# PRINTS of PEACE

**VOLUME XLXIV, Number 4** 

**APRIL 2021** 

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2021 Holy Week Worship Schedule

Sun., 3/28 Palm Sunday 8:00am & 10:15am

Immediately following the late Palm Sunday service, the Sunday School will host an Egg Hunt at 11:45am

Thurs. 4/1 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Fri., 4/2 Good Friday 7:00 p.m.

Sun., 4/4 Easter Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.





CartoonChurch.com

## From a Sermon on Christ the King

By The Reverend Dr. Stephen Cherry Dean of King's College, Cambridge.

The politically relevant Jesus does not seek election; does not put forward a manifesto, does not promise tax cuts or to lead his followers from the dominion of the Roman Empire. Jesus' political vision is much more modest and takes the form of reorganising our relationship not with global trade or neighbouring countries, but with God. Jesus politics is at one with every other aspect of Jesus' simple message. It is the duty of all who follow him and who turn to God through him to make of yourself a gift of love in the service of others and to be so radially committed to honesty and truth that you care more about saying it as it is than about the consequences that you will suffer when you are misunderstood, resented or otherwise opposed. And to do all this confident that it is God who will ultimately be our judge – not the electorate, not the newspapers, not the trolls on twitter, or the number of likes of facebook.

Quite how anyone should vote is their own personal decision and pulpits are not the place for party political presentations. They are the place, however, from which we should try to give a sense of hope for the future, an honest appraisal of the issues that matter most in the long term and a desire that our political ambitions are consistent with the good news that God the creator acts by love and desires us to act by love; not the romantic love that favours people 'like me' or the erotic love that makes an object of the other, but the New Testament love that respects others in their difference, diversity and dignity and does not promise heaven on earth but looks for, seeks and anticipates the coming of the future where the crucified and risen Christ is King.

#### FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK - April 2021

Dear members of Prince of Peace

As early as the third century St. Hippolytus wrote that baptisms should ordinarily be at the Easter Vigil. The association of Christ rising from the tomb on Easter morning and the newly baptized rising from the waters of the font is an ancient tradition.



The late Russian theologian Alexander Schmemann wrote "Even though we are baptized, what we constantly lose and betray is precisely that which we received at baptism. Therefore Easter is our return every year to our own baptism, whereas Lent is our preparation for that return – the slow and sustained effort to perform, at the end our own 'passage' or 'pascha' into new life in Christ....Each year Lent and Easter are once again, the rediscovery and the recovery by us of what we were made through our own baptismal death and resurrection."

There are many people who do not make this connection and who believe that their baptism was just something that happened at a given point in their life. That is not the Christian faith. Your Baptism is a constant in your life. St. Paul wrote: (Romans 6:3,4) "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." Just as he rose so we rise each morning a new creature made over in the image of the risen Lord.

The Episcopal Church has a liturgy in the Book of Common Prayer for the renewal of the promises made at our baptism. It contains the following admonition: "Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church." Other denominations also have this liturgy and prayer.

In our Small Catechism Luther wrote "It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

This Easter season I want to encourage each of you to make a special effort to remember the promises made at your baptism and to live each day try to according to those promises. Each morning when you rise remember faith espoused in the Apostle's Creed, renounce the devil and all of his empty promises, and then go into your daily life as a redeemed child of God.

Yours in Christ's service Pastor Kenneth Fosse

The mission of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to know Christ and inspire people to be caring instruments of God in spreading Christ's love, with joyous enthusiasm, by word and deed.

# **Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey Foundation presents: Virtual Feet In The Street 1M/5K Fun Run**

Let's Get Moving to Help Those in Need! **April 23 – April 29** 

It's been a few years since Lutheran Social Ministries (LSMNJ) last held its Feet In The Street fundraising event, but the need to help New Jersey families is more important than ever. So we're asking everyone to get up, get moving, and put your feet in the street to walk, run or hike either 1 mile or 5K (3.1 miles) to support LSMNJ's COVID Relief efforts and the H.E.R.O. program serving the underserved in Camden.

It's a virtual event. Just register online (\$30/per person) and then pick a day and time during our designated week of April 23-April 29 to complete your activity and submit it. At its conclusion, everyone will come together, virtually, on April 29th at 4:30pm (EST) for the Facebook LIVE Feet In The Street Finisher's Celebration.

For more information and to register, visit <a href="www.runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Burlington/FeetintheStreetLSMNJ">www.runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Burlington/FeetintheStreetLSMNJ</a> or visit <a href="www.lsmnj.org">www.lsmnj.org</a>.

## **CPS Recommended Reads for Current Times:**

<u>Faith That Engages the Culture</u> by Alfonso Espinosa
<u>Faith in the Shadow of a Pandemic</u> by John Pless and Jacob Corzine
<u>Words of Strength and Promise</u> devotions for youth by 14 contributors

#### RETIREMENT TAX PLANNING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Taxes can seem overwhelming because they are complex and jargon-filled – even though the underlying concepts can be fairly straightforward. It's easy for people to make mistakes and pay more taxes in retirement than is necessary. Will you pay more than your fair share?

Join your Thrivent Member Network for this free, virtual workshop on April 7th or April 8th – Savvy Tax Strategies, that will help you plan for tax implications in retirement.

This event will address:

- Ways to potentially reduce or prevent unnecessary taxes in retirement.
- Common "tax traps" to avoid.
- Tax implications for Social Security and Medicare.
- How the recent SECURE Act may impact your strategy.

Planning to be tax-efficient in retirement is an important topic to understand. I encourage you to join this virtual workshop and to reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely, William Leach, Financial Associate (732) 598-0839

Don't forget deadline for Choice Dollars is the end of March. Members can simply call 800-847-4836



#### **Stewardship Newsletter Article for April 2021**

(Reprinted from the LCMS website)

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. His atoning sacrifice is the first fruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to His Father, so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him. He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word and His Body and Blood.

As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word. By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" (Heb. 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine" (Prov. 3:9-10). How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that, in so doing, you will never lack.

A common counterpoint is: "But that's from the Old Testament!" Our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents: "For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance" (Matt. 25:29).

And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money" (Luke 16:10–13).

And in His sermon on the mount, he says: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:19–21).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel – the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings. It's no quid pro quo. It's all from God's grace and His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages do in fact say what they say! It's not the Old Testament's problem. It's ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge Him: "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need" (Mal. 3:10).

And so, while we don't give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless your giving with more receiving. As St. Paul wrote in Rom. 8:32: "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

# From Our Head of Trustees, Tommy Campagna

Hello Everyone

I hope everyone had a healthy winter. I come to you because we need a few good people. We need people to donate time for some much needed work around the church grounds. We have new siding, new windows and 2 buildings that were recently painted. Now we need some things that need some attention. I am preparing a list of tasks. If you would like to volunteer for a task, it would be greatly appreciated. You can contact me at 732-804-3052 for further information.



Here are some things that need attention:

- 1. Power wash siding on back of church
- 2. Change light bulbs
- 3. Flower beds need care
- 4. All gray doors on the church need to be painted the same color as the siding. The same for the gray drain pipes.
- 5. Red doors in front of the church need repairs and paint.
- 6. Gutters need to be cleared of debris.
- 7. Flat roof need to be maintained. It is now in the process of being re-sealed.

Respectfully, Tommy



### **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**

Church Website: www.princeofpeacehowellnj.org

# FOURTH ANNUAL CAR AND TRUCK SHOW



434 Aldrich Road, Howell, NJ 07731 (Across from the Howell Park and Ride)

SATURDAY JUNE 5, 2021 (Rain Date Saturday June 12, 2021) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

> \$12 Donation - Pre-registration \$15 Donation - Day of the show Dash plates for the first 50 cars!

FOOD \*\* DOOR PRIZES \*\* TROPHIES \*\* 50/50 \*\* GOODY BAGS \*\* GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

Live Entertainment provided by The Black Ties (Rock & Roll Band) and Nancy Scharff (Singer / Songwriter

Donations of non-perishable items to our Church Food Pantry would be welcomed and appreciated!



For more information contact Tommy at 732.804.3052 or xgman94@ optonline.net

Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/princeofpeacehowellnj



#### PROPERS PREVIEWS

A look at the readings to help you prepare for worship

#### April 4, 2021

#### The Resurrection of Our Lord

Isaiah 25:6-9 Rejoicing in the Lord's salvation.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 "And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain."

Mark 16:1-8 Jesus is risen!

#### **April 11, 2021**

#### The Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35 They had everything in common.

1 John 1:1-2:2 Walking in the Word of Life, our Advocate

John 20:19-31 Jesus appears to His disciples including Thomas.

#### April 18, 2021

#### The Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:11-21 Peter speaks in Solomon's portico. 1 John 3:1-7 We are God's children now.

Luke 24:36-49 Jesus appears to His disciples.

#### April 25, 2021

#### The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:1-12 Peter and John before the Council.

1 John 3:16-24 Love one another.

John 10:11-18 I am the Good Shepherd.

#### THOSE WHO SERVE

Brandon Chornobroff will be the Elder at the 8:00 a.m. services (unless otherwise noted)

Lynne Berghoff will be the Lector on the first Sunday of each month.

#### **APRIL DEADLINE**

If you have an article that you would like placed in the May 2021 newsletter, please email it or drop it off in the church office.

The church email address is popchurch@optonline.net.

The deadline is Monday, April 26, 2021

Denise Abdul-Malak, Head Elder, 732-406-1531, schedules Assisting Ministers

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

Lisa Tess, Elba Hillis and Anne McDonnell

Lisa Tess, 732-905-0687, is Directress of the Altar Guild. Members serve for one month on a rotating basis.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

Please place \$25 per bouquet in a
Flower Fund Envelope
(which can be found in the Flower Book)
and place it in the offering plate. There is a maximum
of three bouquets on the altar each week.

USHERS and ACOLYTES are advised to remain home until further notice.

# Sunday School Corner

**April 2021** 

#### Sunday School Lessons

Acts 4:32-35

They had everything in common.

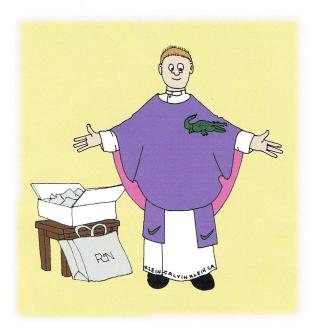
Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus appears to his disciples.

John 10:11-18

I am the Good Shepherd.





Stuart couldn't wait to show off his designer gear