



April 2019

A MAN OF SORROWS

“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief” (Isaiah 53:3). I start with these words, because as we are in the middle of Lent and our series “The Gospel in Seven Words”, and before long we will be coming to the hardest moments in Jesus’ life. Thinking about how we are called to share the Gospel with those hurting, I thought it would be worth looking at Jesus’ own emotions and how we might point to them as a way to comfort others and let them know they are not alone. In the hardest moments of people’s lives; it can be easy to dismiss the sorrow and instead give empty platitudes such as, “You’ll get over it, just be positive” or “Stop being so negative.” As we look to Jesus and how he handled emotion we do not see someone stoic and removed from feeling but honestly brought what he was feeling to his Father and furthermore allowed others to work through their pain.



First off, if you think back to the message I gave called, “Death and Life” on March 24th you will remember the scene where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. Before he does this, he weeps for his friend and feels the grief of those around him. In the article “The Emotions of Jesus,” Wayne Jackson shares this about these tears and Jesus’ emotions, “John 11:35 poignantly states: “Jesus wept.” The Greek term for “wept” is dakruo, used only in this New Testament passage. It literally means “to shed tears.” It suggests a silent, tender weeping. The occasion of this touching scene is in connection with the death of Lazarus. Christ wept out of pure sympathy for those whose hearts were breaking at this time. John writes: “When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping who came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, and said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ (11:33-34). How comforting it is to know that our great High Priest really shares our feeling. If we would be Christ-like, we must learn to truly empathize with others.

Again, we see Jesus baring his soul as he approached the road to Jerusalem and the cross during Holy Week. Luke 19:41 says this, “As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it.” The word wept there is from the root word in the Greek klaio, and this would be an audible crying and lamenting over the imminent destruction of Jerusalem. Here he was in sorrow over his rebellious people who would soon crucify him. Then right before the betrayal, Jesus prayed by himself in Gethsemane; his raw emotion on display. Here it says he was deeply grieved or in other words exceedingly sorrowful to the point of death. He does not sugarcoat how he is feeling but is honest and allows us to be honest with him in our emotions. And this is something those around us who are hurting and broken need to hear. Let them hear that Jesus was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

At the same time, let us also not forget though that Jesus also felt the whole spectrum of emotions. He felt happiness, love, and joy! Psalm 16:9 prophesied about that joy Jesus had as it says, “Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices.” Then finally in Hebrews 12:2 we are reminded of why Jesus came in the first place. We also see the emotion he felt about why he came as we read, “**For the joy set before him he endured the cross**, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Just as Jesus rejoiced in the anticipation of the resurrection, let us do so as well. This Lent, with the joy of Jesus in our hearts, let us go forth to hold hands with those in sorrow.

In His Love,
Pastor Matt

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UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND WAYS TO SERVE

What Is a Sandwich?

RLC Quilters Ministry has plenty of ingredients; Fabric, Yarn and Batting to construct 'Quilt Sandwiches' for warmth and comfort in our local community and around the world. **Sister-in Christ, are you free or do you know a woman who would like to be of service with our group on first Wednesdays every month (except summer)? We'd love to have her join our little band this coming Wednesday at 9:30 until 11:30 am in Room 200, Upper Level.** Sitting tasks and comfortable table-height for tying yarn knots on quilt layers. Refreshment breaks. If you cannot come on a regular basis, come when you can!

Save the Dates

May 11, 2019 5:30 p.m. Pre-Mother's Day Eve Celebration

October 12, 2019 OKTOBERFEST Dinner & Auction Fundraiser both events held by LMSN at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Programs: Mach One Jazz Orchestra & Boeing Choir Concert

Thrivent members: the deadline for directing 2018 Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31, 2019. Visit www.thrivent.com and log in to designate to Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest, Resurrection and others.



Let's Fellowship!

Resurrection Family, Visitors and Newcomers, please join us in the gym Sundays after 8:00 am worship and Pastor Matt's class in Room 118 just outside the gym doors at 9:30 am.

Be encouraged to sign the Clipboard placed on table by the Glass Case in the Narthex/Foyer to provide treats for Fellowship Time. Some members eat breakfast at home or elsewhere so a minimum of 4-dozen small bites are adequate. Read Clipboard Simple Guidelines.

Sundays in April and May are open for sign-ups, thank you!

Questions: Meri Beck beck-m@comcast.net. Your help setting up and cleanup up is Key to this long-standing ministry!

Matching Fund Campaign

Lutheran Ministry Services NW is undergoing a matching fund program to add additional chaplaincy staff focusing outreach to jails and prisons in the Puget Sound area. Every dollar donated will double up to \$40,000.00 until May 31, 2019. Addressed LMSN envelopes are in the Narthex/foyer Glass case.

Call for Handtowels

Spring cleaning? Dark colored or patterned hand towels are always sought by LMSN Deaconess, Ruth Ann Shimoi for adult clothing protectors distribution during Care Center visits. Please mark your bag LMSN and place on top of the mailboxes. Thank you.

Mites for Missions

Lutheran Women's Missionary League/Lutheran Women in Mission has gathered Mite offerings since its founding in 1942. Like the parable of the widow's mites given in Mark 12:42, blessings abound for mission grants through LWML WA-AK District (75%) and LWML National (25%) monies collected. Watch for the Large Mite Box next to Room 107 for Mites deposits or checks made to Resurrection Women's Fellowship earmarked "Mites Fund" may be placed with Sunday offerings.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY APRIL 2019 ARTICLE

“Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out” (Deut 28:3-6).



This is God’s promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises blessing to His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their fruit of their work to prosper, whether from the ground or their wombs, their flocks or their herds. He will make them to prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there’s a catch. He would do this for Israel only “if you obey the voice of the Lord your God” (Deut 28:2b). If they did that, He would cause that “all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you” (Deut 28:2a).

If they didn’t obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn’t keep the commandments of the Lord and walk in His ways (Deut 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh, fulfilled the law for us – in our place and for our benefit; died for us – in our place and for our benefit; and is risen from the dead for us – in our place and for our benefit.

By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God is promised to us in Christ Jesus. It depends upon His work and not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and thereby it becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbor.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is not in order to receive blessings but because in Christ we already have.

It is with this in mind that we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (I Cor. 16:2).

WHY IS GOD HANGING OUT WITH THE WRONG PEOPLE by Chad Bird

As we continue to share different online devotional and educational resources this month we share with you <http://www.chadbird.com/>. The specific devotion is from September 2016, but as we go forth to share the Gospel in Seven Words it is a good reminder about who we are called to go hang out with. A bit about Chad. Chad is an author and speaker devoted to honest Christianity that addresses the raw realities of life. The Gospel is for broken, messed up people like himself. Whether he's writing or speaking, his focus remains on God's Good News for our world: that Jesus is the friend of sinners. He was willing to give his life that we might have freedom and forgiveness in him. And now here is the article:



Every day on the job as the Public Relations manager for Jesus would have been part comedy, part nightmare. The man was born without a political bone in his body.

For starters, he had poor taste in friends. Case in point: the Jews detested the money-hungry, backstabbing tax gougers, but Jesus marches right up to one of those traitors and says, "Follow me." He welcomed a zealot into his inner circle, even though those guys were the ancient equivalent of domestic terrorists.

He rubbed shoulders with women in the sex trade, Samaritan heretics, leprous pariahs, and other miscreants of society.

If when you hang out with dogs, you're gonna get fleas, then Jesus must have been crawling with them. He also couldn't keep his mouth shut. He gave a tongue-lashing to the most powerful men in the religious establishment. Many of his parables are the verbal equivalent of slapping the pope in the face. He called the religious elites nothing but attention-hungry, big-headed sons of Satan. Yet if Jesus had glad-handed these men, they could have been used to accelerate his career.



He even seemed to invite slanderous accusations against him. Because he hung out with the wrong crowd, his enemies mocked, "Look, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" (Matt 11:19).

Imagine if Zacchaeus posted on Jerusalem's Facebook a selfie with Jesus. The top dog among the tax-gougers with Christ at his dinner table. Oh, the outrage! The puritanical zealots would have been tweeting and blogging about it for months.

Jesus ruined his reputation by not only welcoming, but actively seeking out, the wrong people.

And I won't even go into the public embarrassment that must have ensued when he went berserk in the temple courts, upending tables, untying animals, and giving the crowd a tongue-lashing for transmogrifying his Father's home into a business.

From a PR perspective, Jesus sawed off any and every political limb he was sitting on.

From a career perspective, he was a failure.

From a religious perspective, he was a troublemaker.

From a streetwise perspective, he danced with death.

From a public relations perspective, he was a train wreck.

And from his Father's perspective, he could do no wrong.

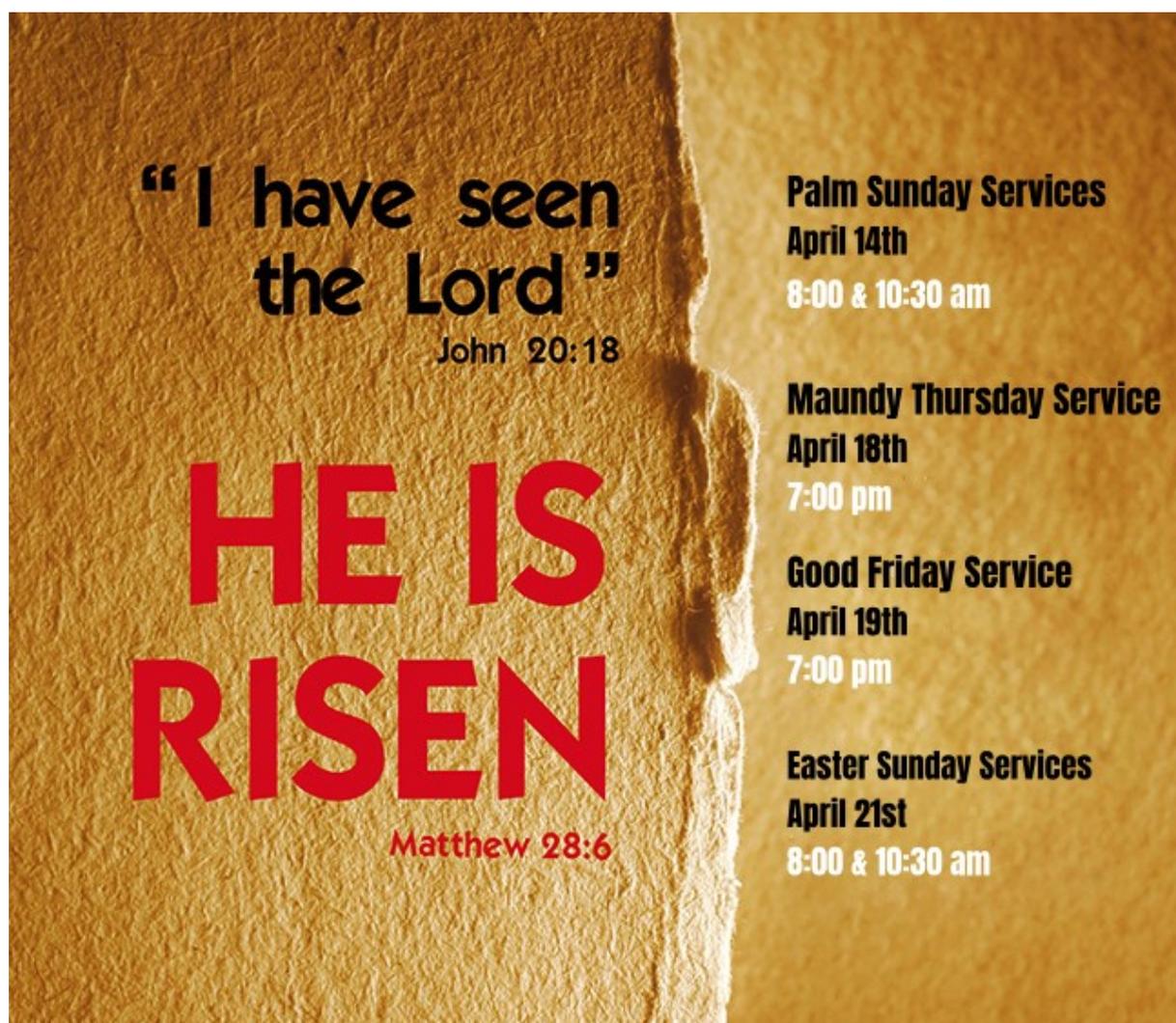
I never did care much for the WWJD question because Jesus is the poster child of unpredictability. If you ask me, "What would he do?" I'd say, "Probably what you would least expect." He would ruin his reputation among religious folk by hanging out with those with soiled reputations. He would speak hard truth when soft, white lies would make life easier. He would touch lepers; compliment prostitutes and insult priests; flaunt his freedom in the face of legalists; and eventually get himself so deep in trouble that he ends up in handcuffs, in court, and onto a cross.

The wisdom of God will always look like foolishness to men. He chooses ungodlike ways to bring ungodly sinners into his kingdom of losers who get everything by grace.

Jesus matches none of our expectations. Thank God he doesn't.

He befriends all of us, no matter who we are, no matter how ruined we are, no matter how good or bad we think we are.

He call us, one and all, to himself. And in him we become part of that motley crew of redeemed fools whom Jesus calls friends.



**“I have seen
the Lord”**
John 20:18

**HE IS
RISEN**
Matthew 28:6

Palm Sunday Services
April 14th
8:00 & 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday Service
April 18th
7:00 pm

Good Friday Service
April 19th
7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Services
April 21st
8:00 & 10:30 am

GOTTA DANCE by Steve Gruenwald



I enjoy dancing. If I'm at a wedding, my feet start moving under the table as soon as the music starts. At home, I'll turn up the tunes and dance while washing the dishes. It takes longer, but it's more fun (and the dishes get extra clean)! Music moves me, and dancing gets my heart beating and brings me joy.

You can imagine my delight when I saw the headline "The Dancing Brain" in a wellness newsletter. I knew that dancing was good exercise for the heart, but this article went further to include a study that showed that dancing is good for the brain. The details of the study were interesting: One group was engaged in dance lessons that required learning new steps and routines (such as the fox trot, cha-cha, swing, etc.). The other group performed aerobic fitness workouts that were repetitive and did not require learning new moves. Both groups saw increases in the brain area used for learning, long-term memory and directional thinking, but those that danced had greater increases. Dancers also had significant improvements in overall balance because their muscles were challenged more due to a wider variety of new movements.

What we draw from the study is that the benefits of dancing are greater for ballroom-style dancers than for those that routinely perform some other type of repetitive aerobic exercise. The results also mean that ballroom dancers have slightly greater health benefits than those who are more freestyle dancers. This doesn't mean we all have to start waltzing or tangoing around our family rooms. Many of us would have to purge some furniture to make room; otherwise shin, hip and leg injuries will greatly increase across the LCMS population!

Let's not lose sight of the greater point of the study: The health benefits of ANY type of dancing OR aerobic workout greatly outweigh not doing anything. Moving your body — whether you dance or walk or ride a bike — helps relieve stress, increases your "feel good" endorphins, burns calories, boosts your brain activity and strengthens your balance and coordination. So, go ahead and *dance this mess around; dance to the music; or dance the night away (as long as it's a safety dance)* — to whatever style of music moves you — *and if your mama don't dance, or you don't have red shoes*, don't let that get in your way. Your heart and brain will greatly appreciate it.

(Kudos to anyone who caught the references to the B-52s, Sly and the Family Stone, Van Halen, Men Without Hats, Loggins and Messina, and David Bowie.)

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2019
General Fund Opening Balance **42,057.76**

Income Sources

Source	Income
Envelope Offering ^(t)	15,708.00
Loose Offering ^(t)	279.00
Facilities Offset	400.00
Misc Receipts	21.16
Copies	-
Stock Sale	-
Interest ^(t)	73.07
FCEMR - Congregation Emergency Fund	-
FMEM - Memorial Fund	-
FSOCA - Social Action Fund (Thrivent)	7.00
FPUB - Publications	-
FTMP - Special Funds	-
FYOUTH - Youth Funds	-
Total Income	16,488.23

58,545.99**From Sinking/Special Funds**

From Funds	5.32
Total Unrealized Expenses	5.32

58,551.31**Expenses, Realized**

Category	Expense
District_Pledge	(803.00)
Salaries_and_Payroll	(8,684.11)
Administration2	(566.28)
Elders_and_worship	(1,538.79)
Congregational_Education	-
InHouse_Ministries	-
General_Maintenance	-
Utilities_Church	(1,259.17)
Utilities_Parsonage	(549.22)
Uncategorized	-
From_Special_Funds	(5.32)
From_Sinking_Funds	-
Total Realized Expenses	(13,405.89)

45,145.42**Expenses, Unrealized**

To Special Funds	(7.00)
To Sinking Funds	(2,838.01)
Total Unrealized Expenses	(2,845.01)

General Fund Ending Balance **42,300.41**



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WESLEY HOME NEEDS...

- ◆ Busy blankets
- ◆ Kids coloring books & crayons
- ◆ Yarn
- ◆ Picture & large print books
- ◆ Kids plastic toys (trucks, tools, cooking utensils)
- ◆ Paper & plastic dolls
- ◆ Dress-up & gardening gloves
- ◆ Bibles

If you would like to make a donation, leave it in the secretary office or give to Joan Thomas.

Want to volunteer? Call Joan Thomas (253) 315-9280