

The Richland Word

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL

2021

Sunday School

March is a crazy month for our Sunday School youth and children. We did not get back into class until the second Sunday in March. Then we had two Sundays off for Spring break. We will be back in session on March 28th.



During the past couple months we are working in the background to bring together summer camp and a youth mission trip. So, we need to know who is interested in going. Please email me with your children's names and a telephone number, if you are considering letting them to go on age appropriate adventure.

We hope all of our family have a save and wonderful Spring break!

Blessings to All!

- Shannon Patrone

Alleluia!
HE IS ALIVE!

The Triduum

The message of Easter is not just about the empty tomb on Christ's victory over death. Perhaps more important is WHY Christ's suffering and death was necessary, and HOW you and I can participate in the benefits of His sacrifice here and now!

That is one reason Palm Sunday is also *Sunday of the Passion*. On this Sunday (March 28th) on "The Lord's Day" (the traditional day of Sabbath Worship for Christians), the Sunday *before* we celebrate His coming out of the tomb, we are given opportunity to focus in full on Christ's suffering and death, and what that meant for the Church then, and what it means for us today.

The early Church recognized how integral the events of Good Friday were with those on Easter Sunday in linking these two days together in what became know as the Triduum. Called "The Triduum" by the Ancient Church, it begins on Maundy Thursday evening, and concludes Sunday morning. (The traditional Jewish calendar days

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The Holy Triduum 2021

Thursday, April 1 *Maundy Th.*

6:45pm Maundy Thursday

Worship w/ Communion

Friday, April 2 *Good Friday*

8:00am to 11:30am Sanctuary

open for prayer

Sunday, April 4 *Easter Sunday*

Resurrection of Our Lord

7:15am Sunrise Service

8:00am - "donut fellowship"

and create the Easter Cross

9:00am Sunday School

for all ages

10:00am Children & youth

gather in Parish Hall

for Easter Procession

10:15am Resurrection

Worship with Holy

Communion

Note: unfortunately there will not be an Easter Egg Hunt for children this year due to the impact of COVID-19 on our families. However, all children are invited to participate in the Palm Sunday Processional on March 28th, and in the Easter Worship Processional on April 4th.

Please have your child/children in the Parish Hall no later than 10:00 a.m. to get their palm branches (or flowers Easter Sunday), and to line up!

The Triduum - continued from p. 1

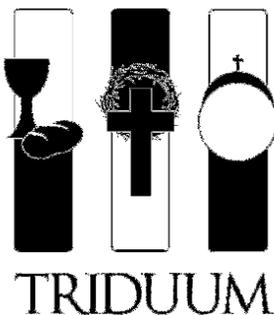
run from evening to evening. As a result, day 1 - Thursday evening to Friday evening is day 1, Friday evening to Saturday evening is day 2, and Saturday evening to Sunday evening is *the third day*.)

The Easter Triduum, also known as the Holy Triduum, comprise the most sacred days in the Christian calendar, surpassing even Christmas in their importance, for they contain the revelation and realization in human history of the divine plan for human redemption and eternal salvation, put in place thousands of earlier, during the life of our first parents, Adam and Eve.

I hope you can join us on Palm Sunday, as well as Easter Sunday, as we celebrate the mystery and majesty of Holy Week, especially as revealed in the Triduum. My prayer is that the greatness of God's love for you, as demonstrated by the sacrifice of His only Son, Jesus Christ, would penetrate your heart, soul, and life,...in a new and wonderful way.

"What wondrous love is this,
O, my soul?"

- Pastor Todd



New Study for the Easter Season

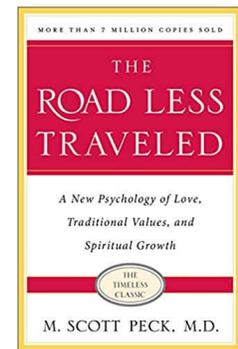
Beginning in April, St. John will be starting a new book study. *The Road Less Traveled*, by Dr. M. Scott Peck, has made publishing history, with more than ten years on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

With sales of more than seven million copies in the United States and Canada, and translations into more than twenty-three languages, perhaps no book in this generation has had a more profound impact on our intellectual and spiritual lives.

The Road Less Traveled helps us explore the very nature of loving relationships and leads us toward a new serenity and fullness of life. It helps us learn how to distinguish dependency from love; how to become a

more sensitive parent; and ultimately how to become one's own true self.

Recognizing that, as in the famous opening line of his book, "Life is difficult" and that the journey to spiritual growth is a long one, Dr. Peck never bullies his readers, but rather guides them gently through the hard and often painful process of change toward a higher level of self-understanding.



Copies of *The Road Less Traveled* will be available for a donation of \$10 beginning March 28th. Please sign up in the sanctuary if you'd like to be a part of a group discussing this book.

Adult Sunday School Focus: *The Prophets*

Lessons in the spring quarter of St. John's Adult Sunday School address the importance of prophets in Israel's history. Moses revealed God's promise to give his people prophets who would speak God's word. Stories of Joshua, Huldah, and Elijah show the fulfillment of the promise.

Lessons on Ezra, Nehemiah, and Lamentations illustrate how the prophets gave new hope to the Israelites. At Easter, Isaiah's prophecies portray Jesus as the suffering servant through whom

believers receive salvation. In the last lessons we see how Elijah, Jeremiah, and other prophets called people back when they strayed from God's covenant.

Sunday School books, which include Scripture and commentary, are free and all are welcome to join us.

- Loyd Shrout

Women's Guild

St. John Women's Guild is getting ready for the new year!

It has been a long time since we have met together. March 28th is the date set for our first meeting in 2021, and all ladies are invited! We will meet in the Parish Hall, immediately following the worship service, and, with our face coverings, will be spaced out sufficiently in the Parish Hall for both safety and comfort.

The meeting will be held to an hour in length, and we will be discussing both old business (authorizing the paying of outstanding bills) and new business, including what we would like to do in 2021!

Please bring your dreams and hopes for our Women's Guild to the meeting on the 28th. If you have any questions or would like to help in preparing for this meeting, in any way, please talk to Sandy Brunton or Kathy Pemberton.



Crafting w/ Friends

Crafting with Friends did not meet in March; some members were out of town. I spoke to Miriam Hees, she has a lot of good ideas for our group. We are anxious to share them with everyone and she is encouraging me to keep our group going as it is wonderful to create for our shut-ins and our members and hopefully we can have some wonderful things made for our Pfolk Pfest if we do it this year.

We will talk about it, but we do not have to make everything in our gatherings; we can work on things at home, and Miriam and I will be working on that.

We will try to meet on April 24th at 10:00 a.m., as usual, in the Parish Hall. Check the "In Touch" to confirm.

All ladies are welcome to come and enjoy!

Flower & Bulletin Schedule for 2021

New 2021 flower and bulletin charts are posted on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. Feel free to sign up on either or both. The flowers can be cut flowers or potted plants.

If you have any questions or would like more information, talk to Mary Martinka or Sandy Brunton.



Thank You

Thank you so much for your cards, phone calls & prayers while I was in the hospital. You have no idea how much they have helped me. I still have a ways to go but that is ok. I will get there. They keep telling me baby steps, so I am working on that.

Much love to everyone,
Mary Martinka

Thank You

Thank you to all the church members who were able to come out the morning of March 20th to help with Work Day. The work done is much appreciated. The campus looks very nice and ready for guests and visitors, and all the congregation, on Easter Sunday!

Thanks also to members of our Boy Scout Troop #685 who worked hard planting flowers and cleaning up the flower beds, plus painting the back steps of the church!



Thank You

Thank you to Matt Gebert who came out this past week and trimmed the trees around St. John's campus.

Thank You

Thank you to the Boy Scout who painted the black railing in our parking lot for his Eagle Scout project. It looks so nice!

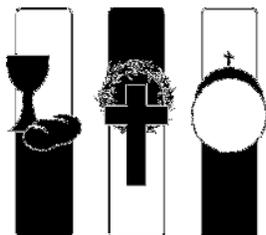


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TRIDUUM



Holy Week Schedule

- April 1** *Maundy Thursday*
6:45pm Maundy Thursday
Worship w/ Communion
- April 2** *Good Friday*
8:00am to 11:30am Sanctuary
open for prayer
- April 4** *Easter Sunday*
Resurrection of Our Lord
7:15am Sunrise Service
8:00am - "donut fellowship"
and create the Easter Cross
9:00am Sunday School
for all ages
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gather in Parish Hall
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10:15am Resurrection
Worship with Holy
Communion



Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church is associated with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). For more information about LCMC, visit their website at www.lcmc.net

Flowers for the Easter Cross

We will be decorating our big Cross for Easter as in past years. It is always enjoyable & beautiful to see.

If you have any flowers possibly growing in your garden (even with the winter freeze) please bring them to the church kitchen on Saturday or early Sunday morning.

We will begin at 8:00am if you would like to help decorate!



Ways to Give

For those who use offering envelopes, 2021 envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary in alpha order. For those not currently using offering envelopes but would like to try them, unlabeled boxes are also available. Simply take an unlabeled box, write the box number and your name on the sheet on the clipboard nearby, and you're ready to go!

Individuals may also go to www.stjohnrichland.org, go to the "Support" tab at the top right of the home page, and give electronically, or by using a mobile device.

