



BLESSED SACRAMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“And He said to them, This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” — St. Mark 14:24-25

Dear Saints,

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Jubilate) 25 April 2021
St. Mark, Evangelist

I find myself reflective this week regarding the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord. It came about through, in some ways, very typical circumstances. A very aged woman died Wednesday. Jane, mother of Pam Indahl and mother-in-law to Berne. She was 99, a mother, grandmother, and greatgrandmother.

Already a baptized Christian, she converted to Lutheranism for the sake of her husband who preceded her in death by some twenty years. All of that strikes me as pretty normal stuff. But it is in what was so pedestrian that the Lord's faithfulness was so clearly manifest. It really begins with the attentiveness of Pam and Berne. They took Jane out of her care facility and into their home during Covid lockdowns. Jane would then be surrounded by the friendliest, most loving faces over the next year. And she would see and could see their faces. Pam and Berne established a normal world around Jane.

Pam was ever by her mother's side. She took on the vocation of caregiver 24/7, but more than that — she was a dutiful and exemplary daughter, day after day showing the love of God in Christ. I should desire such a death. The touch of my beloved child; hymns sung into my ears; prayers, Scripture, familiar smells and sounds.

There is no peaceful death outside of Christ. Through Holy Baptism we are united to the One who wins for us peace with God, who alone is truly worthy of fear ... and love. Reconciled to God the Father through the Son, we have nothing to fear, not even death itself. But that isn't enough for our promise-making, promise-keeping God. Not only is there victory over death but there's deliverance through death and, supremely, resurrection from the dead on the Last Day.

This brings me to another mother, Valerie. She has abided patiently for opportunities to advance her catechesis, with Michael and the boys cheerfully accommodating. Having been baptized into the life of the one and only Triune God, she will now receive a First Holy Communion — the medicine of immortality, indeed, the Bread of Life that is Christ Jesus himself. This manna from heaven of Christ's flesh and blood will sustain her through this earthly sojourn and nourish her spirit for eternal life. It'll be from this Sunday forward that Valerie will always have recourse to the food that sustains the people of God until life everlasting.

In the Lord's goodness and faithfulness, He has put exemplary women around us for the betterment and strengthening of our parish. Praise be to God.

***Fourth. Sun. of Easter** 25 April. Color: White. *Jubilate* is also St. Mark, Evangelist. Processional 483; Kyrie; This is the Feast. Hymn of the Day 677; Psalm 147 chanted responsively during distribution; No Distribution Hymn; Post-Communion Cantic: Thank the Lord; Recessional 633. Sermon: John 16, “No Fight Club.”

***Fifth. Sun. of Easter** 2 May. Color: White. *Cantate*. Kyrie; This is the Feast. Psalm 66 chanted responsively during distribution; No Distribution Hymn; Post-Communion Cantic: Thank the Lord; Sermon: Pastor Jon Krentz.

Catechesis. Sundays for all from 1400 - 1445: “Where Heaven and Earth Meet.”

Session 6: Where God Dwells

*** NO AUGSBURG ACADEMY 2 and 9 MAY. MASS AT 3PM.***

UPCOMING:

Apr. 25	Fourth S. of Easter (Jubilate)	Is. 40:25–31 or Lam. 3:22–33	Psalm 147:1–11	1 Peter 2:11–20 or 1 John 3:1–3	John 16:16–22
or	St. Mark, Evangelist	Is. 52:7–10	Psalm 146	2 Tim. 4:5–18	Mark 16:14–20
May 2	Fifth S. of Easter (Cantate)	Is. 12:1–6	Psalm 66:1–8	James 1:16–21	John 16:5–15

- (1) Rev. Jon Krentz from Augustana Lutheran Church, Moscow, ID, will preside for Mass at Blessed Sacrament 2 and 9 May, while Pastor Bombaro completes his annual training duty on the East Coast. Please greet Pr Krentz warmly and aid him as he graciously serves our parish.
- (2) **Thursday 13 May @ 6pm, Ascension Mass.** Pr Bombaro presiding.
- (3) Logos & Lager men’s theological “pub” night will take place at the Bombaro home on Friday 14 May @ 1900. Thus far we have about 15 commitments.
- (4) *Confirmation Catechesis 4:30pm resumes Thursday 27 May at CCA.* (Pr is away 6, 13, 20 May.)
- (5) Acolyte Training will take place at the Church, Saturday 15 May @ 0830-0930am. Parents are welcome to attend.
- (6) Our Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, who is making a recovering from Covid, will be visiting Blessed Sacrament Sunday 6 June. He will formalize the recognition of Blessed Sacrament. Pastor Bombaro will preach and serve as the Celebrant.
- (7) Listen to Pastor on Issues, Etc.: “Preaching as Divine Self-Attestation.”
- (8) Upon the Drake’s return at the end of May, we will transition to Divine Service III.
- (9) Beginning the first Sunday in June, we will move to a summer schedule with Augsburg Academy. We have a consensus thus far. Now for agreement on the times: proposing Augsburg Academy at 4 or 5pm, Mass at 5 or 6pm? Please let Nathan, David, or Pastor know your thoughts.

<https://issuesetc.org/2021/04/22/1122-preaching-as-gods-testimony-dr-john-bombaro-4-22-21/>

And/or read his article following Good Shepherd Sunday:

<https://www.1517.org/articles/good-shepherd-shepherding-well>

Gratefully yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor John