

# Trinity Tribune: April 2024

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church  
Paola, Kansas

## “The Resurrection Narratives in the Gospels”

Each Gospel writer has a unique way of depicting the resurrection, and yet in the Holy Spirit they all tell of the same event using their own voice. If you would like an orderly way of putting these accounts together, there is a booklet titled “A Resurrection Harmony” in the back of church where Pastor David Petersen from Redeemer, Fort Wayne, has organized what seems the most logical order of events.

### St. Matthew’s Resurrection Narrative (Matthew 28)

Just as Matthew wrote his Passion for a primarily Jewish audience, likewise his resurrection narrative continues many of the themes from chapters 26–27. For example, there was an earthquake at Jesus’s death and again at the resurrection.

Matthew emphasizes the first arrival of two women to the tomb, where an angel speaks with them and tells them that Jesus has risen from the dead! They depart “with fear and great joy” (v. 8) to tell the disciples, and Jesus bids the women point them to Galilee where they will see him again.

Matthew also includes an important passage about the attempt of the chief priests to hide any evidence of the resurrection; they paid off the soldiers to tell a false report. Clearly this had been circulating among the Jews as the reason for the empty tomb.

Finally, Matthew gives us the ascension account, where Jesus pushes his disciples into all nations, instructing them how to make more disciples: by baptizing and teaching (vv. 19–20).

### St. Mark’s Resurrection Narrative (Mark 16)

Mark is the most curious Gospel writer, because his resurrection narrative is very short. In fact, it emphasizes the trembling, astonishment, and fear of the women as they hear the report of the angel.

Although some scholars doubt the authenticity of the end of Mark’s Gospel because it is not included in some of the earliest papyri, it nonetheless includes edifying material and is likely authentic to Mark. Sometimes when books are worn, they lose their first and last pages; perhaps this was the case with Mark.

This longer ending of Mark includes a few additional appearances of Jesus, embellishing the importance of Baptism: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16).

### St. Luke’s Resurrection Narrative (Luke 24)

Luke repeats some of what Matthew and Mark say, but he includes the fact that Peter came to look in the tomb as well, but marveled when he saw the linen cloths by themselves.

The most important aspect to Luke’s narrative is the Road to Emmaus story, when Jesus joins two men, Cleopas and (likely) Peter who were discussing these things. He opens the Scriptures to them, demonstrating that these events needed to happen in order to accomplish salvation. Only when Jesus breaks bread for them are their eyes open, and they recognize him—but he vanishes from their sight.

Later that night, Jesus appears to his disciples and allows them to touch his hands and feet, and he eats food for them, demonstrating that he is not a ghost.

### St. John’s Resurrection Narrative (John 20–21)

John has the most lengthy post-resurrection narrative, and he stands out from the other three Synoptic Gospels as usual.

Firstly, there is a lot more “to and fro” the tomb going on. The women go to and from the tomb, then so do Peter and John, and then Jesus finally appears to Mary Magdalene after she has gone back.

Jesus then appears twice in the Upper Room, first without Thomas present, then with. Chapter 21 tells about the miraculous catch of fish that Jesus grants them, and he forgives Peter of denying him in the courtyard. It ends with perhaps the most tantalizing ending of all: “Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written” (21:25).

### Conclusion

Even though the resurrection narratives differ, they are united by the One Author behind them all: the Holy Spirit. At the same time, it can be enlightening for us to view each one for what it is, because different emphases and viewpoints help us understand *why* they were written. This in the end is what our faith can take away: that Jesus *was* raised, that many people saw him resurrected, and they tell that story from their own point of view and wanting you to know what it means. Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Woelmer



**Birthdays**

- April 1 .....Lori Schlegel
- April 1 ..... Elaine Stewart
- April 3 ..... Brigitte Rodewald
- April 4 ..... Joy Hinds
- April 4 ..... Kristina Eilts
- April 5 ..... Shamron Ferrell
- April 6 ..... Kelsey Debrick
- April 6 ..... Bill Koelsch
- April 8 ..... Leslie Prothe
- April 8 ..... Ella Durham
- April 8 ..... Dawson Garrison
- April 9 ..... Emma Haley
- April 9 ..... Karl Karrow
- April 10 ..... Karlie McMullin
- April 11 ..... James Fanning
- April 11 ..... Pastor Woelmer
- April 13 ..... Suzanne Peckman
- April 14 ..... Matt Oberheide
- April 14 ..... Venita Prothe
- April 14 ..... Layla Schlegel
- April 14 ..... Dana Simonson
- April 16 ..... Erika Hall
- April 18 ..... Melissa Richardson
- April 19 ..... Katie Taylor
- April 21 ..... Ashley Debrick
- April 22 ..... Chloe Maisch
- April 22 ..... Lori Richardson
- April 22 ..... Nicholas Minden
- April 22 ..... Malcolm Brack
- April 23 ..... Eric Ritch
- April 24 ..... Bridget Medlin
- April 26 ..... John Gerken
- April 26 ..... Austin Reyelts
- April 26 ..... Tyler Reyelts
- April 29 ..... Krista Munzer
- April 29 ..... Abigail Koelsch
- April 29 ..... Erin Meyer
- April 30 ..... Ellen Pinneo

**CONFIRMATION**

Join us on May 5<sup>th</sup> for the confirmation of Bailey Kaiser and Layla Schlegel! Time and date of the questioning to be announced.

**Anniversaries**

- April 5 ..... George and Pam Holtz (34)
- April 5 ..... Burl and Shemene Peckman (38)
- April 11 ..... Mark and Jan Minden (9)
- April 13 ..... Alan and Jeanne Hutchison (33)
- April 26 ..... Dan and Cathy Hieber (37)
- April 26 ..... Keith and Laura Prothe (44)
- April 27 ..... Kevin and Marla Prothe (33)
- April 27 ..... Jeff and Autumn Menefee (28)
- April 28 ..... Chris and Denna Jones (23)

**COFFEE HOUR**

Everyone is invited to stay for Coffee Hour in the Gathering Room following worship. Our thanks to those that provide snacks each Sunday. The signup sheet to provide snacks for Coffee Hour in 2023 is on the counter in the Gathering Room. Consider signing up to honor birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc.

**BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF JUDGES:**

**“Cyle of Unbelief and Salvation”**

This often-overlooked book tells us much about human nature and the tendency of man to fall away from the faith and come back. It gives us many pictures of Jesus.

Join the Adult Bible Class at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays in the Heritage Room to learn more!



The new quarterly issue of the devotional booklet Portals of Prayer for April thru June is available at the church, in regular size, large print, and a new “digest” size (same size as Reader’s Digest). A great way to keep close to the Lord!

## LUTHERAN RESOURCES

Our two seminaries have many resources online that will benefit anybody. From searchable media sites to daily Scripture readings to educational resources, it is worth it to visit their websites or follow on social media. Of special note, both seminaries publish their daily chapel services onto Facebook, so you can be edified that way through the preaching of professors and area pastors.

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis:  
csl.edu; <https://www.facebook.com/ConcordiaSem>

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne:  
ctsfw.edu; <https://www.facebook.com/ctsfw>

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## MISSIONARY UPDATES

Our congregation is now supporting Pastor Jonathan Clausing and his family through the LCMS “Together in Mission” (T.I.M.) program. We will contribute occasionally through the Mission Fund and door offerings, but you may also support him by going to his LCMS page online: <https://www.lcms.org/clausing>. I plan to invite him to present here on his mission work when he is state-side. I also hope to give updates here of his work in Tanzania. For example, this is from his recent newsletter:

This semester Emmanuel Semng’indo has been assisting with school administration in the seminary office. A gifted musician, Emmanuel has helped to introduce the Swahili version of the hymn “This Joyful Eastertide” to the seminary. The hymn appears in the Kenyan hymnal but is new to most Tanzanians.



## NURSING HOME SERVICES

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents this month. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. This month, we are scheduled for Sunday, **April 14<sup>th</sup>**. We will begin at 1:30 pm at Country Club Estates, and then go to Vintage Park around 2:15 for the second service. The residents really enjoy these services, especially singing their favorite hymns. It’s great to have church members there to greet the residents and sing along. We have a few members who help but we could use your help too!

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## VOTERS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held following worship on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. In order to prepare for this meeting, the Church Council will meet Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm.

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# Trinity Tribune

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