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**GROWING
TO SERVE**



2024

**Our Savior
Lutheran Church**
745 Front Street S
Issaquah, WA

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The Lutheran Story:

An Article Series to Accompany Our Book Study,
Together by Grace

Part 1 – Life in an Unholy, Un-Roman, Not-Empire

By Rev. Olaf Baumann

According to legend, Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the church door in Wittenberg. That kicked off the Reformation, split the medieval church, and led to the emergence of diverse arrays of Protestant churches. It is not completely clear if the event happened in this fashion, but it is so ingrained in the mythology of the Lutheran soul, that it might as well be true.



Luther posting 95 Theses, by Julius Hübner, 19th century

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An aside here that is worth repeating ad nauseum: Mythology is not JUST(!!!) mythology. Stories or myths are not something that you turn to when you have no facts. Since humans came off the trees and developed the upright gait, myth and stories have been the prime vehicle to infuse meaning into human life. Hence the slogan might not be factual, but it is most certainly true: "Lutherans, nailing sh*t to church doors since 1517!" (Personally, I think he did it!)

Most of us know that Martin Luther lived in Germany. Let us have a closer look at his home, because where we live shapes who we are.

Understanding this, we have to recognize Martin Luther did not really live in Germany. This might sound confusing at first, but the idea that there is a German nation is an idea that emerged long after Martin Luther's death.

Martin Luther lived in the Holy Roman Empire, which is not an empire in the modern sense, but a loose conglomerate of rivaling principalities. Its territory is far larger than modern Germany and Austria. It has a diverse population that speaks many languages. (See the map on page 4.)

French writer and philosopher Voltaire, who lived at the court of the Prussian king Frederik the Great, wrote in 1756 that said empire was neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire.

National identity can be a tricky thing. Ask a Frenchman like Voltaire what a Frenchman is, you will get an explanation that tells you who is French and what being French means. In Martin Luther's time, there was already a French nation.



Voltaire, c. 1720s, the Musée Carnavalet



Frederick the Great, by Wilhelm Camphausen, 1870

Ask Frederik the Great, who employed Voltaire at his court, what a German is, and he will wonder if Germany is even a thing? Frederik knows what a Prussian is, because he himself is one. However, he is one who refused to speak German because he thought it to be a crude language. The king of Prussia and his court speak and write in French. Frederik also knows who the Austrians, the Bavarians, and the Saxons are! They are the enemies that need to be defeated if Prussia wants to become a major player in the concert of principalities in the Holy Roman Empire. Germany becomes a nation in a meaningful sense only in 1871.

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Frederik the Wise, Portrait by
Lucas Cranach the Elder

A real empire, like the British one, is a coherent political entity. It can muster its resources in the service of a common goal. The princes of the Holy Roman Empire have no common goal. They vie for power with all means at their disposal, including war, bribery, blackmail, or stoking of religious conflict. Some use the Reformation as a convenient vehicle to challenge the emperor and enlarge their territory by conquering their Roman Catholic or Protestant neighbors.



Martin Luther's identity is most likely rooted in his faith and in the local culture of the region in which he was born. His political loyalty would be to his prince and protector, the grand elector of Saxony, Frederik the Wise. His fellow princes called Frederik a fat groundhog. He was not powerful enough to become the Holy Roman emperor, but he was diplomatically skilled, dynastically connected, and politically so effective that without his meddling one could not become emperor.



In the Holy Roman Empire the emperor is elected, by the primary princes, the so-called grand or prince-electors.

The imperial prince-electors left to right: Archbishop of Cologne, Archbishop of Mainz, Archbishop of Trier, Count Palatine, Duke of Saxony, Margrave of Brandenburg, and King of Bohemia (*Codex Balduini Trevirorum*, c. 1340)

The empire is considered holy because the pope crowns the emperor. He is elected by the major princes as they follow God's guidance. God tells the electors who God wants on the imperial throne, and the electors listen carefully to what God says, and then they choose the candidate who dishes out the biggest bribes, or who most convincingly threatens to murder them if they don't.

At the time Luther sets the church on fire, Charles V was the freshly elected emperor. He was from the House of Habsburg, and he was born in the Spanish Netherlands where he grew up speaking Dutch and French. He could not speak German. He was elected in 1519 and beat such formidable rivals as Francis I, King of France, and Henry VIII, King of England.

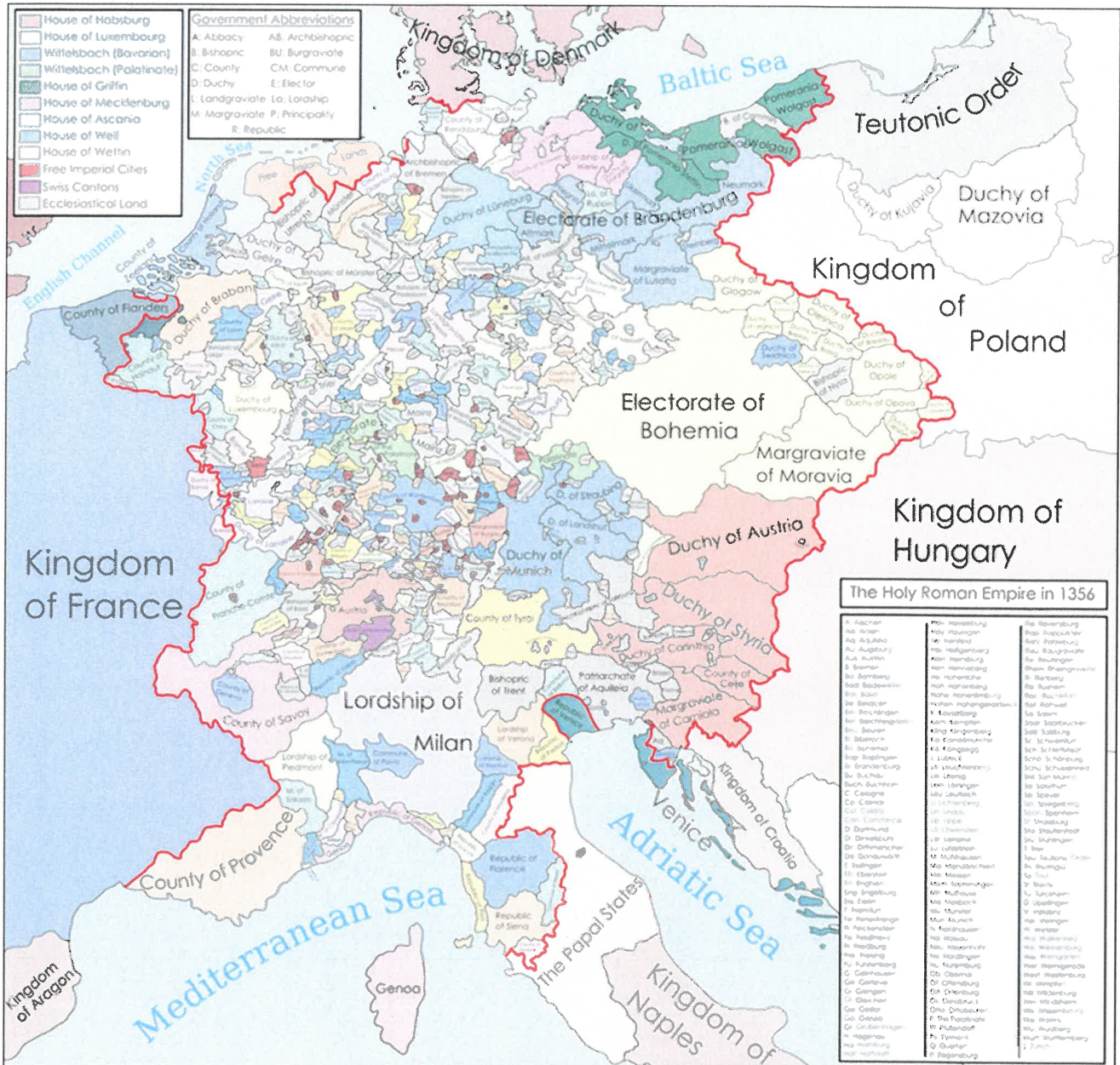


Charles V, by Bernard
van Orley, 1519

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Holy Roman Emperor was only one of the many hats Charles V wore. His main job was King of Spain. In that capacity he desired peace in the empire so he could concentrate on plundering the newly-discovered colonies in the Americas and use the gold he stole there to fight the Turks. After the fall of Constantinople in 1453, this formidable foe marches on Europe. It's a juggernaut, and they will only be stopped in 1683 right at the gates of Vienna. It will take until 1822 for Greece to become independent and push the Turks back to the Bosphorus.



Map of the Holy Roman Empire in 1356

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Most inhabitants of the empire were German-speaking people. However, the German language at the time had no standard form. Regional dialects are not necessarily comprehensible to all German speakers. Even today, Swiss German or Pennsylvania Dutch is unintelligible to most speakers of standard German. A common German language was created by the man who walked through Wittenberg to nail his 95 theses against the church door. Martin Luther's translation of the Bible into the local vernacular was the linguistic basis from which standard German emerged.

Life in medieval Europe was short and hard. The nobility reigned by the grace of God and was totally unconcerned about the consent of the governed. God gave them the right to lord over the people, and lord over them they did. In some cities early mercantile operations began that would develop over the centuries into the kernel of the capitalist societies of modernity. City dwellers were the exception. Most people were rural peasants, and the economy was agrarian. Exploitation was common. Social status was solely determined by heritage. Low-born people had no avenue of advancement, except for one.

If you had talents and were able to work hard, the one place where you could advance was the church. Nobles held most high offices, but common people could be scholars, scribes, artists, and despite their low birth, climb the hierarchy. Martin Luther is one example. He was not a peasant, but he wasn't a noble either. His father was one of the early entrepreneurs who made his fortune with mining. He sent his son to study law and enter the family business.



Portrait of Jean Miélot, by Jean Le Tavernier, 1500s



Luther's friend struck by lightning, by Ferdinand Pauwels, mid-19th century

One night, Martin was surprised by a thunderstorm, and he thought he would die. He made a vow to enter a cloister if he survived the night. He did survive, and much to the chagrin of his father, Martin became an Augustinian monk. His monastic order sent him to study theology, and Martin Luther became a doctor and a professor at the university of Wittenberg. As such, he

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he criticized the practice of the church to sell salvation through church documents called indulgences. He wrote 95 theses on this topic and nailed them to the church door of the castle church. The church door was a messaging board. If your cat had disappeared or if you needed a used handcart, that's where you would post your messages. Luther's message was intended to spark a formidable academic debate. He didn't want to split the church; he wanted to meet with his fellow academic theologians in a pub, drink lots of beer, and argue theology until the rooster crowed. What he got was very different.

The second part of this article series will be about the 95 theses. Questions? Comments? Contact Pr. Baumann at Pr.O@oslcissaquah.org.



Announcements from the Pastors

Think about Global Missions!

Are you interested in getting a deeper insight into ELCA Global Missions? You are invited to join us on **Tuesday, April 23 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall** to discern how OSLC might get involved.



Some of the things we need to think about are the following:

- ◆ We have \$5,000 in the budget for Mission work, and we need a team to allocate the money.
- ◆ St. Andrews Lutheran Church, one of the congregations in our Eastside Cluster, is planning a mission trip to the Navajo Lutheran Mission. The cluster congregations have been invited to participate. This might be a good opportunity for us, and maybe there is a chance for closer collaboration. We would need to explore this opportunity. (Check out the website of the Navajo Lutheran Mission: <https://nelm.org>.)

If you are interested and want to know more, contact OSLC Co-President Barbara Fetty-Solders at tmcreekhouse@gmail.com, or Pr. Olaf at Pr.O@oslcissaquah.org.



Scout Sunday

On Sunday, April 14, Scouts from Troop 676 are planning to greet, usher, and acolyte, as well as read the first, the second, and the gospel reading. They will also host the Coffee & Fellowship Hour.

Our Savior Community

Announcements from the Pastors

Evangelizing in Our Times

It has never been easier to invite people to church. One click with your mouse, and you can like, share, and follow Our Savior Lutheran Church on [facebook](#), [instagram](#), [x/twitter](#), [webpage](#), and [youtube](#). The more people like, share, and follow, the more attention the social media host gives to our presence. They will then promote our posts as well. Using social media that way is one way to follow the Great Commission.



Also, the pastors have blogs and a sermon channel. Check them out!
www.olaf-baumann.com; <https://betwixt-between.com/>
<https://www.youtube.com/@Revs-Baumann-sermons>

April 24 Is Administrative Professionals Day

This is a great opportunity to say thank you to Cynthia Delaney, our Parish Administrator, for all she does for the church. You can reach her at 425-392-4169 or office@oslciissaquah.org. Thank you, Cynthia!

April 21-27 Is National Volunteer Week

We pastors are full of gratitude for all the volunteers here at Our Savior Lutheran Church. Facilities, ground keeping, coffee hour, special events, council work, congregational care and outreach, worship and music, and so much more, not to forget getting our new home, the parsonage, ready. You are awesome and you are the church! Thank you so much!



Game Night!

The Eastside Cluster of our synod is offering events for all cluster members to join in! The next intergenerational game night will be on Sunday, April 21, from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church (2650 148th Ave SE, Bellevue, 98007). St. Andrew's asks that people bring a snack to share and also their favorite game if they have one. This is a very relaxed activity and a great way for people to get to know each other. A little bit after 5:00 p.m., Pr. Lara will offer a welcome and prayer, then invite people to get food and find a table to start playing games. We'll start cleaning up around 6:45 p.m. so the evening ends at 7:00 p.m.

Our Savior Community

Parsonage Update: Open House on Sunday, April 7

We're in the home stretch of completing the parsonage renovation! Our plan is to have the parsonage ready for the pastors to move in by mid-April. There will be minimal landscaping at this time; we will continue to work on exterior and landscaping projects in the next several months.

For the congregation to be able to tour the parsonage before the Baumanns move in, there will be an **Open House on Sunday, April 7 from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** during Coffee & Fellowship Hour. We hope you can come and see all the work that's been done to make the parsonage a lovely, up-to-date house.

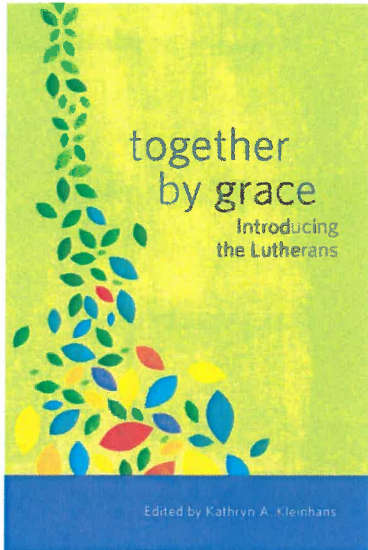
Parsonage Committee

Newest Photos of the Parsonage:



Our Savior Community

Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans Book Study



Please join us on Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. (in person in Anderson Hall) or 7:00 p.m. (online on Zoom) for a book study that comes from the ELCA. This *Together by Grace* book study re/introduces us to the fundamental theology and practice of ELCA Lutheranism. The first meeting was April 4, but with five meetings remaining, there's plenty of time to join the conversation!

Since all 21 book copies (ordered by Cynthia) have been purchased, you can order *Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans* by Kathryn A. Kleinhans (Editor) at www.augsburgfortress.org or another online bookseller.

Here's the Zoom link for Thursday Evening Meetings:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88561043787?pwd=kyHI7fijRyxF27cFgBnNb9sOGGXmHj.1>

Meeting ID: 885 6104 3787

Passcode: 517184

Here's the Schedule for the Book Study: Six Thursdays in April and May

We ask you to read the indicated section prior to the meeting. The in-person and the Zoom meetings cover the same content; you can visit them interchangeably. We hope to see you there. Please note: no meeting on May 2 or 9.

- **April 4:** Please read *The Faith We Confess*, p. 9-45.
- **April 11:** Please read *From the Sixteenth Century to Today*, p. 47-84.
- **April 18:** Please read *Worship and the Arts*, p. 85-112.
- **April 25:** Please read *Faith Active in Love*, p. 113-146.
- **May 16:** Please read *Being Lutheran Together in a Wider World*, p. 147-174.
- **May 23:** Please read *Stories from the Global Lutheran Family*, p. 175-204.

Our Savior Community Cottage Meetings

Thank you to those who have already signed up to be a host or a guest for an upcoming Cottage Meeting. These one-time, small-group Cottage Meetings are an opportunity for fellowship and socializing with our new pastors. They want to meet you! The hope is that every person who attends OSLC will have an opportunity to attend one.



LaRue Nelson says there are a few spots left for guests at the Mountain Park and Mirrormont Cottage Meetings. She's also looking for one more host at the end of May. Please call or text LaRue at 425-442-4639 to sign up.



Community Meals Volunteer Opportunity

We have a robust Community Meals program at OSLC, serving meals on the second Tuesday and third Thursday of each month. While we have a good supply of cooks and bakers, we could use a few more willing to transport the food to the Community Center and serve the meals. Transport time begins at 4 p.m., and you'll generally be finished by about 6:30 p.m. If you have a heart to serve the hungry in this way, please reach out to Marilyn Carlson (text 206-499-9601 or email auntmare@carlsonsnw.com) to be added to the roster. Many hands make light work!



Learn about Bali's Unique Religious Beliefs on April 14



Join Ken Konigsmark and his friend visiting from Bali, Kadek Widiantara, on Sunday, April 14 at 11:15 a.m. in Anderson Hall for a presentation on the fascinating religious beliefs, traditions, and ceremonies core to the "Island of the Gods" culture and society. Balinese Hinduism is

a mix of Hinduism with indigenous animist custom that integrates many of the core beliefs of Hinduism and Buddhism with the arts and rituals of the Balinese people. Learn how Balinese life revolves around ceremonies and community while exploring how their beliefs align with or differ from our own Christian faith.

Our Savior Community

Reflections from the March Women's Retreat

It's a GREAT time to be church!

We had a marvelous Women's Retreat in March, with rave reviews for Pr. Kristin-Luana's teaching sessions. Thank you to all who planned, supported, and attended the event. It really is a great time to Be Church!



Mark your calendars for the 2025 Retreat, scheduled for March 7-9. We are already beginning to think about how to carry the fellowship, fun, wonderful teaching, and spiritual renewal into another retreat.



Announcements about Memorial Services

- ◆ **The Celebration of Life for Bernice Jensen** will be on Wednesday, April 24 at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 8501 SE 40th St, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Bernice's daughter Loretta invites OSLC members to attend.
- ◆ **The Memorial Service for Jim Hooker** will be on Tuesday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the Tahoma Veterans Cemetery, 18600 SE 240th St, Kent, WA 98042.

Our Savior Community

Letter from the Christophersons, Retired Missionaries

March 18, 2024

Dear Pastor Kristin-Luana, Pastor Olaf, Presidents of the Council, Barbara and John, members of the council and faithful members of OSLC,

Henrik and I give thanks to God for the ministry of OSLC. We are so grateful that God led us to OSLC over forty years ago. We showed up in Redmond, WA from the Midwest, ready to go to the Lutheran Bible Institute as we prepared to travel to Peru as Lutheran missionaries. It was through a series of unexpected events that we were quickly invited to worship at OSLC. We didn't know it at the time, but at this church we would have two of our daughters baptized and later confirmed, we were commissioned and sent to Peru, we were prayed for and supported, and we received youth and adult mission groups in the thirty years we spent on the coast of Peru. OSLC was and still is our home congregation. We found a home and a family at OSLC. We are humbled and blessed. Thank you for all the ways you have been Christ's body for us!

We have also been grateful to follow the natural growth and service of OSLC in the Issaquah area. Our congregation has been used by God for some amazing things. Most times we don't always step back to appreciate all the wonders around us. Perhaps it is easier to see "from a distance" and appreciate what God is doing. We are grateful.

We left our home in Peru nine years ago on furlough, and expected to return after our furlough. And then there was a call to attend to numerous things. Yet the three congregations begun around the northern Peruvian city of Chiclayo are carrying on their ministry.

We are excited to see the ministry happening in one particular congregation. Eight miles east of Chiclayo is San Antonio de Pomalca (Jesus, Light of the World). This congregation was founded forty years ago by a literacy group focused on Bible reading and community outreach. God is still using these amazing brothers and sisters in Christ to love others in His name. Many of the OSLC youth mission trips to Peru worked alongside the San Antonio congregation. They can testify that they entered San Antonio as strangers, and left as family.

While this congregation is going strong, we have heard that the adobe bricks used to build the church building are beginning to crumble. Replacing the adobe brick with brick and building new cement footings has become more urgent in recent years as the El Niño rains hit the desert coast more frequently. With the help of fundraising

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Our Savior Community

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activities in the church and some outside donations, the new walls are starting to go up. About a year ago partners in ministry were presented the opportunity to come alongside these brothers and sisters so they can rebuild and continue to do ministry in that place.

Recently we have taken up their felt needs and come alongside them with a GoFundMe account for individuals who feel led to contribute to their project. It is listed as **San Antonio, Peru Church Repairs**. We want you to be aware that this is not intended to be a solicitation of funds to the OSLC congregation. No appeal letter will come to the congregation. But we write to inform you that this news of the congregation's rebuilding, and their GoFundMe page does have our names, and we want you to be aware of our thoughts, prayers and motives.

If you have any questions, please let us know and we will do our best to be attentive to your concerns.

Grateful partners in ministry,
Henrik and Patty Christopherson

If you'd like to donate, here is the URL for this GoFundMe campaign donation page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/san-antonio-peru-church-repairs>

Facebook post from Mark Mummy,
organizer of this GoFundMe campaign



During my many years at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Issaquah, Washington, a number of youth groups visited our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Chiclayo, Peru. I was blessed to be one of the adults on those visits! The church in San Antonio de Pomalca, in the sugar cane fields outside of Chiclayo, holds a special place in my heart. But now (thanks to the repeated onslaughts of El Niño), the adobe walls of that church are crumbling. Together with my good friends Patty and Henrik Christopherson and Larry Thomas, I have started a GoFundMe to help replace those walls with brick. I know there are lots of needs out there! But if this one calls out to you - please consider helping!



gofundme.com
San Antonio, Peru Church Repairs, organized by Mark Mummy

Come Worship with Us during Easter Season at 10 a.m.



Sunday, April 7: Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 14: Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter

In Person: Please continue to stay home if feeling sick, and receive Holy Communion in a safe manner.

Online: Sunday worship services are live-streamed at 10:00 a.m. A link to the service is published in the weekly email (sent with the bulletin), or you can click here: [Worship Live](#). If you try the link prior to 10:00 a.m. each Sunday, you may see the message "Video unavailable."

Services are recorded and posted to the [Our Savior YouTube Channel](#). If needed, pull down the menu under "Uploads," then click on "Past Live Streams," or go to our website at www.oslcissaquah.org.



Gather with us for fellowship and coffee hour each Sunday following worship. Coffee hour hosts are needed. You can sign up to bake/bring treats only, help with coffee, or sign up for both.

The sign-up sheet is located in Anderson Hall next to the kitchen pass-through window, and there are several folks happy to partner with you or walk you through the kitchen and teach you how it all works.



Northwest Washington Synod

The Spirit



Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

From the Bishop:

April 2024

In fifth grade, I started playing trumpet. This wasn't the instrument that I chose—it was chosen for me because my aunt had an old trumpet and my mom said, "If you want to be in band, you can use this trumpet." But even though I wanted to play the flute, the trumpet was definitely the instrument for me. I loved playing trumpet. I loved the sound, the way to make different notes with just three valves, using different mutes that produced complexity of tone. I loved to polish and clean my trumpet—especially when I received a new silver trumpet in high school. The only thing I didn't like was carrying it to and from school because of the big hill that we lived on.

In high school I was in both band and jazz band. In jazz band we traveled to many competitions—winning the Reno Jazz Festival one year. When I look back on my experience in band, I realize that there are so many things that I continue to apply in my life, and as part of the body of Christ, that go back to being in band.

First, you can't be a band on your own. If you play a solo instrument, that is lovely. But that isn't a band. There needs to be a group to form a band—it can be small or large—but an agreement that you are engaging with one another and playing music with one another leads to forming a band. If you are using music, the same music is important—also the same key and the same beats per measure helps. An agreement on how fast or slow the tempo is important. In short, community is needed for a band.

Second, you can't all play the same instrument. I mean, I love the trumpet—but a band of trumpets is one-dimensional (and can be very loud). I admit that as much as I love brass, you need more than brass to form a band. We have all heard brass quartets—but for a band, you need the saxophone, the piccolo, the clarinet, the drum, and so much more. Diversity is needed in a band.

Third, you can't drown out others. I speak as one who plays trumpet. Trumpets know how to be loud. And if trumpeters are not careful, they will hide the beauty of the other instruments. There is nothing more gorgeous than notes from an oboe coming from seemingly nowhere to fill the air with that wistful, haunting sound. In other words, listen for the woodwinds. A variety of sounds and voices are needed in a band—especially those that are more hidden.

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Northwest Washington Synod

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Fourth, harmony doesn't mean the same note. It would be boring if every single instrument played the very same note for every song in a band's repertoire. Our ears are tuned to hear melody, harmony, dissonance, and resolution. In a band, it is imperative that different notes are played—different rhythm patterns are introduced, and a play amongst the instruments happens. Harmony and dissonance are needed in a band.

Dear people of God, these four things are also needed in the church and in the world: Community, diversity, variety of sound and voice, harmony and dissonance. I invite you to think about your worshiping community. How are we all like a band? How can we be more intentional in these four areas?

Our composer and maestro is God—God is directing and leading us—in the music we co-create. May this spring awaken you in the beauty and grace of God. May the community in which you gather bring music in all its fullness.

✠Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee
bishop@lutheransnw.org



People who make music
together cannot be
enemies, at least while
the music lasts.

Paul Hindemith

ELCA: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton



“So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid.” That’s where the Gospel of Mark originally ended. And it just seems so odd to me. It's so abrupt. I mean, the women had seen the angel. He’d announced that Jesus was raised from the dead, and then he tells them all this good news and wants them to go on their way. And they just are not going to say a single word.

There are three words in that passage that really stand out for me, especially in the Greek. One is fear—*phobos*. We get phobia from that. The other one is amazement—*ekstasis*. We get ecstasy from that. And the other one has to do with being seized. It actually means “being possessed.” So we take a look at these women, and they’ve had this miraculous appearance by an angel. They’ve heard the good news that Jesus has raised from the dead, and they’re too afraid to do anything about it, and they just are going to be silent. It seems that nothing changed. They came to take care of Jesus’ dead body because on the Sabbath they could not work. But on the first day of the week, they were there. They have this announcement, and then it’s all the same.

Sometimes I think we feel like nothing’s changed. Sometimes I think that the events in our country, in our church, around the world are just so terrifying and so overwhelming that it seems like the resurrection really didn't make a difference. But these three words really say something about the women, and I think about us and, most especially, about Easter. When they said that they were filled with amazement—this is this ecstasy, *ekstasis*—they were really standing. It means literally standing in a different place. So though they were still in the tomb and they hadn't reacted yet, nevertheless, everything had changed. And because of the resurrection, we, all of us, are standing in a different place. The whole of creation is standing in a different place. And the word for fear, *phobos*, phobia we get from that. But it's really a sense of trembling in the presence of God, of awe that they were actually filled with awe— not paralyzed by fear but

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ELCA: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

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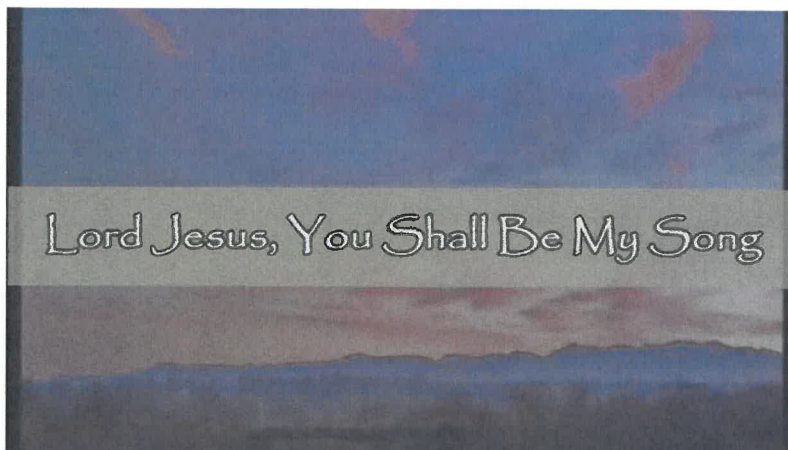
filled with awe. And I hope this Eastertide and all year round, we have a sense of the presence of God that fills us with awe.

And it also says that they were seized with fear. Well, the word means “possessed.” And yes, we believe that in baptism because of the resurrection, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit and we now are all Spirit-possessed.

When things seem to be staying the same, when things seem to be happening and coming at us so quickly, I think it’s very important to take time to be a little amazed, to be standing in a different place, to have a sense of this awe and trembling before the Lord, and to allow ourselves to be possessed by the Spirit, who will give us power and courage in these times.

My favorite hymn is “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song.” It’s ELW 808. And the last verse goes like this: “I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of his steps by my side. And with all of the family Jesus saved by his love, we’ll sing to his dawn at the end of our journey.”

Be well, dear church. Happy Easter.



Lutheran Counseling Network

Faith and Everyday Life April 2024

Audrey was a challenge. She came into Sunday school like a tiny tsunami—rushing around the room, disrupting lessons, hiding behind a barrier and distracting the other children. I responded as best I could, attempting to redirect her, enticing her into sitting with the others, setting boundaries with firmness and kindness. Nothing was working.

One day I watched Casey as she peeked under the barrier at Audrey, asking her to come out. “You can sit with me,” Casey gently invited. As the rest of us watched with amazement, Audrey crawled out from under the barrier. She sat right next to Casey. And later, in our prayer circle, she sat in the bigger girl’s lap.

Casey seemed to understand what Audrey needed; an invitation, an offer to stay close, a way into the community. Little by little, with Casey’s help, Audrey joined our class and began to participate. Later Audrey wrote this prayer: “To God, I open my whole self. To breathe (stet), to pray, to be holy (stet). Listen to God and be safe. You have the croge (stet) to do it. Amen.” Casey had opened a way for Audrey to come into our community and into relationship with God. And in her prayer, Audrey seemed to be opening the way for others. This is Jesus’ way of invitation.

Written by a staff member of Lutheran Counseling Network



OSLC in Our Community

These are the community organizations that use our church building for meetings, rehearsals, and trainings:



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA



Spirit of Peace
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



MASTER CHORUS
EASTSIDE
Feed Your Soul



New Creation Church
(Messenger Evangelistic Ministries Int'l.)





We remember in prayer . . .

Brooke Tando, who was born the morning of April 5, weighing 2.3 pounds and 9.4 inches long, **and her parents** (great niece of Sandy Aldworth); **John Pass**, who has been released from the hospital and is at Marianwood, **and his wife Jean and their family**; **Robin**, for health and wholeness (Marilyn Carlson); **Trina**, for full recovery from a stroke (Marilyn Carlson); **Mary Fricke**, for recovery from surgery for oral cancer; **Corinne and Kari**, for healing, comfort, and peace of mind (Sandy Aldworth); **Melinda**, for health concerns (daughter of Cheryl & Lou Neeb); **Our son Brett and his wife Talia**, strength and prayers for them as they care for their newborn twin boys (Chuck Bachman and Wendy Winslow); **Bob Johnson**, who is receiving treatment for cancer, **and his family**; **Gary Hanson**, for God's continued healing presence in his life; **Treasure Hinds**, who has completed chemotherapy and is on a maintenance program (daughter of Rowan and Barbara Hinds); **Shawn**, 26 years old, who has been diagnosed with stomach cancer (Holly Heckler); **Patty Gerde**, who fell and cracked her patella (kneecap); **Dianne Tanner**, for healing, strength, and peace through her ongoing treatment; **Diane Murff**, who is in a rehab center; **Guests of the Community Meals Program**; all affected by COVID-19.

Mourning the death of loved ones: **Bernice Jensen**; **Jim Hooker** (Dianne Tanner); **Rudolf G. Eberhardt** (Randall Webb); **Della Anderson D'Errico** (105-year-old mother-in-law of Suzanne D'Errico)

Healing and peace of mind: **Bob Beck**; **Lyle Lewis**; **Henrik & Patty Christopherson**; **Vern Lindquist**; **Jerry & Linda Nack**; **Marian James**; **Katie Moeller**; **Margot Inman**; **Dorothy Soland**; **Jeanne Kuipers**; **John Pass**; **Florence Kinnune**; **Sandy Aldworth**; **Jen Winslow**; **Larry Pruitt**.

Undergoing cancer treatment: **Mary Fricke**; **Lou Lovelace** (Dianne Tanner); **Baby Jack** (nephew of Bill Suttmeier); **Treasure Hinds** (daughter of Rowan and Barbara Hinds); **Bob Johnson**; **Dianne Tanner**; **John Hill** (Marilyn Carlson); **Jim Fricke** (son of Mary Fricke); **Kirsten Olshausen**; **Scott Paine** (Rowan Hinds); **Kip Hauser** (father of Cheryl Hauser); **Roger Stanley** (Alice Lewis); **Larry Harbolt** (Ray Harbolt); **Richard** (Debby Beck); **Marilyn Pro** (sister of Rick West).

Living with cancer: **Mike** (friend of Jane Wuest); **Gene Christianson** (cousin of Duane Jacobson); **My brother Roger** (Alice Lewis); **Chris Howe** (brother of Mark Howe); **Peggy Scalise** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Eileen Letts** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Sonja** (Dianne Tanner); **Gerald Welch** (Vern and Jeannie Lindquist); **Duane Jacobson**; **Mary Lewis** (sister-in-law of Lyle and Alice Lewis); **Suzanne Lewis** (daughter-in-law of Lyle & Alice Lewis).



Worship Readings for Sundays in April

Sunday, April 7: Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 14: Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Sunday, April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel: John 15:1-8



Worship Assistants for April Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.

Dates & Services	Assisting Minister	Usher	Altar Guild	Sound & Videography
Sunday, April 7: Second Sunday of Easter	Jen Winslow	Larry Thomas	Barbara Fetty-Solders	Jonathan Smith and Gabby Gibbert
Sunday, April 14: Third Sunday of Easter	Connie Fletcher	Sang-Beom Shim	Stacy Smith	Jonathan Smith and Tom Knollman
Sunday, April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter	Joan Friel	Bill Suttmeier	Jane Wuest	Jonathan Smith and Anne Ellett
Sunday, April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter	Anne Ellett	Don Robertson	Jean Pass and Delaney Cash	Jonathan Smith



Volunteer Coordinators

We're thankful for all our volunteers and for those who coordinate them!

- Altar Guild: Jane Wuest
- Ushers: Bill Suttmeier
- Memorial Bells: Alice Lewis
- Assisting Ministers: Jen Winslow & Cynthia Delaney
- Sound & Videography: Jonathan Smith

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 4/2 Doug Friddell
David Waggoner
- 4/6 Robert Bergquist
- 4/7 Jerry Nack
- 4/9 Michael Friel
- 4/14 Jonathan Smith
- 4/16 Linda Nack
- 4/20 Scott Coyle
Tanner Geraci
John Stamm
- 4/29 Ron Sordahl
- 4/30 Norma Byrkett
Marilyn Jewell



Anniversaries

- 4/1 Rowan & Barbara Hinds
- 4/16 Dick & Susan Ferrarini
- 4/24 Werner & Jan Hoeft
- 4/25 Paul & Carla Geraci



If your name is missing
from the birthday or anniversary list,
please contact the church office
so we can update our records.
We want you to be included!

April 2024

April 2024
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
 1 2 3 4 5 6
 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
 28 29 30

May 2024
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
 26 27 28 29 30 31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 31	Apr 1 3:00pm Companions Bible Study (online) 6:30pm Master Chorus Eastside (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	2 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	3	4 9:30am Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall) 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed) 12:00pm Together by 7:00pm Together by	5	6
7 9:30am SOP (Anderson Hall) 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 12:30pm New Creation	8 3:00pm Companions Bible Study (online) 6:30pm Master Chorus Eastside (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	9 1:00pm Community Meal Prep (Kitchen) 7:00pm Council Executive Committee 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	10 10:00am Issaquah Garden Club (Anderson Hall, Kitchen)	11 9:30am Mission Quilters 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed) 12:00pm Together by 7:00pm Finance 7:00pm Together by	12	13
14 9:30am SOP (Anderson Hall) 10:00am Worship (Scout Sanctuary) 12:30pm New Creation 3:00pm Spirit of Peace	15 3:00pm Companions Bible Study (online) 6:30pm Master Chorus Eastside (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	16 7:00pm Church Council (online) (Zoom) 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	17	18 9:30am Mission Quilters 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed) 12:00pm Together by 1:00pm Community 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	19	20
21 9:30am SOP (Anderson Hall) 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 12:30pm New Creation	22 10:00am Focus Newsletter Deadline 3:00pm Companions 6:30pm Master Chorus 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	23 6:00pm Global Missions Meeting (Anderson Hall) 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	24	25 9:30am Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall) 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed) 12:00pm Together by 7:00pm Together by	26	27 10:00am Master Chorus Eastside Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
28 9:30am SOP (Anderson Hall) 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 12:30pm New Creation	29 3:00pm Companions Bible Study (online) 6:30pm Master Chorus Eastside (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	30 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	May 1	2	3	4

Our Savior Lutheran Church

745 Front Street South
Issaquah, WA 98027
425-392-4169



Stay connected!
www.oslcissaquah.org

All articles and announcements for the next *Focus* edition
are due on the 22nd of the month.
Please email items to **office@oslcissaquah.org**.

OSLC STAFF DIRECTORY

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Pr. Olaf Baumann.....	Pastor
360-912-1830 (cell)	Pr.O@oslcissaquah.org
Cynthia Delaney.....	Parish Administrator
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Dr. Jiyoung Lee.....	Parish Organist
	jiyounglee23@outlook.com

Emergency Pastoral Care

For emergency pastoral care, please contact
Pr. Olaf Baumann at 360-912-1830 or
Pr. Kristin-Luana Baumann at 360-912-1245.