

April 2024

Pastor's Message

Easter did come early this year. Seldom do we celebrate Easter Sunday in March, but we managed to do so this year.

With April spring, many good things come but one good thing that will come to us is the continuation of the Easter Season after March—throughout April and beyond.

Here are some previews of Gospel readings that will come to us in the April Easter Season:

“But Thomas said to them [the other disciples], ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ (John 20:25).

Thomas had a hard time believing in the resurrected Jesus when he couldn't see the resurrected Jesus. How might we come to believe that Jesus—who was crucified and buried—has been resurrected?

“When he [Jesus] was at the table with them [two of the disciples], he took bread, blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him” (Luke 24:30-31).

Some disciples on the road met another person on the road and, later, when they broke bread with him, recognized that he was Jesus among them. How might we recognize Jesus among ourselves?

“[Jesus said] I am the Good Shepherd.” (John 10:1).

If Jesus is the shepherd of sheep, then we are the sheep that he shepherds—and promises to lead to Green Pastures? In other words, Jesus is the “Good Shepherd.” What does the promise that Jesus is the good shepherd mean for us?

On Easter Sunday on March 31st, we confessed, “Alleluia. Christ is Risen. He is Risen, Indeed.” In April and afterwards, we will continue to proclaim that Christ has risen—and listen to the Word of God that promises that Christ has risen.

Alleluia.

Pastor Leonard Hummel