



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

1404 University Avenue

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

(808) 946-4223

office@ourredeemerlutheran.us

April 17, 2020

DEVOTION

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

What a wonderful phrase. We are blessed to proclaim the work of our Savior who overcame death especially at a time like this. As we enter another week of being in isolation, I know that we all desire our lives to return back to normal. But as many people have said over the past few weeks, "Will normal ever be normal again?" God uses events like these to remind us about his kingdom and its coming.

When this virus began to spread in China, then in Italy and Spain, it seemed like someone else's problem. But then it jumped to the shores of the east coast. The largest city in our country was being hit hard by the virus and it became more real. It wasn't just in a foreign country but in our own backyard. When Hawaii began to close down and restrict our lives to help slow the spread, I remember coming into my apartment building waiting to get on the elevator. I saw three men with a gurney all wearing hazmat suits, and for me, it was too close to home. The person didn't have Covid 19, but it didn't matter. I didn't know what he/she had. I was put into a place that I too could have been exposed. Life is very precious especially when we know our life could end soon.

"For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep." 1 Thessalonians

Jesus spoke of death in a very different way than anyone else, because he knew that death for his disciples would be short.

"After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." John 11

"Asleep"- a part of us finds comfort in the way Jesus spoke about sleep because we know a lot about sleep. We do it every night. We dream and rest and are ready to begin a new day in Jesus. Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep, if I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take. This is a prayer that was taught to me as a young child. It always provided comfort for me to know whose hands I am in!

We celebrate this Easter season in a much different way than the past. We are more like Jesus disciples on Good Friday and Holy Saturday- locked up in a room for fear of death! But we know that Christ has overcome death and even when our day to join Christ in a restful sleep of His grace we know his words of promise and our hope of faith. Like the man on the cross we say, "Remember me" and we hope in the beautiful answer he gives to sinners. "Today you will be with me in paradise."

Christ is risen! All who hope and trust in his work already live in his grace. We trust in God's promises for eternal life. Our Redeemer calls each of us, by our name in our baptism. We call upon him in all our circumstances.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Pastor Christian

PRAYER LIST



We continue to pray for those affected by the Coronavirus pandemic:

- for those who have lost their jobs
- for all first responders, doctors and nurses
- for the university students who have returned home to finish their studies, especially Katy Koopman, Samuel Krakowiak and Alex Knudson
- we pray for protection of the elderly and those with underlying health conditions

We pray for the sick, hospitalized, injured and those undergoing and recovery from surgery:

We continue to pray for: Randy Spangler, Betty Scholl, Nellie Miller, Pat Giustra, Ruby Hodel, Monica Landers, Cal Couillard, Sara Jane Lisowski, Peggy Pridgeon, Gabi Katt, Vivian Wright, Karen Fischer, Joyce Tirbak, Linda Weinsteger, Gertraud “Trudy” Lau

We pray for those facing long term illnesses:

Bill Rappuhn, Scarlett Adams, Tom Owskey, Laurie Arie, Audrey Fink, Dan Maerten, Linda Roth, Heather Marler, Try Wolfe, Peter Pranschke, Parker Kindred, Annie Olsen, Summy Kruithof.

We pray for God’s protection for all military personnel throughout the world:

Phillip Rappe, Roger Koopman, Andrew Casey, Dylan Kinsella, Scott Walls, Antonio Phillips (great grandson of Jerry Bruhnke), Scott Bloom.

We pray for these and all our brothers and sisters in Christ!

PLEASE PHONE OR EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO ADD SOMEONE TO THE PRAYER LIST. Phone: 946-4223 Email: office@ourredeemerlutheran.us

CHURCH OFFERING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church depends on regular offerings in order to keep up with the operating expenses. Thank you in advance for any offerings you decide to mail to the church:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
1404 University Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96822

PORTALS OF PRAYER

The Portals of Prayer for the 2nd quarter is available. If you desire a copy, please call the church office (leave message) or send an email. The Portals of Prayer will be mailed to you; let me know if you prefer the digest or small size.

READINGS FOR April 19, 2020

OLD TESTAMENT

Acts 5:29–42

But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

PSALM 148

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the | heavens;*

praise him | in the heights!

Praise him, all his | angels;*

praise him, | all his hosts!

Praise him, | sun and moon,*

praise him, all you | shining stars!

Praise him, you highest | heavens,*

and you waters above the | heavens!

Let them praise the name | of the LORD!*

For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.

And he established them forever and | ever;*

he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.

Praise the LORD | from the earth,*

you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

fire and hail, | snow and mist,*

stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!

Mountains and | all hills,*
fruit trees and all | cedars!
Beasts and all | livestock,*
creeping things and | flying birds!
Kings of the earth and all | peoples,*
princes and all rulers | of the earth!
Young men and maidens to- | gether,*
old men and | children!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is ex- | alted;*
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for | all his saints,*
for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the LORD!

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3–9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Due to the Coronavirus and the Governor’s state-wide “Stay at home” mandate the following activities are cancelled:

- Breakfast Fellowship – April 4
- Worship Care meeting and cleaning of church – April 4 ***Postponed**
- Palm Sunday Brunch – April 5
- Family Promise committee meeting – April 7
- Breakfast Fellowship – April 11
- Hosting Family Promise families - April 12-April 19
- Breakfast Fellowship – April 18
- Town Hall Meeting – April 19 ***Postponed**
- Breakfast Fellowship – April 25

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Finance Management, Board of Property Management, Board of Spiritual Life and the Board of Directors monthly meetings will continue with Virtual Meetings. Should you have any questions or concerns you wish to bring to the boards, please contact the following:

Board of Finance Management – Hank Kuhn
Board of Community Life -Stephen Okumura
Board of Property Management – Michael Riess
Board of Spiritual Life – Jerry Groth

Board of Directors President – Karl Bachman

BIRTHDAYS FOR APRIL



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|------------------|--------------|
| Stuart Peace | Pat Giustra |
| Betty Scholl | Nancy Beadle |
| Lauren Walls | Lana Kuhn |
| Pastor Christian | |

ANNIVERSARY FOR APRIL

Richard and Masami Lachmann





Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Pastor
Missionary to Kauai

The Rev. Christian J. Rasmussen
William Pierce

Administrative Assistant:
Director of Music:
Trumpet:

Sharon Shinno
Karl Bachman
Roger Koopman
Jillian Madanay

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President:
Vice-President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Board of Spiritual Life Director
Board of Community Life Director
Board of Finance Management Director
Board of Property Management Director

Karl Bachman
Stephanie Spangler
Bonnie Jo Alle
Roger Koopman
Jerry Groth
Stephen Okumura
Henry Kuhn II
Michael Riess

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