



# Peace Notes

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA

Volume 25, Issue 4 | APRIL 2020

## Being God's Hands and Feet

We love being together as a church, but we are called to love the world more. For now, Peace is going to hold online worship and activities as a way of loving the world that God loves, by not putting more people at risk. This will continue as long as needed as we follow the guidance of the smart and caring people at the CDC and MN Dept. of Health.

Updates will be posted on our website, Facebook page and sent to you via email. You can sign up for the emails at [Peaceofplymouth.org/news-events](https://peaceofplymouth.org/news-events) under the "Weekly eNews" tab.

### Live Stream Worship

Live stream worship and watch previous services by going to [Peaceofplymouth.org](https://peaceofplymouth.org) and clicking on the "Worship - Live Stream - Videos" button.

### Small groups via Zoom

Until we resume normal activities, all small groups and forums will be available via Zoom. Visit [Peaceofplymouth.org](https://peaceofplymouth.org) for schedule and instructions.

These changes are disrupting our daily lives in many ways and disrupting ways we have been church. One of those ways is Peace's ability to receive our gifts, and those gifts are essential for carrying out ministry plus supporting ministries in our neighborhood and world. Thank you!

At [peaceofplymouth.org](https://peaceofplymouth.org) you will find a button for "Online Giving" to support Peace's ongoing work and you can also financially support Interfaith Outreach's response to COVID-19 in our community. And if it works best for you, mailing your gift to Peace is still an option. Thank you! Your financial support makes ministry happen!

Many of you have asked, "How can I help?" Connecting with people via phone, text, even letters is powerful. Connect with your family, friends and people you know that might need to hear a friendly voice. We are church and will continue to be God's hand and feet.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor Kjell

Connect with your family, friends and people you know from church or your neighborhood that might need to hear a friendly voice. We are church and will continue to be God's hand and feet.

Pastor Kjell

We are in this together and look forward to seeing you online.  
Please watch for emails and updates about future events and activities.



# Holy Week

All are welcome!  
Invite your friends, family  
and neighbors to experience  
Jesus' death and resurrection.

## LENTEN RECAP



And Who is My Neighbor? Talking about Race and Racial Equity. This thought-provoking series inspired many to action in their communities and workplaces. Share your story of action at [peace@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:peace@peaceofplymouth.org) or on Facebook at Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth.

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP AT PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*The following services will be live-streamed  
at [Peaceofplymouth.org](http://Peaceofplymouth.org)*

<b>Palm Sunday, April 5</b>	<b>9:00a</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday, April 9</b>	<b>6:30p</b>
<b>Good Friday, April 10</b>	<b>6:30p</b>
<b>Easter Sunday, April 12</b>	<b>9:00a</b>

## PALM SUNDAY FAIR: RESURRECTION GARDEN

Join the fun after worship as we celebrate Palm Sunday! Families, couples and individuals are all invited to experience the stories and symbols of Holy Week while creating their own table-top Resurrection Garden. The gardens will be planted and will grow over Holy Week, revealing a beautiful grass covered garden for Easter morning.

You can still join us, please send an email to Melissa at [anniebonow@gmail.com](mailto:anniebonow@gmail.com) so we make sure to have enough supplies on hand. There is a suggested donation of \$5 to help cover the cost of the materials.

The garden materials will be packaged and available for pick-up at Peace on Sat. April 4 from 1 pm, - 3 pm. We will be creating these gardens virtually via Zoom and a link will be posted on [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org) prior to April 5. Questions? Email [anniebonow@gmail.com](mailto:anniebonow@gmail.com)

# HOLY WEEK DAILY DEVOTIONS

Enrich your Holy Week with these devotions for individuals or families.

## **April 5, Palm Sunday**

**Mark 1:1 - 3:12**

**Q:** Jump from Jerusalem to 2020: What do we celebrate as having the potential to save us? Celebrities, political figures, athletes, technology? What do we do when we are disappointed in our hopes?

**Prayer:** God, keep our attention on those things that nurture life and lead us to greater fellowship with you and with each other. Amen.

## **April 6, Monday**

**Mark 3:13 - 6:6**

**Q:** Where do we see hostility and betrayal in our world? Is there anything that would be worth it to you to betray a friend? What small betrayals have we been ensnared by, and how can we make amends for them?

**Prayer:** God, prevent us from allowing our bitterness or disappointment to lead us to harm others whether in thought or deed. Amen.

## **April 7, Tuesday**

**Mark 6:7 - 8:21**

**Q:** What difference does the Lord's Supper make in our lives? Does the meal we share on Sunday nourish our lives in the world? If so, how? If not, how might it? When have you last seen someone who needed a tangible expression of God's love? How can you help that person realize how precious they are to God?

**Prayer:** God, thank you for the gift of your own body and blood. Let that gift strengthen us in the knowledge that you love us more than anything. Amen.

## **April 8, Wednesday**

**Mark 8:22 - 9:29**

**Q:** What strengthens us to keep faith with those we care about? What tempts us to abandon them? Where have you felt abandoned? Where do you need the support of good friends? Who needs you?

**Prayer:** God, protect and preserve us in this world that we might keep faith with the promises and responsibilities we have undertaken, and when we feel alone remind us that you understand and are with us. Amen.

## **April 9, Maundy Thursday**

**Mark 9:30 - 10:52**

**Q:** Where do you see the struggle for power and the easy resort to defamation and violence in our world today? In what ways does fear poison our relationships at home and at school, work and in the larger world? What one thing would you ask God to change about your life or the world? How can you contribute to making that happen?

**Prayer:** Use us, God, as instruments of peace in a world too often broken by violence and a thirst for power. Amen.

## **April 10, Good Friday**

**Mark 11:1 - 12:44**

**Q:** How does Jesus' death tell the truth about our lives and world? How does it give us hope? Where do you see God still at work to redeem and preserve creation? Where do you long to see God?

**Prayer:** God, on the cross you suffered the very depths of our human life, even to the point of death. When we see the cross, let us remember that you become one of us and endured all elements of life to show us your great love and to give us hope. Amen.

## **April 11, Holy Saturday**

**Mark 13:1 - 15:47**

**Q:** What needs resurrecting in your life? What makes it hard to turn this over to God and trust that God will bring you too, through death to new life?

**Prayer:** Lord God, remind us of your presence with us when we stumble, suffer, or are afraid in any way. Give us strength, courage, and peace, and help us to be an encouragement. Amen.

## **April 12, Easter Sunday**

**Mark 16:1-18**

**Q:** Celebrate! Easter is a time of joy. How does the joy of new life break into your everyday callings? How do you choose joy in your living?

**Prayer:** Lord God, thank you for the joy and abundant life you give us. Amen!

# PEACE BEING CHURCH



## LIVE STREAM WORSHIP

9:00 am Sunday

6:30 pm Wednesday

Peace members and Pastor Kjell leading worship via live streaming.

## ZOOM SCHEDULE

Go to [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org) for Bible study and small group meetings schedule.

Michael Sorenson in worship using his large screen TV.



The Lukis' family Communion table.



# Updates & Notices

## THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

Members of Thrivent have access to two \$250 Action Team Grants per year. So far in 2020 Peace has used three of these. Two were used for the Dominican Republic trip, one to purchase all of the Kids Club supplies and the other for devotional books the team used. The latest project gathered books that told stories about race and racial equality. Do you use Thrivent? What fun things could your grants do?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have prayer requests you can send them to [prayer@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:prayer@peaceofplymouth.org) and they will be added to the prayer chain email. If you would like to receive the prayer chain emails, sign-up under "News & Events" at [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org)

## DAY CAMP AT PEACE!

Registrations are open for summer Bible camp in June! Sign-up at [www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org). Click on "Ministries," and then the "Retreats & Camps" tab.

Day Camp at PEACE



## BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA ADVENTURE

August 30 - September 5, 2020

Are you interested in a faith-forming adventure? Join Pastor Kjell for five days of canoeing, communion with nature, and songs around the campfire.

Email [kjell@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:kjell@peaceofplymouth.org) by April 12 for more information.

Members Canoeing



Peace Notes is a monthly newsletter.  
Deadline for submissions  
is the 5th of the month

### Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Lead Pastor ..... Rev. Kjell Ferris  
Minister of Music ..... Stefanie Fiser Kleven  
Organist ..... Anne Phillips  
Childcare Specialist ..... Serena Galatz  
Office Manager ..... Chris Bacon



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## THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED.

YOU CAN REACH CHRIS BACON AT  
[CHRIS@PEACEOFPLYMOUTH.ORG](mailto:CHRIS@PEACEOFPLYMOUTH.ORG) OR AT 612-386-8013.

PASTOR KJELL CAN BE REACHED SUNDAY-THURSDAY  
AT [KJELL@PEACEOFPLYMOUTH.ORG](mailto:KJELL@PEACEOFPLYMOUTH.ORG)  
OR AT 763-571-2919 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY 24/7.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Want an announcement into the weekly bulletin?  
Email [chris@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:chris@peaceofplymouth.org) by Tuesday 5pm.  
Want an announcement into the monthly newsletter?  
Email [chris@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:chris@peaceofplymouth.org) by the 5th of  
the previous month.



Pastor Kjell

## LARGE GROUP SERVICE PROJECT

Sunday, May 3, 10:00a

During the vocation and the environment series, you are invited to action and to help clean up Peace and the neighborhood! There will be activities for all ages and abilities! After the clean-up we will attend the waffle breakfast at Fire Station #3, benefiting the Plymouth Crime and Fire Prevention Fund. Tickets are \$8 at the door.



## VOCATION & THE ENVIRONMENT

Sundays, April 19 - May 10

Vocation: believing that we are all called to use our God-given gifts to live for the thriving of our neighbor and the world God created out of love. Vocation happens in all the areas of our lives. In this series we will listen to people's stories whose careers positively impact the environment, and hear how global climate change is having an impact on their work. We'll define environment and sustainability through a scriptural lens and gain perspectives on how changing climate intersects with social, ecological, and even family systems. Come and hear stories from:

- Dan Anderson, Infectious Disease Medical Doctor
- Nick Bonow, Geologist
- Heidi Ferris, Environmental Educator

A LITURGY FOR  
EARTHKEEPING



## EARTHKEEPING WORSHIP

Spring has sprung and we thank God for the changing of the seasons! Join us in worship on Sunday mornings for Hans Peterson's Earthkeeping Liturgy, Sundays April 19 through May 10.

## WHY DO PEOPLE OF FAITH CARE ABOUT GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE?

Simply put, it is the poorest people in our world who will be most adversely affected by the changes. The God that we meet in the Hebrew scriptures and see most clearly in Jesus was passionate about justice for the most vulnerable.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Educating Girls is powerful in the fight to slow and reverse climate change. Operation Bootstrap Africa partners with Africans to strengthen their future through education, healthcare, agriculture, and other long-term development projects, but about 66% of their budget funds the education of girls. Through Peace Lutheran's decades long partnership with Operation Bootstrap Africa we are working to end climate change.

# FAITH IN DAILY LIFE

## Vocation in Bloom

Have you noticed the lovely flower arrangements in our sanctuary? Or the beautiful wreaths on our front doors during the Christmas season? These are all the work of Peace member Myra Rusten, a woman who is clearly living her vocation.

After losing her job of thirty-three years in medical research, due to departmental reductions at the University of Minnesota, Myra was anxious about work and finances. Through prayer she felt she was called to “do what was in front of me” and a friend invited her to a one evening class on floral design. She loved being around flowers and floral design and pursued a diploma in Floral Arts and Sciences, which she completed in 2017.

Continuing to pray, and continuing to do what was in front of her, she took a position at Dundee Nursery and shortly after that began arranging the flowers for Peace. “Doing the flowers for Peace was my gift to God. I wanted to do my best for God’s altar with His flowers to please Him,” she says. Myra now has her own floral business, Flowers by Myra.

2019 was Myra’s third year of doing a floral interpretation of an art piece at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts for their annual Art in Bloom celebration. Her design was for the “Blessing of the Tuna Fleet at Groix” by Paul Signac (1923). It was a perfect fit for Myra, who loves impressionistic art as well as sailing. “Standing next to this great impressionist painting, doing a floral design interpretation was inspiring, creative and a joy,” she says. A bonus was that she received Art in Bloom’s 2019 People’s Choice Award.

God continues to provide, and Myra is enjoying the creative opportunities to design with flowers. “It seems to be an ongoing effort to trust God. Why is that? You would think by now I would know throughout my being that God is providing and taking care of us and continues to bless us and care for us...the practice of faith!” Peace is very grateful that Myra continues to live out her vocation for floral design at our church. May we all learn to do what is in front of us!

Do you know someone at Peace who is living out their vocation? Please drop a note to [peace@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:peace@peaceofplymouth.org) with information for this new recurring feature in the PeaceNotes.



Myra Rusten



## LIFE LONG FAITH FORMATION

The Congregational Vitality Survey revealed Lifelong Faith Formation as an area the congregation would like to work on. Beginning right after Easter, a 5-week small group will start looking at the “5Ps” of Lifelong Faith Formation which are: **Practices, Principles, People, Places, Playlists**. As a congregation, we will take four months and focus on embedding one’s faith practice into our daily lives.

**This Small Group Bible Study is on Wednesdays from April 15 - May 13, 6:15pm and will be held on-line using Zoom Ministries.**

**A link will be posted at [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org) prior to the meeting time.**

**This small group study has come out of the VISION Team’s work**



**Peace Lutheran Church**  
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 Peaceofplymouth.org

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Save the Date!

**Large Group Service  
 Project, Peace &  
 Neighborhood Clean-up**  
 Sunday, May 3, 10:00a

**Music & Mother's Day Treats**  
 Sunday, May 10, 10:00a

**May Music Festival  
 "Faith, Hope & Love"**  
 Sunday, May 17, 9:00a

## All Are Welcome Here

*Invite Your Family & Friends*



### Camp Wapo

**Seeds (completed 2nd & 3rd grade):**  
 Fri, Jul 17 -- Sun, Jul 19

**Youth camp (completed 4th - 8th grade):**  
 Sun, Jul 12 -- Fri, Jul 17



### Day Camp

### REGISTER NOW!

Mon, Jun 15 - Thu, Jun 18,  
 9am - 3pm

### SUNDAY MORNING

9:00-10:00 am—Worship Live Streamed  
 10:00-11:00 am—Fellowship & Education  
 for All Ages via Zoom Ministries.  
 Find these on [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org)



### Peace is social!

Find us on Facebook  
 @PeaceofPlymouth or search  
 Peace Lutheran Church Of Plymouth to stay connected.

**Welcome. Worship. Service.**

[www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org) | 763.478.9406 | [peace@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:peace@peaceofplymouth.org)