

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

April Newsletter 2018

The GOOD NEWS

Contents

Lutheran Hymns

Congregation Announcements

Grulke Newsletter

April Calendar

Our Savior Lutheran Church – LCMS

2611 Lucas Street Muscatine Iowa 52761

Church Phone

Church Email

www.oursaviormuscatine.org

563-263-0347

oslcp@machink.com

LUTHERAN HYMNS

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:16, NKJV)

A hymn is the Word of God. These words conform to the Holy Bible to properly be called a Christian hymn. These words may then be set to music and sung.

Lutherans have long been known as the singing church. A hymn does not need to be written by a Lutheran in order to be called a Lutheran Hymn. A hymn is not an appeal to our emotions so that we feel closer to God. Although, this is often the fruit of a good Lutheran hymn. A hymn is not an appeal to our reason so that we think in a manner appreciated by the universities and academia. Although, clarity of thought is also a fruit of a good Lutheran hymn.

A good Lutheran hymn is faithful to the Word of God.

The following is a short list of core Lutheran hymns that are good for us to sing together on Sundays but also for us to sing and learn-by-heart in our homes with our families.

We need to know who stood up for the Scriptures and what they wrote in their hymns. Martin Luther was one of the great hymn writers, so his lesser known hymns should be used throughout the year:

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord! LSB 497. It teaches the efficacy of the Word. This hymn also reminds us that the Holy Bible interchanges the terms *Holy Spirit* and the *Word*.

Isaiah Mighty Seer. LSB 960; LW TLH . Is a great substitute for the Hymn of Praise.

Dear Christians One And All Rejoice. LSB 556. This hymn outlines the entire work of salvation, from despair under the Law to conversion through the Gospel, a beautiful portrayal of the work of Christ.

We All Believe in One True God. LSB 954 & 955 can be sung as a hymn version of the Creed

Paul Gerhardt is probably the greatest of all hymnwriters if we judge by the use of his hymns throughout Christendom. Perhaps Lutherans should embrace him as much as non-Lutherans:

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising. LSB 375; TLH 90; LW . These words begin a well-known Episcopalian Christmas service each year in England. A young boy's voice rings out with these thrilling words of hope and joy.

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth. LSB 438; TLH 142; LW . This hymn is based on John 1:29 telling the Passion story in simple, child-like words that are cloaked somewhat by the

translation. One vivid image is that of sitting in a little boat rocking back and forth, with Christ as the anchor, being able to sleep “serenely as on pillows.”

Upon The Cross Extended. LSB 453; TLH 171; LW . This hymn may be overlooked in favor of **O Sacred Head Now Wounded** but it is still a great Lenten hymn.

Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadows. LSB This is greatest of all evening hymns.

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me. LSB 756; TLH 523.

If God Himself Be For Me. LSB 724, TLH 528. This hymn and all the hymns in the Hope and Comfort section of LSB are good to sing on Sundays and to read as devotions with family anytime, since they strengthen faith and deal honestly with the problems of life.

Awake My Heart With Gladness. LSB 467; TLH 192. This hymn joyfully announces the meaning of Easter in the midst of trials and misfortunes.

He brings me to the portal
That leads me to bliss untold
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in script of gold
“Who there My cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died
Shall here be glorified. LSB 467:7

Matthias Loy was a 19th century pastor from Ohio who contributed in many ways to the Lutheran Church as a church leader, writer, and journalist. Here are two hymns that are helping us in our current Wednesday morning Bible studies on Law and Gospel:

The Law of God is Good and Wise. LSB 579; TLH 295. This hymn distinguishes between Law and Gospel clearly, showing the limitations of the Law and the blessings of the Gospel.

The Gospel Shows the Father’s Grace. LSB 580; TLH 297. It emphasizes the efficacy of the Gospel.

It is the power of God to save
From sin and Satan and the grave,
It works the faith, which firmly clings
To all the treasures which it brings. (LSB 580:4)

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Paul". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the closing "In Christ,".

CONGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU ARE IMPORTANT I am never too busy to meet with you, pray for you, or listen to you. I am working with the elders through the elder zones as a way to organize spiritual care for your soul. I may contact you when your elder is assisting me at the altar on a given Sunday. However, you may contact me anytime. If you call me, please leave a message. Your number may not appear in my caller id and I get many phone calls from national businesses who are using local Muscatine numbers to sell things to the church. So, please leave a message if I do not pick up. You may also email me at oslcp@machlink.com or text me at 563-554-4488. All calls and messages are forwarded to my cell phone. And yet, when I am driving or meeting with someone, I will delay my response (just trying to stay out of the ditch and as a courtesy to those I am meeting with). Please be patient. I will get back to you and joyfully deliver to you the gifts of God your Savior and mine. God bless you all. Pastor

POTLUCK SUNDAY AND GAMES ON THE 15TH The Board of Evangelism is hosting a potluck after Sunday School on Sunday, April 15th. The Board will provide a meat and cheese tray and the buns for 40 people. Please bring a dish to share. We will have board games after lunch. There is more information posted in the narthex. Thanks, Becky.

THE APRIL LWML MEETING will begin at **6:30 P.M.** starting with our mission project for the month cleaning our church kitchen. "He Lives/We Live" is our theme for the evening. The Ice Breaker is: How do you imagine you will act and feel when you see Jesus face to face? The opening devotion is titled "I Know that my Redeemer Lives", and the closing devotion is "Faith is...Living Life as a Procession of Triumph. Karen Denison will be our hostess and Karen Schaub will do the bulletin board. Altar for April is Cathy Sexton, Gina Schliesman - Communion Set-up and Kjirstin Osland - Communion Removal. All women of the congregation are welcome and invited to come. Thanks, LWML

LWML ZONE SPRING RALLY will be hosted by Our Savior, Fort Madison, IA on Saturday, April 28th. The theme of the rally is "Be Ready In Season and Out of Season". There is a poster on the easel with the details and a sign up sheet for you to add your name to if you plan to attend by April 23rd. Thank you, LWML.

WEEKLY UPDATES by email are available. If you would like your name added or removed, please contact Pastor Pautz and let him know. Also, **Following** and **Like** this congregation on **FACEBOOK** at <https://www.facebook.com/oursaviorlutheranmuscatine/> Pastor

THE GRULKES ARE GOING TO BOTSWANA, AFRICA

Counting Down The Days

Who knew packing could be so much fun?

April 17 is the day! We are so excited to share with all of you that we have purchased our plane tickets for Botswana and are getting ready to leave next month. Checklists are in full force at our house and we are taking our final steps towards being ready to fly out in just 21 days! As you can see, the packing is coming right along and compressing the stuff for the 7 of us into enough bags is quite a challenge.

We are also excited to share that **our commissioning service will be Sunday, April 8 at the 11:00 Room 211 service at [Christ Lutheran Church](#) in Lincoln, NE.** We are looking forward to celebrating with all of our friends and family as we prepare to be sent out by the people of God to serve in Botswana. **If you are in the area, we would love to see you there.**

As we approach our departure for Botswana with excitement, we are also thankful for the prayers and support of all of you who are a part of our ministry team. We could not have gotten to this point without you. Thank you for the prayers you say for us, the financial support you offer and the advocacy you do for our work in your local churches and communities. We are so excited for what God will do for the Kingdom through Bible translation in Botswana and can't wait to share the mighty works of His hands with you!

Support Update

Having plane tickets in hand and starting to think about how to keep 5 kids entertained on a 16 hour flight makes our departure sink in a little deeper. But we are so excited to be getting ready to leave! And as we prepare, we have been so blessed by your prayers and financial support. **Right now, our regular monthly support is at 93% of our goal!** Thank you to all of you who have supported us during this time of preparation for the field.

This might seem like the finish line for us when it comes to the financial part of our ministry, but it is really the starting line. Once we are in the field, we will need your continued generous support to help us plan for the future of our work in Botswana, not just to start these projects, but to see them finished and published. If you wish to also support us financially, you may mail a check made out to Lutheran Bible Translators with 'Grulke ministry' written in the memo line to Lutheran Bible Translators, P.O. Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020. God bless you all.

APRIL 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1 6:30 Easter Sunrise 07:15 Breakfast 9:00 Easter Service Elder John Organist Carolyn Acolyte - Greeter Graf	2 01:00 Sunnybrook 02:00 Homebound 04:00 Office Hours 06:00 Divine Service	3	4 06:30 Men's Group 09:00 Matins Service 09:30 Women's Group 04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	5	6	7
8 08:00 Absolution 09:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study 11:15 Elder Meeting Elder Bob Organist Sandy Acolyte Zara Greeter Graf	9 01:00 Sunnybrook 02:00 Homebound 04:00 Office Hours 06:00 Divine Service 07:00 Council Meeting	10 09:00 Circuit	11 06:30 Men's Group 09:00 Matins Service 09:30 Women's Group 04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	12	13	14
15 08:00 Absolution 09:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study 11:30 Potluck & Games Elder Seth Organist Susan Acolyte Zach Greeter Pautz	16 01:00 Sunnybrook 02:00 Homebound 04:00 Office Hours 06:00 Divine Service	17	18 06:30 Men's Group 09:00 Matins Service 09:30 Women's Group 04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Last Class	19 06:30 LWML	20	21
22 08:00 Absolution 09:00 Divine Service 10:30 Public Questioning Elder Joel Organist Mary Acolyte Kayla Greeter Husband	23 01:00 Sunnybrook 02:00 Homebound 04:00 Office Hours 06:00 Divine Service	24	25 06:30 Men's Group 09:00 Matins Service 09:30 Women's Group	26	27	28 LWML Zone Rally Hosted In <u>Fort Madison</u>
29 08:00 Absolution 09:00 Confirmation 10:30 Bible Study Elder Aaron Organist Joel Acolyte Mallory Greeter S. Francis	30 01:00 Sunnybrook 02:00 Homebound 04:00 Office Hours 06:00 Divine Service	31				

--	--	--	--	--	--	--