

# Trinity SONRISE News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2022

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Mothering Sunday! Before there was a Mother's Day in the United States there was a Mothering Sunday in England. It was marked on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent. The Lenten fast was halfway through, in fact, the Sunday was named "Laetare" which in Latin means Rejoice. It is the first word of the Introit for the day which reads, "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem and be glad with her; all ye that love her. Rejoice for joy with her; all ye that mourn for her, I was glad when they said unto me; Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

On this day of rejoicing the prohibition to eat cake was lifted, as long as the cake was baked and taken to the home of one's mother. In ancient days Jerusalem was considered the mother of all who believed in God. The city represented the Lords' bride. And the temple was the Lord's house. So, going to Jerusalem was like going to one's home... like visiting one's spiritual mother. Hence, Mothering Sunday. Visit her, rejoice with her, bring her cake.

The great liturgical movement that has risen among many of the 21<sup>st</sup> century Lutheran pastors and in their congregations today suggests that the previous generation's affinity for guitars and praise bands may have abandoned meet right and salutary ways to afford God the grandeur and honor due him. Did you know, for example, that every Sunday before and after Easter has a name? Each name is derived from a word in the Introit that best explains the focus of the day.

They are: "Invocavit," "He shall *call on me* and I will answer Him.

"Reminiscere," "Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies and Thy loving kindnesses:"

"Oculi," "My eyes are ever toward the Lord."

"Laitare." "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem and be glad with her;"

"Judica," "Judge me, O God and plead my cause..." and

"Palmarium." or *Palm* Sunday

So do the Sundays following Easter to Pentecost.

"Quasimodogeniti," "As newborn babes... desire the pure milk of the word."

(yes, that's where the hunchback of Notre Dame got his name.)

"Misericordias Domini," "The earth is full of *the goodness of the Lord*:"

"Jubilate," *Make a joyful noise* unto God, all ye lands.

"Cantate," "Oh sing unto the Lord a new song:" (*Cantate Dominum Canticum Novum*)

"Rogate," With the voice of singing *declare ye* this: The Lord has redeemed his servant."

"Exaudi," "Hear, O Lord when I cry (out) with my voice"

The names of these Sundays meant something to God's people and were once commonly known and celebrated as are Mother's Day and Father's Day in our time. People remembered these Sundays specifically because each of them described a different way to think of God or remember him in the 6 weeks leading up to and following the anniversary of the death and resurrection of our Lord. We cannot bring the Lord a cake, but we can answer him, remember his tender mercies, turn our eyes toward him, rejoice with all believers, call on him to assess

our faith and service, welcome him with palms, desire the pure milk of the word, praise him for his goodness, make a joyful noise, sing unto him a new song, declare that he has redeemed his people and ask him to hear us as we cry out to him.

But today, rejoice and be glad with your spiritual Mother, Jerusalem. Be glad as you come into the house of the Lord.

In His Service,

Rev. Timothy Azzam

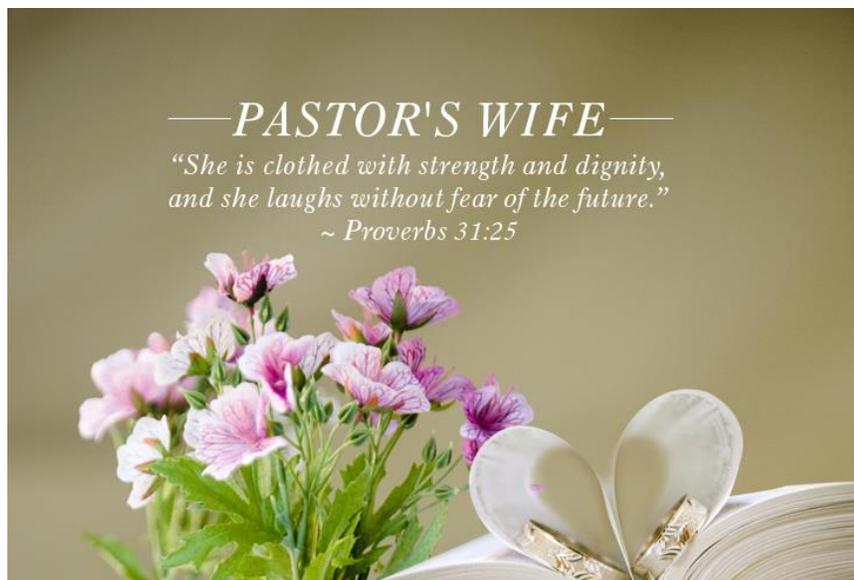


## Confirmation Sunday – April 10<sup>th</sup>

On April 10<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 a.m. worship service two young men – Matthew Abee and Joshua Abee -- will be confirmed into the Lutheran faith. Confirmation is a rite, relying on God's promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ. These young men will also receive their first holy communion. Congratulation to Matthew and Joshua for all the hard work they put in to achieve this accomplishment!

## Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month

Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month is usually celebrated in March. Unfortunately, we overlooked this event. When you see Kathy, please let her know how much she is appreciated!



## Lenten Midweek Worship: A Lenten Journey with Joseph (Continues)



**Lenten Midweek 5:** March 30, 2022

### **A Lenten Journey with Joseph: Chased by a Dirty Conscience**

Joseph's journey in Genesis came full circle when his brothers journeyed to Egypt in need of food as a famine struck the land. With their sinful actions from decades prior left unresolved, they and their consciences bowed down before their brother Joseph. We, too, know what a guilty conscience feels like, yet we also are given the knowledge of where to bring our sin and shame. We respond with the psalmist:

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Lenten Midweek 6:** April 6, 2022 (Our final midweek Lenten worship)

### **A Lenten Journey with Joseph: God Does Have a Plan**

Our journey with Joseph draws to a close as he reveals his identity to his brothers in Egypt. Through many events of injustice, unfairness, silence, waiting, and ultimately being raised up in the land, God had a plan. We respond with the psalmist:

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!

## Please Join Us for Holy Week Worship Services

<b>Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Worship Services at 8 and 10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Worship Service at 7 p.m.</b>
<b>Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Worship Service at 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Worship Services at 8 and 10:30 a.m.</b>

**RISEN**

celebrating the resurrection

## Pastor Azzam Plans to Begin a New Chapter

At the March 10<sup>th</sup> Church Council meeting Pastor Azzam announced that he is planning to retire. His last worship service will be July 10, 2022. We wish Pastor and Kathy all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

Pastor wanted to share his letter with the congregation:

Grace to you and peace from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Our Lord Jesus Christ told his disciples that they were the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Salt, he said, is only useful when it maintains its saltiness and a light cannot be hidden under a bushel, but it is elevated on a lampstand. "Let your light so shine upon men," Jesus concludes, "that they might see your good works and glorify God who is in heaven." To that end, it is my prayer that the members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Oscoda, Michigan continue to be salt and light to this community, in our district and throughout the world: sharing in both word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ and what he has done for us in his cross and resurrection.

It has been my privilege; a privilege shared with my wife Kathy to live and serve among you these past 17 years. But just as St. Paul tells us that one sows, another waters, and another brings in the harvest, it seems, after much prayer and consideration that such a time to pass these tasks to another has come. So today I am announcing my retirement from Trinity Lutheran Congregation effective on Sunday, July 10, 2022.

For the near future, Kathy and I intend to stay in Oscoda. We look forward to witnessing the confirmation of two young men in the faith on Palm Sunday, worshipping with you Holy Week and Easter, and soon with all our members returning from their winter travels, our seasonal residents and our summer guests.

God bless you all and may He grant a renewed hope and vision to see His plan for Trinity in the years to come.

In His Service,

Rev. Timothy Azzam

H A P P Y  
*retirement*

**“I know what I am planning for you,  
says the Lord. ‘I have plans to  
give you hope and a good future.’”**

~ Jeremiah 29:11

# STEWARDSHIP

## Maybe Today!

During the week before His Crucifixion, Jesus talked about the End of the Age (Matthew 24). He indicated what some of the signs of the end will be, and He described what His return will be like. What He did not tell us, though, is exactly when these things will happen. In fact, Jesus said, *"...the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."* That is why, He emphasized, *"Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect"* (Matthew 24:44).

How would you spend your last day if you knew when it was? What would be most important to you? What would you do to "be ready"? Jesus' point is that we should spend each day as if it is the last. He told us that the *"faithful and wise servant"* is the one *"whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time. Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes"* (Matthew 24:45). In this parable, Jesus is the master, and we are His servants. Whom is Jesus placing under our care?

What are those responsibilities that our Master has given us? Are they not all summed up in the Great Commandments to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and our neighbors as ourselves? And are we not to be baptizing and teaching the Faith to all the world? Surely these are the tasks our Lord has given us along with His promise to go with us, to provide for us all the gifts we need to carry out His mission, to empower us to do His will, and to forgive and renew us when we fail and get discouraged.

Did you wake up this morning and look out your window and say, "Maybe today!?" For the Christian, this hope brings joy and urgency – joy that Heaven is near and urgency that we want everyone to be there. Let us, then, live every day imagining that this is the day of Christ's coming. Let us not get discouraged as we go about the business of the Kingdom, keeping in mind the unbelievable prize God has in store for His faithful stewards.

Even though we do not know the time of Jesus' return, we *"must be ready"* for His coming. Beware of any teacher who claims to know when Jesus will come again. What we can do is stay steadfast in our faith and to feed and take care of the people whom God has placed under our care. How blessed we are that God wants to use our hands, feet, and mouth to help and minister to others!

-Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair



### Mission of the Month Orphan Grain Train for Ukrainian Relief Efforts

The Church Council at its March meeting voted to change the mission of the month organizations for April and for June.

During the month of April, our mission of the month will be the Orphan Grain Train to assist with Ukrainian relief efforts. The funds will be used to provide immediate aid for Ukrainian victims, especially women & children, through organizations in Romania, Moldova and Poland. Your gift will help purchase needed items and help with air-freight and shipping costs. Thank you for your support of OGT and please pray for relief efforts for Ukrainian families.

Our originally scheduled April mission of the month, Wellspring Lutheran Services, will be moved to June. The June mission of the month, Here We Stand Campaign, has been eliminated since that campaign is nearing its end.

If you already support a mission, please continue to do so by designating that particular mission by name on a Mission envelope.



Joan Abney, Arlene Coles, Annette Dennis  
Wayne Fortney, Ron Kaiser,  
Rev. Dean Muhle of Hale, and Ron Weidenfeller



**Homebound:**

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge

**Military:**

Alex Anderson (Navy)  
Jason Cooper  
Courtney & Karina Pierce (Army)



It pleased the Lord to call to her eternal rest the soul of Edna Rainey on Sunday, March 13, 2022. A memorial service is being planned for June 11, 2022. Please keep Charlie and the rest of Edna's family in your prayers.



**Two Worship Services Resume**

We will resume two worship Services on Sundays beginning April 3<sup>rd</sup> with worship services at 8:00 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.



- Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets via Zoom. For more information call Ruth Golm at 989-724-5679.
- Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. – meets in-person in Sunday School wing.

## Spring is Slowly Approaching



The church will be having a garden work bee sometime in April. Watch for dates and times to beautify the Lord's gardens!

Also, when you are getting your gardens ready for summer, please keep in mind that our memorial garden needs some flowering perennials that like shade. Any donations would be greatly appreciated



### Trinity Bells of Glory

The Trinity Bells of Glory will be playing prelude music on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to playing for the congregation each month. With the approval of the Church Council, Dave Sherman is making some adjustments to our bell choir room to accommodate all of their equipment and supplies. We are blessed to have Dave and his many talents. As always, Trinity Bells of Glory certainly appreciated the support of the congregation!

## Thank You!

Our Parish Nurse, Carol Wenzel, sold her house and has moved to Alpena. Carol served as Parish Nurse here at Trinity for twenty-two years. A special presentation will be made at the worship service on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to thank Carol for her many years of service.

Thank you, Henriette Fortney for volunteering to take over the position of Cradle Roll Coordinator. Henrie has also volunteered to provide bags of Easter treats for children attending church on Easter Sunday. As you may know, Henrie is the Church Council Secretary and serves as president of TLCW.

Thank you, Bruce Welther for keeping the church and grounds well maintained.

Thank you, Jonalee Engstrom for watering the plants and for all the other things you do around the church.

Thank you, Gregg Pancost for taking care of the sign in front of the church.

Thank you to everyone serving on the Church Council and the Board of Elders.

Thank you to those of you running Bible classes – Pastor Azzam, Lou Kuhlmann, Ruth Golm, and Kathy Azzam.

Thank you to Lou Kuhlmann for making a storage box for the Advent wreath, which will be mounted in the church.

Thank you, Kathy Azzam for all the big and little things you do around the church!



## T.L.C.W. News

Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) meet the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. The April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

TLCW is selling greeting cards for 50¢. Easter cards are currently on display on the table in the fellowship hall. Please put your money in the cash box on the display case.

## Community Garage Sale



It's that time of year again to be thinking about the TLCW Community Garage sale. While you are doing your spring cleaning, please consider what household items you wish to part with and SAVE them for Trinity's annual community garage sale. This year the sale will be held on Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proceeds from the sale are returned to various community organizations. If you have any questions, call Karen White at 989-739-0774 or Ruth Golm at 989-724-5679.

## Easter Flowers

TLCW plans to have Easter flowers available to order to beautify our church in celebrating our RISEN LORD! We have heard that flowers may not be available, but we will keep our fingers crossed. An order form with price information will be placed in the bulletin if flowers are available, so be on the lookout!



## Altar Guild Schedule for 2022



January – Sue Welther  
February – Jonalee Engstrom  
March – Teri Westburg  
April – Henrietta Fortney  
May – Sue Welther  
June – Carolyn Lindhorst

July – Teri Westburg  
August – Jonalee Engstrom  
September – Henrietta Fortney  
October – Teri Westburg  
November – Jonalee Engstrom  
December – Sue Welther

## Mission Quilt Project



Thanks to all who contributed to the Mission Quilt project, it was a great success. Quilts will be delivered to Orphan Grain Train when completed, and the unused new linens, (single bed fitted sheets and pillowcases) will be donated to the homeless shelter.

--Kathy Azzam

## Serving Our Community



Thanks to a Thrivent grant, Pastor and Kathy were once again able to provide healthy snacks to Ascension St. Joseph Hospital for our local health workers to enjoy.

## Church Directory

We would like to update the church directory, and would appreciate a photo of you and/or your family for inclusion in the directory. You can email a photo to:

[churchoffice@trinityoscoda.org](mailto:churchoffice@trinityoscoda.org) or you can bring in a photo for us to scan.



Please check the list of names and phone numbers on the table next to the office door. Let us know if your information is incorrect. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you to members that have confirmed their information and submitted pictures!



AND YOU ARE INVITED!

**MAY 15, 2022**  
**AFTER SECOND SERVICE**  
**IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Please bring a dish to pass

At the March 10<sup>th</sup> Church Council Meeting, the Council decided (if Covid restrictions don't intensify) to hold a potluck for the congregation. It will be our first opportunity to gather together for a planned fellowship event. Put the date on your calendar – we hope to see you there! Don't forget to bring your favorite dish to pass. This will also serve as a welcome to our new members.



### Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief Efforts

Thank you to all members of the congregation who donated money to the Ukrainian humanitarian relief effort. As of March 20<sup>th</sup>, Trinity Lutheran Church has collected \$873. Of that, \$441 was sent to the national Orphan Grain Train and \$392 was sent to the Michigan Orphan Grain Train. The remainder of the money we are able to collect will be sent to the Michigan Orphan Grain Train. Again, thank you for your generosity to help these people who are in desperate need!



- 4/1 Jonalee Engstrom
- 4/4 Adel Astala
- 4/5 Carolyn Barrett
- 4/6 Beverly Cornel
- 4/6 Michael Dettmer
- 4/8 Judith Audritsh
- 4/8 Birgit Faught
- 4/11 Tylor Tutor
- 4/14 Bradd Chisholm
- 4/15 Bruce Welther
- 4/17 Lily Bilbey
- 4/20 Nancy Marshall
- 4/21 Nancy Perry
- 4/21 Irene Walentovic
- 4/22 Shirley Webber
- 4/26 Madison Schimmer
- 4/28 Anna Loyer
- 4/28 Pat Wright
- 4/30 Melina Ludeña
- 4/30 Lila Wetenhall



- 4/20 Joe & Linda Hock
- 4/21 Mitchell & Margaret Davis, Sr.

### *Know the Elders*

The Board of Elders concerns itself with the wellbeing and spiritual life of our congregation and pastor. Pastor Azzam and your Elders are happy and eager to hear from you!

They may be reached at:

- Pastor Azzam - 739-4820
- Mitch Davis, Jr. - 989-820-1469
- David Golm – 989-724-5679
- Roger Tack - 989-293-8050
- Ron Weidenfeller - 724-7701



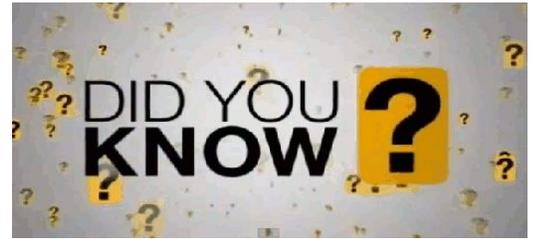
**Church Council Meeting**  
**Thursday**  
**April 14, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**



**Tuesday**  
**April 5, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**

# QUIZ

1. The Bible states that Jesus' betrayer committed suicide. How did he do this?
2. After being resurrected, Jesus shows himself to his disciples beside which sea?
3. How many angels, according to the Gospel of John, were in the sepulcher?

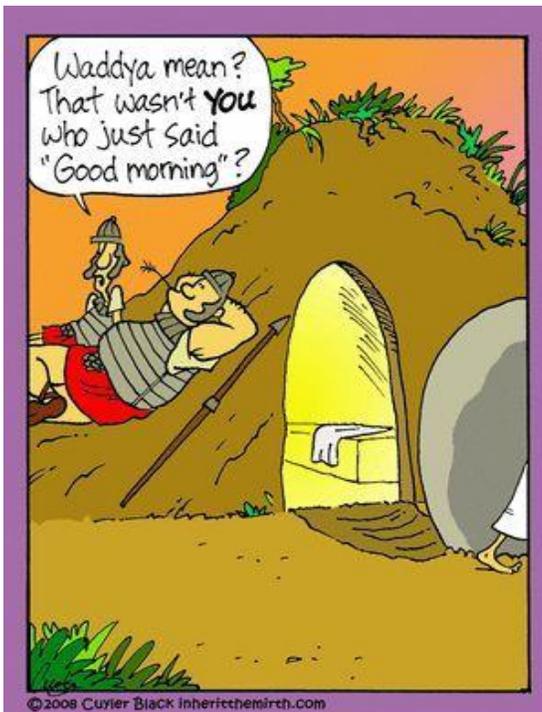


Americans consume over 16 million jellybeans during Easter.

The White House Easter Egg Roll tradition started in 1878.

Easter eggs were originally dyed red to represent Christ's blood.

## HUMOR



## DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles for the May Newsletter is April 17, 2022.



1. He hung himself after returning the money he was given
2. Tiberias, also known as the Sea of Galilee.
3. Two – one where the head of Jesus had been and one at the feet.

Answers to Quiz