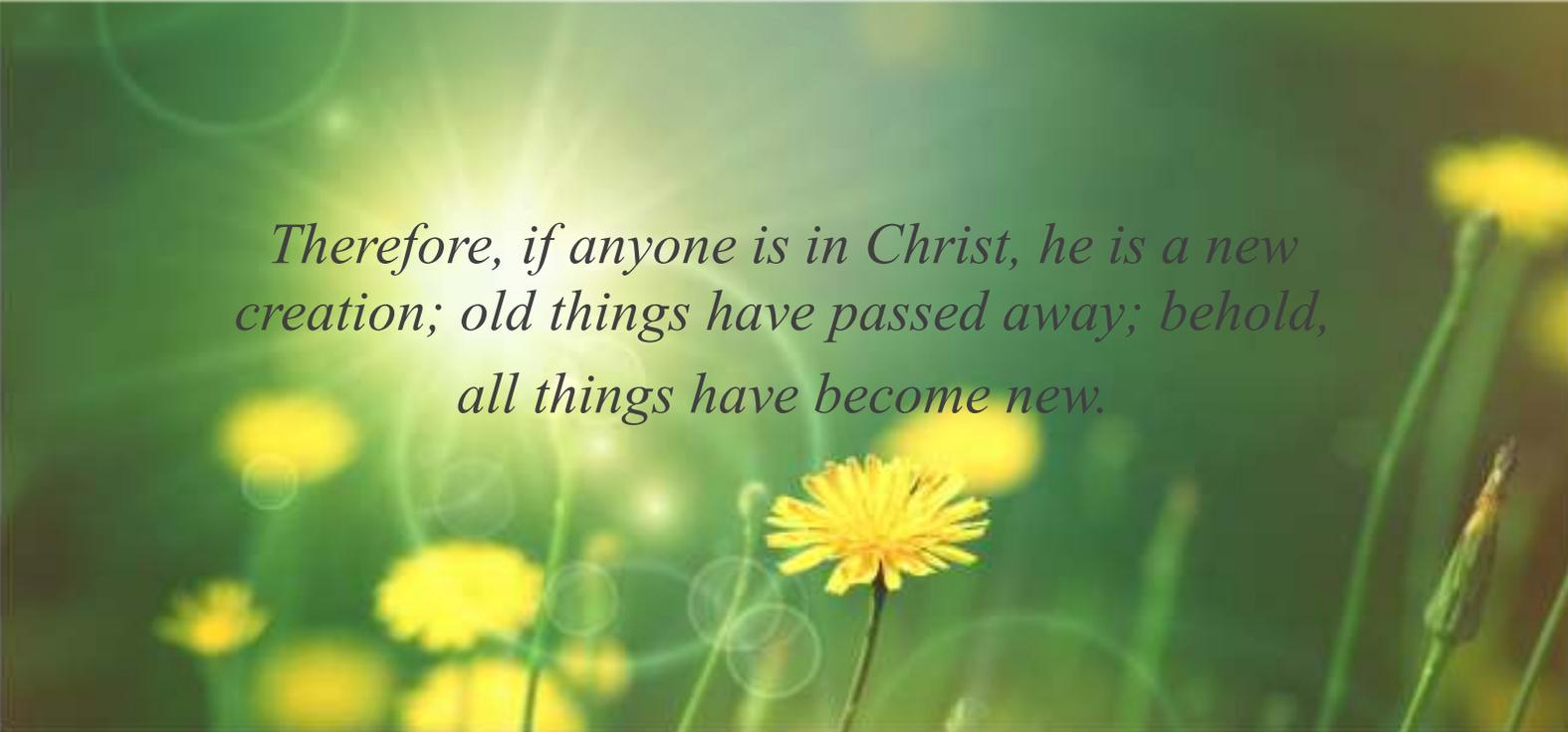
April 30: Still Life with Bread Crumbs by Anna Quindlen

May 28: The Cat's Table by Michael Ondaatje

June 25: Some Luck by Jane Smiley

July 23: Me Before You by JoJo Moyes

Aug. 27: Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Join us ...

April 12 at 11 a.m. for coffee, treats and fellowship following worship in the Fireside Lounge.

April ULC women's events

- The ULC Women's Bible study will meet on Saturday, April 11, at 10 a.m. at Grace Willowbrook (4868 Otteson Lane.). This month's Bible study is found in the April issue of "Gather." If you would like more information, contact wendykinderman@hotmail.com.
- The Annual Day of Renewal for the Chippewa Valley Conference of the Women of the ELCA is also scheduled for April 11 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Boyceville. The speaker is Barbara Solsaa. The fee for the day is \$10, which includes lunch. Advance registration is needed to ronnalee@wildblue.net.

News from Newman Parish

Father David Olson will begin a new assignment teaching at Mundelein Seminary near Chicago. He will start there on July 1, as an assistant professor and will teach Theology. His replacement has not yet been announced.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m. Disciple Life Family Group 1 p.m. Confirmation 4 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.	2 Disciple Life Family Group 11 a.m. Maundy Thursday worship 6:30 p.m.	3 Good Friday worship 12:10 p.m.	4 <h1 style="text-align: center;">April 2015</h1>
5 Easter Choir 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m.	6	7	8 Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m. Disciple Life Family Group 1 p.m. Confirmation 4 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.	9 Disciple Life Family Group 11 a.m.	10	11 ELCA Women's Day of Renewal At Trinity Lutheran, Boyceville Women's Bible study 10 a.m.
12 Choir 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Coffee and fellowship 11 a.m.	13	14	15 Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m. Disciple Life Family Group 1 p.m. Confirmation 4 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.	16 Disciple Life Family Group 11 a.m.	17	18
19 Choir 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Congregation Council 11 a.m.	20	21	22 Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m. Disciple Life Family Group 1 p.m. Confirmation 4 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.	23 Disciple Life Family Group 11 a.m.	24	25
26 Choir 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Congregation meeting 11 a.m.	27	28	29 Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m. Disciple Life Family Group 1 p.m. Confirmation 4 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.	30 Disciple Life Family Group 11 a.m. ERC Book Group 7		

2015 Easter Message from Bishop Rick Hoyme

I walked slowly down the hall to Vera's room. It was the day before Easter and I had spent much of Holy Week bringing Communion to my church's shut-ins. But I had not yet crossed Vera off of my list. Vera was in our local hospital, and Vera was dying. Perhaps this is why I waited to see her last. Pastors aren't supposed to have favorites, but I always have, and Vera was one of my favorites. I didn't want her to die. As I sat by Vera's hospital bed, I confessed that I didn't have my Easter sermon done yet, and even worse I told her, I really didn't like writing Easter sermons. "Everybody knows the story," I told her as I held onto her withered fingers, "and I never know what else to say."

It was time for Vera to become her pastor's pastor. "You have to tell them the story, because some of them have never heard it." Her tired eyes shone and her face began to smile. "Pastor, so many people need to hear that story. Just tell them what happened on Easter." And then she closed those shining eyes. She was tired and I was just sad. I watched and listened as her breathing grew deeper. How long will she sleep I wondered, and should I stay until she wakes? I continued to hold on to those worn down hands. And then her eyes opened.

"Pastor, promise me you'll tell them the story." I wanted to say yes, but I could only nod, because the words caught in my throat as tears ran from my eyes. "You'll do fine," she said. "You always do." Vera died a few days later, and as I sat with her family I remember asking if we could sing a song at her funeral that I thought they knew. They thought it would be nice. "Mom liked that song."

And so we sang,

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.

*I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.*

It's a good story. Have a blessed Easter.

Bishop Rick Hoyme,
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin -ELCA



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ULC Staff

Alan Buresh, Pastor
Jennifer Lange, Choral Music Director
Todd Johnson, ULC President
DeAnne Swenson, ULC Assistant

Weekly Schedule

- **Sundays**
 - Choir 9 a.m.
 - Worship 10 a.m.
- **Wednesdays**
 - Bibles and Bagels 8 a.m.
 - Choir 5:15 p.m.
 - Meal 5:45 p.m.
 - Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m.

ULC Offerings

Offering received - 03/01/15	\$1,794
Offering received - 03/08/15	\$1,009
Offering received - 03/15/15	\$1,417
Simply Giving Offering – March	\$275
Total offerings - March 2015	\$4,495
Average weekly offering received, year-to-date	\$1,969

Average weekly offering needed to meet annual budget	\$2,320
Average weekly offering needed to meet annual expenses:	\$2,110

Contact:

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To see the online calendar of events, go to our website link: <http://universitylutheran.org/wordpress1/events/>.