



EMMANUEL NEWS

April 2017

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From Fred Nairn

When I am privileged, as a relative outsider, to write and deliver a sermon in Emmanuel in Alexandria I have a pretty good idea who I will be speaking to, as the size and composition of the congregation doesn't change very much. When I am asked to write a short article for this Newsletter, however, beyond the regular worshippers in church, I have no idea who may be reading these words and that can make the writer somewhat circumspect. In other words, and put very plainly, I don't want to upset anybody.

This is a good rule for happy living – don't be controversial and you won't have to deal with controversy. However, in the words of the 19th century American poet and fighter for equal rights for his people, James Russel Lowell in his epic poem: "The Present Crises," "Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide/In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side ..." It seems to me that we have come to a point in our history when it is no longer good enough to get by being circumspect or cautious in fear that we upset somebody. Our nation is divided today in ways that it has not been divided for a century or more.

There are many ways in which we are divided – politically, economically, racially, socially and many of those divisions are deep and painful. These are not new divisions, however, and much labor and sacrifice has gone into the effort to bridge those gaps and heal those divisions and much progress has been made.

There is one division that seems to have opened up which is, if anything, more dangerous and more alarming than any of the others and that is the division between truth and falsehood. This, I believe, is the most dangerous division of all because it can seem comic at times, ridiculous at times, but it is always dangerous because it lulls a people into an easy acceptance of "Alternative Facts" when they

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Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

Pastoral Care: Contact Rev. Tom Sinning, Deacon at 612-720-0473

Support Staff

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Tim Johnson, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)

Sheila Stanton, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)

John Hull Jr. Warden ('17)

Verlie Sinning Treasurer ('17)

Mary Sinning ('17)

Rachael Sinning ('18)

Wendy Zander ('18)

Farren Morical ('18)

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Belvin Doebbert

Alternate: JoEllen Doebbert

should be standing for truth. Lying can never be right and lying can never be accepted. We train our children and youth to be truthful and to understand that if they lie there will be consequences. But now, new terms have entered the *lingua franca* of everyday life – “Fake News,” “Alternative Facts.” From the highest places of our social order, those who should be our betters and our most trusted figureheads cynically feed us lies with a smile on their faces and we accept them as if we were babes supping milk and honey. They are not milk and honey, they are wormwood and gall and must be resisted and called out for what they are. If we consider that as believers, we live by the Gospel and that the Gospel is, literally, Good News then Fake News is very bad news indeed and Alternative Facts are lies; Fake News is the very antithesis of the Good News of the Gospel and is, in fact, an evil in our midst. The purveyors of Fake News – lies, propaganda, let’s call them what they are, are undermining our democracy and our decency and whatever our political party or stripe, faith or none, lies are lies, evil is evil and must be challenged in every way possible, starting with ourselves – “Wait a minute, that’s not true ...” and moving on from there to condemn the purveyor of lies.

Lest we become too pessimistic I will finish with a short excerpt from a speech by Martin Luther King in which he references Lowell’s poem. His words seem rather apt for our present time.

“We shall overcome because Carlisle is right.” No lie can live forever.” We shall overcome because William Cullen Bryant is right. “Truth crushed to earth will rise again.” We shall overcome because James Russell Lowell is right. “Truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne. Yet that scaffold sways the future.” We shall overcome because the Bible is right. “You shall reap what you sow.” With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood (and sisterhood). With this faith we will be able to speed up the day when all of God’s children all over this nation - black {people} white {people} Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old negro spiritual, “Free at Last, Free at Last, Thank God Almighty, We are Free At Last.”





HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday – April 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Service of Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday with Agape Supper – April 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service with Stations of the Cross – April 14 at Noon

Easter Sunday – April 16 at 10:00 a.m.

Service of Holy Eucharist

Please plan to take advantage of these worship opportunities! Ask a friend to join you!!

April Birthdays

Trappier Botz
Don Hultstrand
Karen Reicks
Verlie Botz
Patty DenHartog
Belvin Doebbert

Anniversaries

Mike & Amanda Baas

Remember in Your Prayers: All clergy serving Emmanuel - Bishop
Brian Prior - Jana & Charles Preble – Don & Ann
Hultstrand – Laird Barber - Hunter – Cleone
Sherman - John – Mike & Lana – Jim – Dana – Al
Weinmann Family – DeAnn Runge - Law En-
forcement Officers - Military Personnel - Peace in
the World - The Food Shelf, Volunteers & all who
use it - Total Ministry Team - Heartland Girls
Ranch



Senior Warden Report April, 2017

Happy April! It feels to me that we have just completed the Advent and Christmas Season! Depending upon how each person perceives time, I guess in a way we have. However, I find it difficult to believe that it has been over 10 weeks since that portion of the Church Year!

We now find ourselves in the Season of Lent and fast approaching that of Easter. Aside from the normal observances of Sunday, other services and activities are well under way. On the Wednesdays leading up to Holy Week, we have been having the Service of Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. Tom has been leading us in an adult forum/study entitled “God for Us – Rediscovering the Meaning of Lent and Easter” immediately after and it has been a very good experience! I personally have been appreciating this as it has been assisting me to keep up the discipline of daily devotion and study during this time of the year. In addition, the content has been enlightening and meaningful.

Even though the Wednesday services and study will be soon drawing to a close for this season, Holy Week brings its own opportunities. This time will begin with the Palm Sunday Eucharist and other services will commence later that week. On April 13th, an Agape Supper will take place at 6:00 p.m. in observance of Maundy Thursday. Stations of the Cross will be held at noon on Good Friday, the 14th. Finally, we will celebrate Easter Sunday on the 16th with the Service of Holy Eucharist. Please consider inviting a friend to join you in taking part in these events!

You may notice that we do not have a Hymn of the Month for April. As was the case with Advent and Christmas, this month’s change from Lent to Easter made it difficult to find a hymn appropriate to both times. We will resume this project in the upcoming months.

One fast coming event that I would like you to keep very much in mind is our annual Salad Supper which will be held on May 9th from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Karen has generously agreed to chair the event once more this year. This is a major fund raiser for Emmanuel . . . Please be willing to help out with this occasion in any way that you are able! As always, we will need people to provide salads. We will also need people to work in other areas as well. That is, set-up, kitchen/beverage, bussing tables, clean-up, and so on. Please talk to Karen with regard to what you can do to help make this year’s supper a success!

Spring is officially here! Well . . . According to the calendar and hours of daylight, that is. I’m certain that I am not alone in looking forward to spending more time outdoors in warmer temps!

Wishing you a Blessed Easter and a Happy Spring!
Tim Johnson, Co-Senior Warden



Lectionary Readings for April

April 2

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45
Psalm 130

April 9



The Liturgy of the Palms
Matthew 21:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

April 13

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Psalm 116:1, 10-17

April 14

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 10:16-25
or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42
Psalm 22

The Liturgy of the Word
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14- 27:66
or Matthew 27:11-54
Psalm 31:9-16



April 16

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43
or Jeremiah 31:1-6
Colossians 3:1-4
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
or Matthew 28:1-10
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Position	April 2	April 9	April 13	April 14	April 16
		<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Easter</i>
Priest	Fred Nairn	Linnae Hegg	Linnae Hegg	Fred Nairn	Dana Emery
Organist	JoNette Brogaard	Mertice Brueske	<i>No Organist</i>	Nancy Anderson	JoNette Brogaard
Lector 1	Mark Reicks	Wendy Zander	Karen Reicks	Wendy Zander	Mark Reicks
Lector 2		Mark Reicks	Wendy Zander	JoEllenDoebbert	JoEllen Doebbert
Altar	KarenReicks	Tim Johnson	Karen & Tim	Karen Reicks	Karen Reicks
S School	Verlie Sinning	<i>No Sunday School</i>	-----	<i>No Sunday School</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>
Coffee		Wendy & Cleone	<i>Agape Supper</i>		-----

Position	April 23	April 30
Priest	Charles Preble	
Organist	Nancy Anderson	Laurie Kreuger
Lector 1	Wendy Zander	
Lector 2	Farren Morical	Wendy Zander
Altar	Tim Johnson	

April 23

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a,22-32
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31
Psalm 16

April 30

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a,36-41
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35
Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

Emmanuel Episcopal Church



SALAD SUPPER

Tuesday, May 9th

4:30 PM – 7 PM

LAKE STREET & 12TH AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA, MN

TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE DOOR, OR CALL
320-763-3201

ADULTS \$6
CHILDREN \$4
(AGES 5 - 12)



April

Address service requested

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