



SHARING THE LIGHT

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.

April 2021 Publication of **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**



Easter is our identity

Scripture calls us to identify and attach ourselves to our Lord's death, burial, and resurrection.

Our cluttered lives can, easily, push away the eternal significance of our baptism.

Our baptism is "the pearl of great price". We can "sell everything" and cling to this forever pearl.

Romans 6:3 (English Standard Version – ESV)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We are folded into the work of Jesus, we are united to Him in our absolute forgiveness.

Romans 6:4

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

We do not work in our own strength, Jesus has given us a new birth, a newness of life; we have been raised with Him. We confess our sins because we know that if we humble ourselves, God will lift us up.

Romans 6:5

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Have you put your resurrection on your calendar? Is your long range goal, your very own resurrection into the presence of our Lord? Carry Easter with you moment by moment.

Love,
Pastor Scott



April 2021

Gatherings:

Good Friday Worship, Friday, April 2, 1:00 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 3, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Worship, Sunday, April 4, 8:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast, Sunday, April 4, 9:45 a.m. (no charge)

Mission Development Team, Monday, April 5, 1:30 p.m.

Friends in Deed's Van loading, Friday, April 9, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service, April 11, 8:30 a.m.

April 18, 8:30 a.m.

April 25, 8:30 a.m.

Board of Directors, Sunday, April 18, 11:00 a.m.

Major Leaguers is cancelled until further notice.

Tuesday Bible Class, every Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m. in Fellowship Room

Saturday Prayer Group, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This group is, currently, meeting via the telephone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to participate.



April Birthdays

Susan Swanson

April 8

Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??

If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included, please share your email address with Church Administrator at admin@firstlutherantc.org, or call: (626) 287-0968 and leave a message.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Scott Ganas at: (951) 795-8162 or
Board of Directors Chairman, Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.

Electronic Newsletter: Let the Church Administrator know your email address if you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter via email at: admin@firstlutherantc.org.

Burn the Mortgage!

Since October 2017, \$33,622 has been donated to the principal of our “Burn the Mortgage” campaign. Some gifts have been more than \$2000 others have been less than \$100. Each gift brings us closer to the goal of paying off the mortgage so that more funds can be used for ministry. Thanks to the members who contributed \$450 this month bringing the balance to \$161,191. Perhaps we can bring the balance down to below \$100,000 before 2022. You can give to this effort by designating on your envelope “mortgage.”



Friends in Deed

We continue to bring food items to take to Friends in Deed in Pasadena. The next delivery will be April 9. Especially needed are shelf stable items such as soups, stews, canned meats, pastas, pasta sauces, and cereals. When I shop, I like to include double of some things I buy for my family. Instead of one box of cereal, I will buy several and donate the extras. The pantry

ministers to the working poor, those challenged with losing their job due to the pandemic, and helping some clients to remain in their homes with rent assistance, thus avoiding homelessness.

Worship At Home Opportunity

If you are unable to attend worship services there are several options that are available. One possibility for those who have Direct TV, you can select Channel 377 and view Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays.

The service goes through Confession and Absolution, a shortened liturgy and a sermon. Different choirs and music groups are featured. The presentation is about 30 minutes or less. If you have a computer you can view the program at any time by going to the Worship Anew website. Another possibility is to listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at 8:00 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday.



You can also listen to sermons from the archive on our church website at:

<https://firstlutherantc.org>



Saturday Prayer Group

This group has been meeting and praying for about 20 years. Many joys, sorrows, and challenges have been shared. We praise God for answered prayers knowing God always hears and answers according to His will, at the best time, and for our benefit. God loves to hear us talk to Him. Currently, we pray via the phone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to join us. (626) 355-9433

Jeremiah 33:3 “Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.”

Mission Development Team

What an amazing experience for the Mission Development Team to be surprised by the number of families that attended the community Easter Egg Hunt on March 27. We had planned for 24 youngsters to attend on the two Saturdays. Approximately 40 children arrived with their families throughout the event held between 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Four youth from church families, and 7 to 8 Boy Scouts from



Troop 174 were there to hide the paper eggs and assist. Also, there were seven church members who helped. After our goody bags were all handed out, we took addresses and then delivered their bags to their home. One family plans to come back; and the father asked what time he should come to help with the next event. It was a joyful occasion as we realized that our field/facilities could be utilized by us to reach out into the community to bring about fellowship and family times, keeping in mind that God wants us to serve and to share His love.

We hope to plan a Mother’s Day celebration in May. Join us as we work to see how God uses us to impact our neighborhood and community. We will be meeting on Monday, April 5, at 1:30 p.m. Come join us and share your ideas. Contact Jo Tschopp for further information. (626) 355-9433



Tuesday Bible Study

This small but eager group of Bible students will soon complete their study of 2 Samuel. King David is now an old man and ready to pass on the kingdom to one of his sons. There is jealousy and intrigue as sons, political and religious leaders, begin to take sides as to who to support as the new king of Israel. Studying the scriptures gives us

insights into the challenges we face today. You can join us each Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. For further information, contact Oscar Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433.



Continuing our outreach in the community, the Mission Development Team recently walked our neighborhood to distribute clear bags containing a flyer and a small gift. The flyer invited everyone to bring their kids to our Easter Egg Hunt on March 27 or April 3 between 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and also welcomed them to attend our Easter worship service on April 4 followed by a free Easter breakfast.

The gift was a gladiolus bulb, symbolizing the new life Jesus brought us through His Easter resurrection. The flyer contained instructions on how to grow the bulb into a beautiful flowering plant.

Many thanks to First Lutheran members who donated plastic eggs, candies and other goodies for the Egg Hunt. And, thanks in advance to our wonderful Easter breakfast chefs and servers!

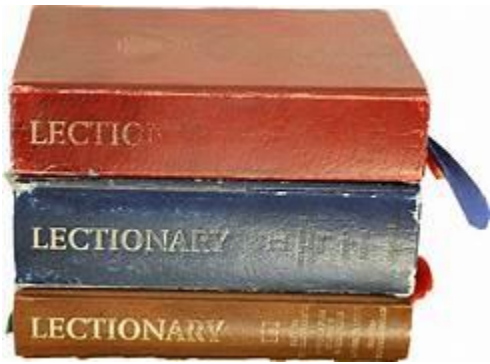
We encourage our First Lutheran family members to come to the Egg Hunt to greet our neighbors, and to make them feel at home at Easter Worship and the Easter breakfast.

Praying for Easter blessings and joy to everyone –
Your Mission Development Team



Community Prayer Box

Our community prayer box is checked daily. The requests are shared via our Internet prayer chain. Some of the requests have been very moving. There are many hurts in the neighborhood. I am touched that the people who leave the requests value prayer. God does hear our prayers and He will respond.



Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for April as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospel during the Transfiguration of our Lord to the several weeks in Lent.

	<u>First Reading/ Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
April 4	Psalm 16:1–11		Romans 15:8–13	John 20:1–18
Easter Sunday				
April 11	Acts 4:32–35	Psalm 148	1 John 1:1–2:2	John 20:19–31
April 18	Acts 3:11–21	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1–7	Luke 24:36–49
April 25	Acts 4:1–12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16–24	John 10:11–18



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive on March 18, 2021. We had 22 donors who came and gave blood.

Judy Gunther
Board of Directors' President

Thank You Note from Mina Good

“Dear Friends at First Lutheran: I want to thank you for all the “Get Well” wishes, cards, and prayers. I am home from the hospital and working at building my strength back. All of you have helped me keep a positive attitude.

I hope all of you are well. Thank you again.

Love,
Mina Good and family”

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

9123 Broadway
Temple City, CA 91780

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

April, 2021

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

9123 Broadway

Temple City, CA 91780

Office Phone: (626) 287-0968

SONshine House Preschool: (626) 285-3380

E-Mail: admin@firstlutherantc.org

Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor

Elvia Ibanez, Preschool Director

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Holy Communion every 1st & 3rd Sundays only

9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday