

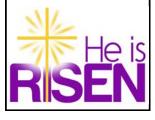
April 4 Consistory

April 10 Palm Sunday

April 14 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday In Person Service

April 15 7:00 PM Good Friday Zoom Service

April 17 Easter Sunday



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Fairfield Good News

WORSHIPPING THE LORD FOR OVER 300 YEARS!

Apríl 2022

The Parable of the Butterfly

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things."

Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the urge to eat and grow subsides and he instinctively begins to form a chrysalis around himself. The chrysalis hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead.

But one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to writhe, the top cracks open, and a beautifully-formed butterfly emerges. For hours it will stand stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, before you know it, the butterfly glides aloft, effortlessly riding the currents of the air, alighting on flower after gorgeous flower, as if to show off its vivid colors to the bright blossoms. Somehow, the miracle of the butterfly never loses its fascination for us. Perhaps because the butterfly is a living parable of the promise of resurrection.

On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' grave clothes lying on the cold slab still wrapped round and round the corpse. Only the corpse was gone, much like an empty chrysalis deserted by a butterfly who has left to soar free. "He is risen as He said," an angel told the incredulous disciples. Later that day he appeared to the disciples, and then, over the course of the next few weeks, to as many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" didn't doubt for long that Jesus was really risen from the dead.

A few weeks ago I lost a friend who had become dear to me. Where she had been so full of life, now her body lay still, composed ever-socarefully by the morticians. I looked at her and thought about my own mortality. One day I too, like her, may fight a losing battle with pain, and die.

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What do we Christians say in the face of death? There are many mysteries. But two things we know for sure. First, death is an enemy. Away with the sentimentality that vainly seeks to disguise death's insult! But second, and more important, Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death. And ultimately, Jesus promised, God will raise from the dead us who believe in His Son.

Why do Christians gather on Easter morning? To show off their fine clothes or give a ritual tip of the hat to religion? God forbid! Rather we gather to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. For since He is our Lord and our Savior, His victory is our victory. In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death. Join us this Easter as we celebrate Life! And if you look closely Easter morning, you might even see a butterfly alight on the lilies.

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and Lent

Pretzels have an important meaning during Lent. Pretzels were made in the fifth century as a Lenten food in Austria, Germany, and Poland. People began to make them on Ash Wednesday, the very first day of Lent. The word "pretzel" is a German word meaning "little arms." The dough was shaped in such a way to look like two arms crossed in prayer. Pretzels were made to take the place of bread, since milk, eggs, and fats were not used during Lent. On certain days during Lent it was the custom to give pretzels to the townspeople who were poor.

Monday, April 4 Consistory Meeting <u>via zoom</u>

Apríl 10 PALM SUNDAY 1:00 PM

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" John 12.13

April 14 - 7:00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

In Person Communion Service with Eric Farrar

Jesus gathered his disciples in the Upper Room for one last Passover meal together. During the meal he took the cup and the bread and gave them a new meaning. The bread was his body given for you and me on the cross. The blood was his blood shed for our sins that we might be forgiven.

Jesus says, "Come and eat with me, and remember what I have done for you."

April 15-7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Zoom Service with Eric Farrar

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81494168639?pwd=Nzh3L0RyVGFKQ2s3b3hWa2htM3A1Zz09

Meeting ID: 814 9416 8639 Passcode: 640643

Dial In: 1 646 558 8656











March 28

Ukraine Updates: Fifth Airlift Departs with Ukraine Relief; Medical Care, Food, etc.

You hear about the atrocities in Ukraine every day on the news. Below are a few updates from SP on their efforts to help in Jesus' name. Check out their website for much more info, pictures, podcasts as well as a message from Franklin Graham by clicking <u>here</u>.

"Samaritan's Purse has a partner network of more than 3,000 churches in Ukraine and neighboring Moldova. Through these churches we are providing food, water, hygiene kits, blankets, winter clothing, and other important items for refugee families. These churches take in refugees as well as act as distribution centers. Please pray for God to grant these churches and pastors strength and protection.

As conflict erupted, we were in the process of distributing 600,000 Operation Christmas Child gift-filled shoeboxes in Ukraine."

"Many patients have been directly impacted by the conflict—including some who've arrived with shrapnel and gunshot wounds. Others are travelers with medical conditions made more dangerous by the strain of the evacuations."

"Pregnant women are among the thousands fleeing. In addition to emergency medicine and trauma surgeries, our field hospital is equipped to provide OB/GYN services for prenatal care, deliveries, and recovery."

"Our first patient was a woman named Marina from Malyn, a city west of Kyiv. She had injured her arm while escaping into a bomb shelter and suffered for nine days before arriving at our field hospital. She cried tears of relief when we told her we could help her."

Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse, traveled to Ukraine this past weekend to meet with our teams who have been at work there since the early stages of the conflict.

Samaritan's Purse has around 170 staff members on the ground in the region, including doctors, nurses, lab techs, logisticians, and many others. Inside Ukraine, we are operating our Emergency Field Hospital on the outskirts of Lviv as well as three additional medical points. These three outpatient facilities are: a 24-hour clinic at the train station in Lviv, another clinic at a bus station in Lviv, and an emergency clinic in southwestern Ukraine. Combined, we are seeing well more than 100 patients each day.

Chaplains serving through the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association are ministering alongside the Samaritan's Purse team.