

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church April, 2022 Newsletter



Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 10, 9:00 AM

Maundy Thurs. April 14, 7:00 PM

Good Friday, April 15, 7:00 PM

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 16, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 17 9:00 AM

Easter morning breakfast for everyone at 7:30 AM



Dearly Redeemed In Christ,

We have now come to the festive celebration and remembrance of our Lord Jesus' Resurrection.

It is appropriate, then, for us to consider our life of worship. We go to church. That's a given. That's where God gives us His Gospel and blessed Sacraments; in return we praise, worship and thank Him! But is it only at the public services on Sunday mornings. By no means! God's Word belongs in the home where we live. If the pure Word of God is what makes our congregation a Christian church, the pure Word of God will make our home a Christian home!

The Christian father is the pastor of his family! Yes, it's true! After giving Moses His Law, God said to Moses and to all Israel: "These words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children" (Dt. 6:6-7). St. Paul writes, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). Fathers should lead their families in daily worship. If the father is unable to do so or if there is no father, then the mother should do it!

What is family worship? It is an abbreviated form of the public service of the congregation? Well, with older families or couples whose children are grown and gone from the home, the reading from the Bible can be directly from the Holy Scriptures. The New King James Version is a good translation that I recommend. (You may also use the English Standard Version, which is what is read during worship services, but it takes practice). Families with younger children, I would recommend that you read God's Word to them and then add Bible stories as a means of application for them.

We recite from memory the liturgy at church. I am confident that most of us know the words of the Gloria in Excelsis, the Sanctus, the Agnus Dei, both Creeds (Apostle's and Nicene) and the Lord's Prayer. Therefore, for family devotions, I recommend saying The Ten Commandments (with their meanings), the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Along with Holy Scriptures, use Luther's Small Catechism!

Good, doctrinally sound, Christ-centered hymns are a wonderful feature of family devotions. I grew up knowing the best hymns in The Lutheran Hymnal. If you have a hard time deciding what hymns to sing; sing the hymn(s) from the previous Divine Service!

We gather to pray. The greatest of prayers is The Lord's Prayer. Jesus taught it to us and we pray it every time we gather for worship in His Name. There are other fine prayers in the Catechism, such as Luther's morning and evening prayers. Fathers, teach, especially these three, to your children! Home devotions should not have to last more than ten minutes, unless you get into a theological conversation at the end and keep visiting around the table. I recommend setting a specific time aside and stick to it. Reserve it! Cherish it!

Here is a sample form for you to consider for your family worship:

Invocation: "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen" [Yes, it's perfect acceptable to cross yourselves; it has nothing, whatsoever, to do with the Roman Church; rather, it's in remembrance of your Baptism].

Recitation of the Ten Commandments and The Apostles' Creeds

Reading from the Bible/Bible story book followed by discuss and the singing of a hymn

Closing with The Lord's Prayer and either Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer

Fathers (or Mothers), bring God's Word into your homes. Place the hearing, learning, confessing, and singing of God's Word above all other pursuits in life. Do it! You won't regret it! If you have any questions about home devotions, give me a call or stop me after Divine Service and bend my ear. I'll do what I can to help.

He Is Risen!!!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Patterson

Soli Deo Gloria



Members

Jill Damec

Darrell Root

Doug Schmidt

Marlene Schmidt

Military

Captain Rob Landers (USAF) (Barry's Son-in-Law)

Sergeant First Class (USA) Benjamin Kueter (deployed to Iraq)

Gunnery Sergeant (USMC) Kyle Chase (Kari's Nephew)

Sergeant First Class (USA) Jordan Etchells (Dale & Kari's Son)

The three USAFA Cadets:

Cadet Fred (4th year);

Cadet Alexander (3rd year);

Cadet Matthew (2nd year)

Family Members

Judith Hein (Dr. Hein's Sister)

Rev. & Eunice Schaibley (Former Pastor and wife)

Patty Krueger (Barry's wife)

Kathi Chase (Kari's sister)

Janice Patterson (Pastor's Mother)



Saints and Commemorations
we celebrate in April

April 06: Lucas Cranach & Albrecht Durer - Artists

April 20: Johannes Bugenhagen - Pastor

April 21: Anselm of Canterbury - Theologian

April 24: Johann Walter - Kantor

April 25: Saint Mark - Evangelist

Awake, My Heart, With Gladness!

(Compiled by Evelyn Law)

If you knew a man whose life had been disrupted by war and plague, who struggled to find a job in his chosen career, who lost his job and almost all earthly possessions due to politics, who watched 4 of his 5 children die (3 in infancy and 1 as a young child), and who suffered through the slow death of his wife, would you expect him to write a joyful song of praise to God such as the one that gives this article its title (LSB #467)? Or the song “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing” (LSB #737) that confidently says, in part (verses 6 & 7):

His wisdom never plans in vain
Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,
Nor falters nor mistakes.
And trust His guiding love;
All that His counsels may ordain
Then like a rock your peace shall stand
A bless-ed ending makes.
Here and in heaven above.

Paul Gerhardt was such a man.

Gerhardt was born on March 12, 1607 into a middle-class family in a small town near Wittenberg. At age 15, after the death of his parents, he entered a school that almost closed a year before he graduated due to a plague. However, he did graduate in 1627 and enrolled in the University of Wittenberg in 1628. There, two teachers that especially influenced him were Paul Röber and Jacob Martini. Both men were staunch Lutherans, promoting its teachings not only in the classroom but also in sermons and hymns. Röber in particular often took his sermon texts from hymns. In this way Gerhardt was taught the use of hymnody as a tool of pastoral care and instruction.

When Gerhardt graduated around 1642, he was not immediately placed as a pastor due to the Thirty Years War. He moved to Berlin where he worked as a tutor in the family of Andreas Barthold. During this time, his hymns and poems brought him to the attention of Johann Crüger, the cantor and organist at St. Nicholas Church in Berlin. Gerhardt and Crüger began a collaboration and friendship that continued for many years. LSB includes 3 hymns produced by that partnership: #334 “Oh Lord, How Shall I Meet You,” #360 “All My Heart Again Rejoices,” and #467 “Awake, My Heart, With Gladness.”

In September 1651, Gerhardt received his first ecclesiastical appointment as the new Provost at Mittenwalde, a small town near Berlin. It was during this time he composed most of his 123 hymns (16 of which are in LSB). He also married Anna Maria Barthold, one of the daughters of Andreas Barthold.

In 1657 he was called back to Berlin to be the Associate Pastor at St. Nicholas Church. At this time the city was full of strife between the Lutheran and Reformed clergy. The Elector at the time was Friedrich Wilhelm I who was Reformed. He wanted to make peace between the

clerical factions, but being Reformed himself, he concentrated most of his efforts on making his lands more Calvinist. He placed only Reformed pastors into parishes, removed the Lutheran professors from the University of Frankfurt, and forbade students from his lands to study at the University of Wittenberg.

Gerhardt was a leading voice among the Lutheran clergy and drew up many statements in defense of the Lutheran faith. At the same time, he was renowned for acting fraternally not only with the Lutherans but also with the Reformed clergy; he was respected and very well liked by all. His sermons and devotional writings were so free from controversy that many among the Reformed attended his services, and the wife of the Elector, Louisa Henrietta, was a great admirer of him and his hymns.

In 1664, however, the Elector published an edict that, among other things, disallowed the Formula of Concord. Therefore, many Lutheran clergy could not comply with the edict, including Gerhardt. He was thus removed from his position in 1666.

For over a year he lived in Berlin without fixed employment and became almost destitute. During this time his wife died, leaving him with their 6 year old child. He, himself, also suffered a severe illness.

Finally the edict was removed, and in October 1668 he was called as archdeacon of Lübben. After a ministry of eight years, he died on May 27, 1676. His last words were a line from one of his own hymns: "Us no death has power to kill." He is buried at Paul Gerhardt Church in Lübben. His remains are in a crypt below the altar. He is commemorated on October 26 in the Calendar of Saints.



SSLC schedule for April-May

Sun, Apr 3: Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica)

Wed, Apr 6: Vespers a. Judica (7 p.m.)
Vesper supper 6 p.m.

Sun, Apr 10: Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica)
Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion (Palmarum)

Tue, Apr 12: Circuit Meeting (@ Faith, Buena Vista)

Thu, Apr 14: Holy Thursday (Part I – Holy Triduum) (7 p.m.)

Fri, Apr 15: Good Friday (Part II – Holy Triduum) (7 p.m.)

Sat, Apr 16: Vigil of Easter (Part III – Holy Triduum) (7 p.m.)

Sun, Apr 17: The Resurrection of Our Lord

Sat., Apr. 23 Men of the Springs Bible Study Group (9:00AM)

Sun, Apr 24: Second Sunday of Easter (Quasimodo Geniti)

MAY, 2022

Sun, May 1: Third Sunday of Easter (Misericordias Domini)

Mon-Wed: (2-4 May) Tri-Circuit Conference at Alamosa, CO

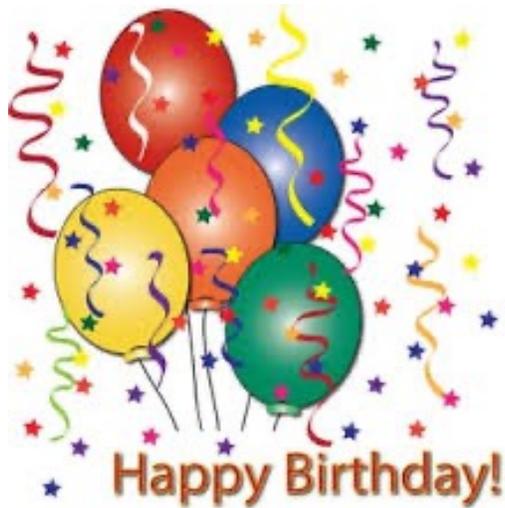
Sun, May 8: Fourth Sunday of Easter (Jubilate) Mother's Day

Sun, May 15: Fifth Sunday of Easter (Cantate).
Quarterly Voters' Assembly (10 a.m.)

Sat, May 21: Men of the Springs Bible Study Group (9 a.m.)

Sun. May 22 Sixth Sunday of Easter (9 a.m.)

Sun. May 29 Seventh Sunday of Easter (9 a.m.)



04-09 Ken Crafton

04-23 Thea Etchells



This newsletter is a publication of the Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod. A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions-

Where the Lutheran Reformation lives!

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