



The Church Mouse

The Newsletter

Clinton Presbyterian Church



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If you've ever compared the four gospel stories, you know that they contain some striking differences. The way the gospel of John tells the story of Jesus and his disciples differs considerably from the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, but all four show different points of view. If you haven't compared them before, I invite you to read them through in the next few days.

In the weeks between Easter and Pentecost, I'm going to be preaching on the different resurrection stories. Before opening your Bible, answer this question: who came to the tomb the morning Jesus was raised?

Each gospel has a different account of what happened after Jesus was laid in the tomb, beginning with the earliest account in Mark's gospel, which just ends. The other gospels include the stories of the road to Emmaus, Thomas in the upper room, Peter being reinstated, and Jesus eating grilled fish, but not one gospel has all of these stories together.

Does that mean we can't trust what the Bible says? I guess that might be one way to deal with the differences. I believe, though, that the different stories show us different facets of who Jesus was, how Jesus' disciples reacted to his life, death, and resurrection, and that the different stories give us permission to tell our own different stories as well.

It's encouraging to me that there are differences throughout the gospels, because it means we can have our own different gospel stories as well. After all, "gospel" means simply "good news," and each one of us has our own good news story or stories to share.

There isn't only one story. There isn't only one way to be a Christian. There isn't only one way to experience and know Jesus. Isn't that great? Isn't it wonderful that God comes to each of us, where we are, how we are, and in who we are, and meets us there, instead of trying to make us all fit into one mold and one ideal? It is wonderful; in fact, it's good news.

By the way, according to Mark's account, which is the earliest, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and another woman named Salome went to Jesus' tomb that first Easter morning. According to Matthew, it was Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. Luke says first it was the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee, and then names them as Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and others with them. John only lists Mary Magdalene as having visited the tomb. Each one of these women, even the ones whose names we don't know, had gospel stories to share about that day. Each one of us, no matter where we are in life, have our own gospel stories to share as well.

Pastor Cindy

| FROM THE PULPIT | |
|-----------------|---|
| 4/1 | Palm Sunday, <i>Blessed Is the One Who Comes</i> |
| 4/8 | Easter Sunday, <i>The Earliest Ending</i> Reception of New Members |
| 4/15 | <i>Our Hands Held Out</i> |
| 4/22 | <i>The Stories People Tell</i> |
| 4/29 | <i>Traveling with Jesus</i> |



APRIL

- 1 Taylor Dulleakellegrew
- 8 Emily Lenard
- 9 Erica Anderson
- 16 Jody Pupecki
- 16 Biawah Angwafo
- 17 Dylan Pupecki
- 25 Tim Coughlan
- 30 Caroline Tamfu



There is still time to sign up for an Easter Memorial Lily. The cost is \$9 per plant. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship hall. The last day to sign up will be April 1st. We are also having a collection for small spring flowers to give to our children.

MAYBE, MAYBE NOT

I say that I've been, on the whole
 A happy and contented soul;
 But I insist
 Would I exist,
 If my folks practiced birth control.

IF YOU ASK ME

Opinion is an abstract word
 That sometimes seems to be absurd;
 A factless speech,
 That people preach,
 With little proof in what they've heard.

OH RAPTURE

At the end of our lives we might cower,
 And possibly dread that last hour.
 But some will arise
 Not at all in surprise,
 For they placed all their Faith in His power.
 ~ Robert J. Malcolmson

Volunteer Schedule for April:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Worship Leader:</i> | | <i>Counter:</i> | |
| 1 | David Leigon | | Glenn Garvey |
| 8 | Bob Kellegrew | | Robin LeRoy |
| 15 | Lisa Carlin | | Scott Dickinson |
| 22 | Scott Dickinson | | David Leigon |
| 29 | Susan Dullea | | Glenn Garvey |
| <i>Children's Church:</i> | | <i>Coffee Host:</i> | |
| 1 | Lisa/Kristin | | Laurie Garvey |
| 8 | Closed | | Closed |
| 15 | Louann/Marie | | Jenn Dickinson |
| 22 | Jenn/Robin | | Bob & Sue |
| 29 | Lisa/Kristin | | Judy Malcolmson |

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Apr 1 - Palm Sunday*
- Apr 5 - Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm*
- Apr 6 - Ecumenical Good Friday Service
 Noon @ Good Shepherd
 7 pm Tenebrae Service*
- Apr 8 - Easter Sunday - He is Risen!*

