

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News

For April 4, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 4/4/21—4/10/21

SUNDAY- 2 Peter 1:1-21
MONDAY- 2 Peter 2:1-22
TUESDAY- 2 Peter 3:1-18
WEDNESDAY- John 20:1-18
THURSDAY- John 20:19-31
FRIDAY- John 21:1-14
SATURDAY- John 21:15-25



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4/11/21

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9am OSLC Fellowship
9:20am Sunday School
10am OSLC Worship

4/14/21

9am Quilters
5pm Finance Mtg.
6:30 8th Grade Confirmation

4/17/21

11am Baptism of Wiley Charles Brockpahler
3pm OSLC First Communion Class

4/18/21

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9am OSLC Fellowship
9:20am Sunday School
10am OSLC Worship/Holy Communion

Balsamlund Announcements

Make-up dates for Balsamlund Milestone Celebrations

Balsamlund Confirmation Class dates April 18, May 2, & May 16.

OSLC Announcements

*If you are unable or don't feel comfortable joining us inside for worship, we are now using our FM Transmitter to broadcast Sunday morning worship to the parking lot. Please park upfront facing the front doors to get the best signal from the transmitter.

*We are happy to announce we have started up fellowship before worship. Fellowship will start at 9am. We have a few guidelines to follow. They will be posted in the kitchen.

* OSLC First Communion will be Sunday April 18. We will have First Communion Class on Saturday April 17 @ 3pm. Contact Pastor Eric or the Church office if you have any questions.

* We will be starting some spring cleaning projects. We will be doing them in small groups. Sign-up sheets will be in the fellowship hall. Please watch bulletin for future cleaning projects and dates.

*Teachers Needed: If you are interested in teaching Sunday School and/or VBS, please let Pastor Eric or Dawn know. If you have any questions you can talk to Roxie or Ronnie. Teachers are needed for this Summers VBS as well as next school year. Two teachers will be stepping down for sure so we are in need of volunteers to fill these roles.

* Sign-up sheets are on the table in the fellowship hall for fellowship servers and ushers. If you have any questions please contact the church office.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

This week in the Easter season we get to dive headlong into one of my favorite stories from John's gospel - the story of the encounter between the risen Christ and Thomas.

Thomas often gets a bad rap for seeming to doubt what the disciples are saying when they report their witness of the resurrected Jesus.

But there's been something else that's stuck out to me as I've been reading it through this week and that is what the story has to say about woundedness.

We've all suffered wounds in this life, whether they are physical, like the scraped knee of a child or emotional like betrayed trust or a broken relationship. We all have wounds that we carry at the personal level. We've also been wounded as a collective body, the body of Christ, by the violence of racism, sexism, and other discriminations that persist in our world.

All of these things affect us differently and we carry those wounds with us as well.

What strikes me about this encounter Thomas has with Jesus is that Jesus draws the disciples' attention to his wounds. "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side."

In this encounter, Jesus invites Thomas into the woundedness of resurrection life, which is to say that Jesus invites Thomas into a way of living beyond the wound itself.

Resurrection doesn't take the wounds away. Resurrection opens a path for us to live on the other side of the trauma of whatever it was that wounded us.

It gives us an opportunity to heal by incorporating the stories of the wounds into our story as God's people, always remembering the hope and promise of life after the wounding.

After this year of a global pandemic and continued societal pandemics of prejudice and violence, the Thomas story offers us an opportunity for Jesus to encounter us in our woundedness with his own wounds, and brings us to wholeness on the other side.

Whatever wounds you may be dealing with in your life or in your relationships right now, or whatever wounds you may be grieving in our world, may the resurrected Christ give you new eyes to see the healing and wholeness possible on the other side.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric