

Calvary Protestant Evangelical Free Church

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CALVARY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 4

April 2022

The Joy Set before Us

By David Manuel

My grandmother didn't like when her birthday fell on Good Friday. If the two days aligned, we moved the celebration of her birthday, but we couldn't move Good Friday. Nor could she, I suspect, remove the thought of Good Friday when it was her birthday—even without cake and gifts. The incongruity between the solemn mourning of the Savior's death and the sweet merriment in the celebration of her life was plain to see. But which was disturbing which? Did she feel that Good Friday compromised her birthday? Or did she feel that her birthday compromised Good Friday? She never said, and maybe she couldn't have said, couldn't have articulated the emotional quandary.

I sometimes think we are faced with similarly irreconcilable emotions during this season. Some people, I suppose, wonder whether the distress of Good Friday was necessary. Others perhaps wonder if, after Good Friday, Easter was little more than Christ showing that His death was not the end. I wonder if some take the position that the reason for our remembering the pain and despair and abandonment of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, is simply so that we can appreciate the contrasting joy of the following Sunday. Such a theory may explain, partly, the exultation of Easter, but it's a trivial explaining away of a profound truth: Sorrow and joy mingle and strive together in these four days.

The somber tone begins on the Thursday before Easter, at the commemoration of the Passover meal and Jesus' instructions to the disciples. In the Latin translation of John 13:34, Jesus gives a *mandatum novum*, a "new commandment": "That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." The medieval Anglo-Norman language turns *mandatum* into *mandet*, which is, in turn, adapted into Middle English. By 1325 the Middle English word, "maundy," refers to the ceremonial washing of feet on that Thursday, as an imitation of Christ's own humble demonstration of his new mandate of love: "I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you" (John 13:12-15). By 1440 the word describes the day itself: Maundy Thursday. But let us not forget that Christ gives another mandate on that night: "This do in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19). Two commandments, to love and to remember, link Jesus' humble service and his broken and bleeding body. He is the suffering servant of Isaiah 53, and we are called to remember the suffering and imitate the service.

One surely cannot contemplate the broken body and shed blood as Jesus commands us without also remembering the events of that Friday. Most frequently around the world, the day of the Crucifixion is called Holy Friday or Great Friday; in German it is *Karfreitag* ("Mourning Friday"); the Old English name for the day was first *langa frigidæg* ("long Friday"), the term still used in Nordic countries. But by 1300, the phrase *gode Friday* ("good Friday") appears, a phrase we share with speakers of Dutch and Frisian. We use the word "good" not at all ironically, not in the sense we usually intend, of pleasure or entertainment or mere adequacy, but in the sense, rarely used today, of virtue, righteousness, piety, spiritual edification, divine perfection. Christ himself calls our attention to the perfect completion of his task by declaring the achievement of redemption "finished" (John 19:30). But for whom and at what cost? The scripture is clear: though the penalty for sin is death (Rom. 6:23), God's redemption by his grace comes to all who believe (John 3:16; Eph. 2:8). That is certainly *good* for me, and thus far I am happy because I am such a believer. So if I am sad on Good Friday is it not simply sadness and pity for Christ, who suffered? Thus far I sing,

"Man of Sorrows," what a name

for the Son of God who came

ruined sinners to reclaim!

But if I am a believer, saved by grace, I am also in my nature a sinner, a perverse, rebellious, incorrigible enemy of God (Rom 5:6-10; Eph. 2:5) and it is my sin—not some first-century Judean political party—that compelled Jesus by the love of God to suffer and to die. So if I am sad on Good Friday is it not also grief for my own culpability in the death and unspeakable suffering of Christ? And does not that grief contend with the unfathomable—and, yes, paradoxically joyous—realization that Christ has taken even that culpability upon himself and covered me with righteousness through his work made *good* on the cross?

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood.
Guilty, vile and helpless, we;
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
“Full atonement” can it be?
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

(Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876)

If the depth of our sorrow is not profound enough, neither is the height of our joy exalted enough.

Why am I happy on Easter? The flowers, the clothes, the meal, the family gatherings all contribute to our pleasure in the day. But do those admittedly good things distract us from, even (dare I say it!) push out of our minds what ought to be the subject of our joy? Surely we rejoice on Easter not because the sadness of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are past. Neither do we simply endure the sadness of Passion Week knowing that Easter is to come. That cannot be what the writer of Hebrews means when he says that Christ, “for the joy set before him endured the cross” (Heb. 12:2). It is rather that the Resurrection completes, makes perfect, proves Good Friday as *good*. The empty tomb proves the Crucifixion to be not defeat but triumphant atonement for all who believe. That is our first joy, our beginning with God. But the empty tomb also proves the Resurrection to be not fantasy but certainty of eternal life for all who believe, who “in Christ shall all be made alive” (I Cor. 15). That is our second joy, our eternity with God.

The early church was divided over the exact time to celebrate Easter, some preferring to observe Easter in relation to the date of the Crucifixion on 14th of Nisan according to the Jewish calendar, others preferring to observe on Sunday, the day of the week of the Resurrection. In 425 the Council of Nicaea settled the matter in favor of the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox. But because the Latin church uses the Gregorian calendar and the Greek church uses the Julian calendar, east and west rarely celebrate on the same day. Other calculation systems used by the Celtic church in England resulted in the confusion of one group fasting during their Lent while another was feasting during their Easter. In 664 the Council of Whitby brought the English church into conformity with Rome.

My grandmother couldn't move Good Friday or Maundy Thursday or Easter because the church thought it essential to fast and feast, to mourn and rejoice as one body. And though the controversy over the date of Easter has never been entirely settled, the unity we have achieved helps us to focus our attention on both the sorrow and the joy, both the depth of God's love and the extent of His power in saving all who trust in the risen Christ.

The Resurrection— By Sotar Lloyd

Low in the Grave He Lay

In 1874, a Baptist minister from Philadelphia named Robert Lowry penned one of the most stirring hymns to ever exalt the resurrection of Jesus Christ—The hymn verses contrast the impotence of death and suffering with the resurrection power of Christ:-

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior,
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Refrain:

Up from the grave He arose;
with a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior,
vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord! [Refrain]

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! [Refrain]

United Methodist Hymnal, 1989





The Lord's Supper

By: Matthew Lucchesi (Age 16)

The Lord's supper is an event that I remember as Jesus' last dinner with his disciples. There is so much sacredness and holiness about it. The act of Jesus breaking the bread symbolizes his body being broken for us. When I hear that, I cannot stop but think about all the suffering and persecution he went through. And to be hung up on a cross with your hands and feet nailed to a to it is something I cannot conceive. Jesus Christ went through all of that just for us to receive forgiveness from our sins and deliverance from punishment in hell. And the cup that he poured out for all his disciples symbolizes his blood, which was poured out for the forgiveness of our sins. In the Old Testament the sacrifice of the lamb represented Jesus. Only by the blood of Jesus are we washed whiter than snow, and without it there's nothing meaningful to celebrate, and nothing to really enjoy about Easter. I can only imagine the amount of anguish Jesus went through that night because he knew his death was imminent. He made this, his last moments with his disciples, as meaningful as he could. As we go into Good Friday and Easter, we mustn't forget that moment of the Last Supper, because if he never inaugurated the new covenant, there would be no such thing as Good Friday or Easter.

*Join us in celebrating
Jesus' coming
Easter resurrection.*

*Resurrection
Fun Day*

He is Risen

What:

- **movie**
- **pizza**
- **songs**
- **egg hunt**

**When: Saturday,
April 9th
10:30am - 1pm**

**Where: Calvary
Protestant Church
2801 Park Ave.
Baldwin, NY 11510**

**Please RSVP by
Wednesday, April 6th
Phone: (516) 223-4070
Email:
calvarychurch@optonline.net**

Match the Names with the Questions

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the name of Aaron and Moses' great-great grandfather? 2. Who was Israel's first king? 3. Who anointed Israel's first and second king? 4. Who introduced the Apostle Paul to the other Apostles? 5. What was the name of the mysterious high priest who visited Abraham? 6. Who was Leah and Rachel's father? 7. What was the name of Abram's (Abraham) first son? 8. What was the name of the high priest that broke Jewish customs to hold a hearing immediately after Jesus was arrested? 9. God changed Jacob's name too _____. 10. Who was the only female judge in Israel before kings ruled Israel? 11. Who said "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to Your word..." 12. Who cried out with a loud voice "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" 13. Who said "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you..." 14. Who Jesus was speaking to when He said these words "...Nevertheless do not rejoice in this; that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven." 15. Which one of the disciples preached the first sermon? 16. What was the name of the first follower in Christ who lied to the Holy Spirit and died immediately? 17. Who said "What is truth?" 18. Who cried out in joy "Rabboni!" 19. Who said "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased" 20. Who said "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desire of your father"? 21. What was the name of Abram's (Abraham) father? 22. Who was Shem's father? 23. What was the name Hosea's wife? 24. What was the name of the king who threw Daniel's 3 friends into the furnace of blazing furnace? 25. What is the name of the last book in the Old Testament? 26. Name Asa's son who was the fourth king of the Kingdom of Judah? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. God the Father b. Israel c. Jesus d. Saul e. Deborah f. Peter g. Malachi h. Pilate i. Ishmael j. Jonah k. Nebuchadnezzar l. Caiaphas m. Mary Magdalene n. Laban o. Barnabas p. Mary q. Jehoshaphat r. Melchizedek s. Disciples t. Terah u. Samuel v. Noah w. Gomer x. Elizabeth y. Jacob z. Ananias |
|---|---|

Answers on page 6

Important Information

Pastor Search questionnaire document is located in the Church on the table at the entrance of the sanctuary.

Church Membership - If you would like to become a **member of Calvary Church**, please speak to Pastor Charles Lucchesi, Elder Tom Corcoran or Charles Hetzel.

Church membership applications are located on the literature table at the back of the sanctuary.

Tithes/Offerings/Donations - As an act of worship to the Lord we are starting again to have offering collection during the Sunday morning service. However, you can still put your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary, or drop it off in the church mailbox, or give on-line via PayPal through the church website.

TEDS Sunday - The first Sunday of each month Calvary Church remembers the **Trinity Evangelical Divinity School** (our denomination's seminary) and its work in training pastors and missionaries. A special offering plate is available at the entrance to the church.

Easter Memorials - We are taking requests for Easter Memorials. See insert in the church bulletin for complete details.

PUBLICATIONS

The 2nd quarter of *Our Daily Bread*, March and April issues of *Daily Walk* and *Today's Christian Living, Keys for Kids* (daily devotionals), and *Unlocked* (daily readings for teens) are available at the church.

Some Rules to Live By

- | | |
|---|--|
| If you open it- close it. | If you use it- take care of it. |
| If you turn it on- turn it off. | If you break it- repair it. |
| If you unlock it- lock it. | If you can't fix it- call someone who can. |
| If you move it- put it back. | If you mess it up- clean it up. |
| If it belongs to someone else and you want it- get permission. | If it will brighten someone's day- say it [or just do it]. |
| If you borrow it- return it. | |
| If you don't know how to operate it- leave it alone or [ask for help] | |

-Quoted in Comfort and Light,

Interfaith Coalition on Energy, Philadelphia, PA

Update on Haiti

By Barbara Corcoran

The politically situation remains the same in Haiti because political parties can't find a consensus, yet there are too many parties each and every one proposed an alternative they need to come out with one solution to get Haiti out of the crisis. Socially and economically it affects our ministry because one of the gangs' base is located not too far from Reaching Haiti Ministry.

Some of our members left the area due to the insecurity (kidnapping).

Pastor Steve asked that we please pray for his family especially his mother who has dementia. Recently his wife diagnosed with a tumor in her pancreas. At this time, she cannot have surgery. However, from today she will be starting chemotherapy for the next three months.

Our church families in Turbé has an urgent need for food. Calvary mission committee donated \$1200.00 that we had budgeted for Haiti for them to purchase food. After we sent that donation they emailed us that they had a new problem with a group of people trying to take over some of their land. The church could prove that they purchased that land but the committee of people trying to take over the land said that since it wasn't secured they still wanted to take the land. Unfortunately, it is true that in Haiti if you do not build a secure wall around your property it is easily taken over. The plot is 45,626 square feet they need to build a wall around the land to secure it with a total cost of \$49,474.50. Calvary's mission committee is planning on taking a special collection on Sunday April 10th to help defer the cost of the wall. We will be suppling special envelopes for this collection in the April 3rd bulletin.

PRAYING THE PSALMS

Psalm 63 NIV-My Soul Thirst for God

You, God, are my God,
earnestly I seek You;

[I search for You]
I thirst for You,
my whole being longs for You,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no water.

I have seen You in the sanctuary

[I shall behold You in the sanctuary]
and [see] Your power and Your glory.
Because Your love is better than life,

[Truly Your faithfulness better than life]
my lips will glorify You.

[my heart will love You,

And my soul will worship You]
I will praise You as long as I live,

[I will bless You all my life]
and in Your name I will lift up my hands.
I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods;
with singing lips my mouth will praise You.

On my bed I remember You;
I think of You through the watches of the night.
Because You are my help,
I sing in the shadow of Your wings.
I cling to You;
Your right hand upholds me.

[My soul attached to You
Your right hand support me...

Hear me, O God, hear my voice for my soul thirst
for You and You alone]...

-Sotar Lloyd



Answers

1. Jacob (Genesis 49:1,5 and Exodus 6:16, 18, 20)
2. Saul (1 Samuel 9:15-17)
3. Samuel (1 Samuel 9:27-10:1; 16:12-13)
4. Barnabas (Acts 9:26-27)
5. Melchizedek (Genesis 14:17-19; Hebrews 7:1-3)
6. Laban (Genesis 29:16)
7. Ishmael (Genesis 16:1-4, 15)
8. Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57)
9. Israel (Genesis 32:24-28)
10. Deborah (Judges 4:4-6)
11. Mary (Luke 1:38)
12. Elizabeth (Luke 1:40-42)
13. Jonah (Jonah 1:5-12)
14. Disciples (Luke 10:20, 23)
15. Peter (Acts 2:14-36)
16. Ananias (Acts 5:1-5)
17. Pilate (John 18:37-38)
18. Mary Magdalene ((John 20:15-16)
19. God the Father (Matthew 3:16-17)
20. Jesus (John 8:42- 45)
21. Terah (Genesis 11:27)
22. Noah (Genesis 7:13)
23. Gomer (Hosea 1:2-3)
24. Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3:8-23)
25. Malachi
26. Jehoshaphat (1 Kings 15:24)

ANNIVERSARY

APRIL

12th Greg & Sue (Deedy) Mahoney

26th Charles & Evelyn Barnes

MAY

3rd Ralph & Bonnie Rose

9th David & Dawn Manuel

21st Charles & Trudy Hetzel 2

24th Lou & Colleen Arena

28th Chris & Melissa Watts

30th David & Christy Senita

Special Days in the Month of April

Passion/Palm Sunday- Sunday 10th

Maundy Thursday- Thursday 14th

Good Friday- Friday 15th

Easter/ Resurrection Sunday- Sunday 17th

IRS Tax Deadline- Monday 18th

Earth Day- Friday 22nd

Secretaries' Day- Wednesday 27th

Holocaust Remembrance Day- Thursday 28th

BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

3rd Abbie Wong

5th Samantha Seymour

7th Debbie (Verity) Porter

13th Howard Brockway

14th Leah Nicolich

15th Barbara Johnson (Helen's sister)

16th Barbara Grant

17th Ree Kelting

19th Kenneth Hulst

20th Rose Nembhard

21st Mary Jo Dapice

21st Joe Fazzino

22nd Maryann Brockway

24th Carter Miller

24th Rosemary Rotolo

27th Karen (Verity) Linhart

MAY

4th Laura Seymour

4th Kaia Waldvogel

6th Mike Senita

6th Mike Syska

10th Bob Bennett

10th Dawn Manuel

11th Jonathan Linhart

11th Alicia Seymour

12th Nancy Bennett

13th Reed Waldvogel

17th Pat Watts

18th Caleb Nehring

21st Wes Carman

25th Dorothy Carman

29th Barbara Hindley

30th Dianne (Chalavoutis) Miller



Reflection On Jesus' Resurrection

Sydney Suraj (Age- 6)

John 20:11-18

Mary stood outside the tomb crying because Jesus was not there. She saw two angels sitting where Jesus was placed and said "Someone took my Lord away." She saw a man standing behind her and thought he was a gardener and Mary said "Someone took my Lord away, please tell me where He is." And Jesus said "Mary." Mary tried to touch Jesus but He said "Let Me go to My Father." So, she knew that it was Jesus and He wanted her to tell this to everyone. When Jesus died on Good Friday and He rose on the third day it was Resurrection Day.

Christian Thomas (Age 11)

John 20:26-31

This Bible verse taught me that when doors are close another open. For example, when the door was locked Jesus still came to encourage Thomas.

Justin Rose (Age 9)

Luke 24:13-35

When I read these verses, I think it means that anytime, anywhere whatever you do Jesus is with us no matter what! I feel happy knowing that Jesus is always with me.

Brandon Thomas (Age 10)

John 20:24-25

Thomas will never believe Jesus or God unless he sees Him with his own eyes.

Nate Thomas (Age 7)

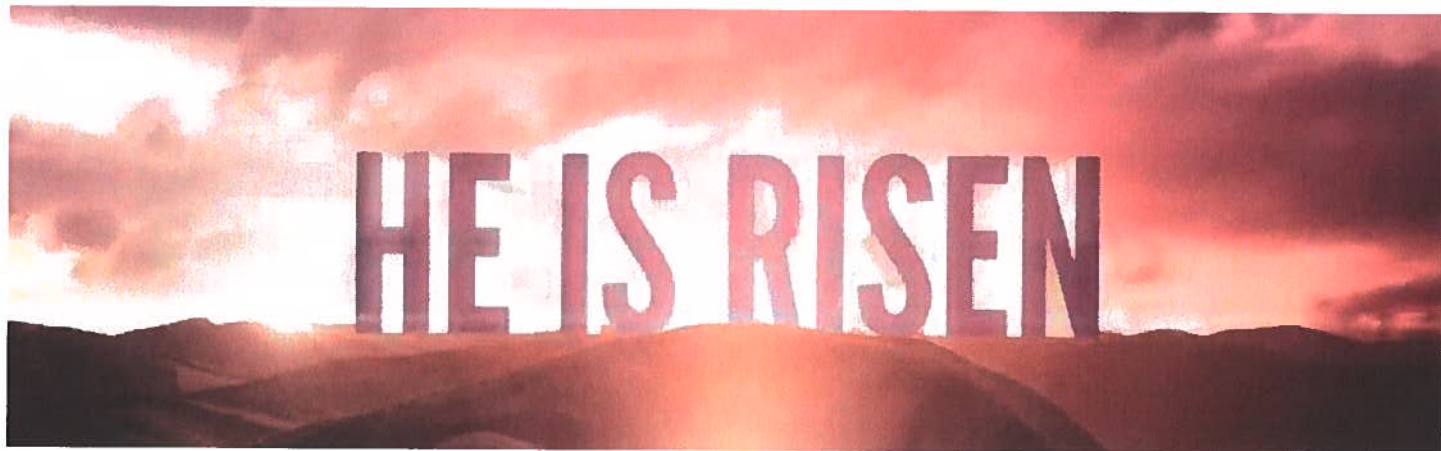
Luke 24:36-38

I love Jesus whether He is there or not. Jesus loves me.

Brant Waldvogel (Age 12)

Luke 24:13-35

Two disciples of Jesus were walking on the road to Emmaus. They were very sad because Jesus had died. Suddenly Jesus appeared walking beside them. They did not realize the man walking with them was Jesus. Jesus told them about himself in every book of the Old Testament. In every part of the Bible, He was already there in shadow, type, or prophecy. As they ate a meal with Jesus, they realized who He was. Then just as suddenly as he appeared to them on the road he disappeared. In John 6:39, Jesus tells us He is the main topic of the Scriptures. As he talks to the religious leaders who knew God's Word he says, "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" Now I realize that Jesus is the main subject of the whole Bible.



Calvary Chronicle

Calvary Protestant Church
2801 Park Avenue
Baldwin, NY 11510

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CHURCH UPDATES

Please make every effort to sit only where hymnals and Bibles are placed in the pew racks. There is additional seating in the overflow room.

The Sunday worship service is at 11:00 a.m. The message will be recorded and posted on the church's website - www.cpcbaldwin.com (click on YouTube), and also on "YouTube" at www.youtube.com (search for Calvary Church, Baldwin).

Adult Sunday School Class - Sundays @ 9:45 a.m. Will be watching a Video "The Chosen"—followed by discussion time. The video will begin promptly at 9:45 a.m. sharp.

Children's Church - On Sundays the children are dismissed before the sermon and meet in the fellowship room. On the first Sunday of every month, when Holy Communion is schedule, Children's Church will not be in session.

Bible Study/ Prayer Meeting - Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. held at the church. Prayer time followed by Bible Study- Studying the Book of Ephesians.

Ladies Bible Study - 1st and 3rd Thursday every month @7:30 p.m. at Patti Senita's home. Studying the Book of Acts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seniors' Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5th @12:00 noon. **Please be sure to call the church (516-223-4070) to let us know you are attending.**

Resurrection Fun Day- April 9 from 10:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. There will be a movie, songs, an egg hunt, sandy candy and pizza. Volunteers are needed on Saturday April 2nd @10 a.m. to help stuff the eggs and on day of event-April 9. See flyer on page 3.

Baptismal Service - Calvary Church is in the process of scheduling a **Baptismal Service in April**. If there is anyone who would like to be baptized, please speak to Pastor Charles Lucchesi or Elder Tom Corcoran. Jesus came to them and said, "... Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).