

SHE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE SHE HAD WON ON HER FIRST VISIT TO CHURCH

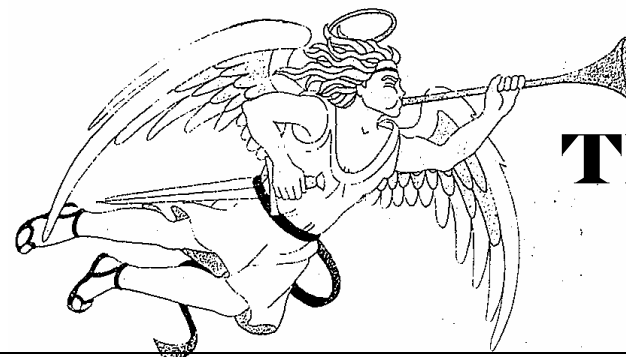


PUT ON YOUR EASTER BONNET.



**THE HERALD**  
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# THE HERALD

April 2009

## Priestly Ponderings

Dear Friends,

We tend to take our Scripture in small doses on Sunday mornings, reading a few verses and trying to make sense of their meaning for us. But the wisdom of the ages is that during Holy Week we should *experience* the events of this most holy and mysterious time by listening to the whole story and letting it do its work in us.

Every year, I try to make some time to be quiet, ask God to keep me attuned to what I'm reading, and experience anew the events of Holy Week (Mark chapters 11-16, this year). And every year, as I hear or read the accounts, something new grabs me: some detail I hadn't noticed before, some motivation I hadn't imagined before. And I wonder, why is this detail demanding my attention right now?

"The word of God is living and active," it says in the book of Hebrews. To read

Scripture is to invite an encounter between you –and not just who you are *in general*, but who you are *right now*, with all the things that are going on in your life in the spring of 2009

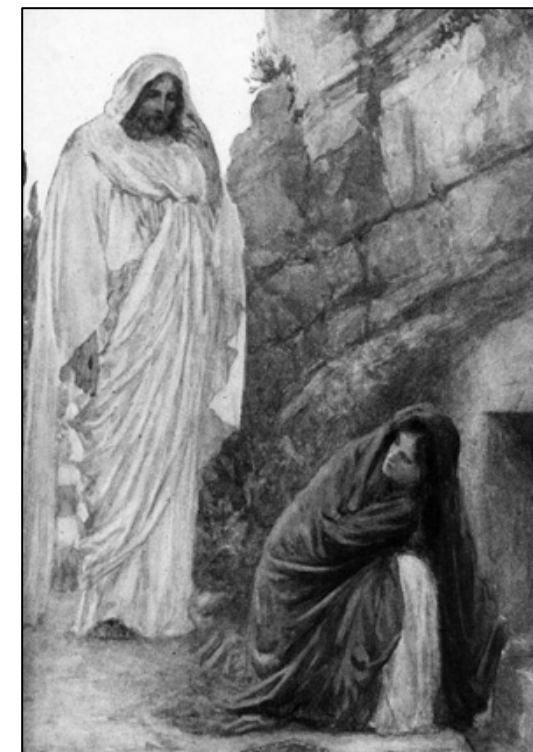
–and the living presence of God. Scripture is like a laboratory, and each time you read it is an experiment: pay attention and you will learn something, both about yourself and about how the Holy Spirit is at work in you.

The events of Holy Week unfold, animated by real people:

- The crowd greets Jesus on Palm Sunday with joy and anticipation, but doesn't see the point in a messiah who has an agenda that's different from theirs, who won't solve the problems they think are most important. They fall away and then, embarrassed that they

had ever believed he was *The One* in the first place, they turn angrily against him.

(continued)



- Peter, alone and afraid and confused, a small town boy on his own in the big city, has to choose between his loyalty to Jesus and the warmth and security of the little community gathered around the fire in the High Priest's courtyard. "I do not know the man," he says.
- Pilate has more important things on his plate this Passover. Jesus is a challenge to be dealt with quickly, rocking as few boats as he can in the process. "What is truth?" he asks, then washes his hands of the matter.
- On Easter morning, Mary Magdalene and a few other women go to the tomb to anoint Jesus. Worried about the practical, day to day details of burial, they find the tomb empty, except for a young man dressed in white. The man says, "Are you looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified? He has been raised; he is not here.... Go tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; you will see him there, just as he told you."

If we allow ourselves to recognize ourselves in the real people of Holy Week, we can begin to experience why Easter brought such joy. If we can recognize ourselves in Peter's denial of Jesus, for example, then we can share the joy Peter felt when Jesus appeared to him first among the apostles, wishing him peace. And we can recognize in our own lives that Jesus comes to us, too, no matter how we have failed.

The point is to open ourselves to the sacred, to allow the Spirit of God to use the events of Holy Week to touch us with the joy of being forgiven, being brought to a place where we can begin again.

These are the earliest memories of the Christian church. In bad times and in good, our spiritual ancestors have told these stories to proclaim how God's power was at work in their lives and in the world. Please join us and let these holy memories do their vital, life-giving work in you this Holy Week.

*Peace,*  
*Fr. Mark*

## In Our Prayers

\* \* For healing in the lives of Rodney S., Chris H., Sarah H., Floyd L., Benny P., John M., Gerry D., Christine S., Marcia W., Joycelynn T., Mary W., Bob W., Matt W., Chuck G., James M., Richard C., Patricia S., Peter G., Judy A., Bette H., Anne S., Jen A., Jeff P., Peter G., Ronald A., Alfred G., Mary & Peter W., Larry P., Hal R., Ginny H., Brice, Mario B., Monika M. & her family, Pat. M., Ruth F., Kathy F.



## A new idea for hospitality.....

We would like to try doing a "community coffee hour" on the first & third Sundays. Instead of individuals (or pairs of people) providing for the entire church, how wonderful it would be if we ALL contributed something to the table! Whoever wants to partake in this, (and are able to), please do! We would have a lovely variety of food, and also with this new concept, there will surely be enough for all of us. We can TOGETHER use this opportunity to create a coffee hour to look forward to, with lots of yummy treats! This is OUR church, so let's take advantage of that and do this as a community. On Sundays, we celebrate with a feast made BY ALL, FOR ALL.

*Heather Gleim*

## Ministries at Immanuel

### HOSPITALITY

**April 5:** Heather & Harry Gleim (set-up only)

**April 12:** Available

**April 19:** Beau Bowler (set-up only)

**April 26:** Patricia & Mark Preece

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

**April 5:** Heather Gleim

**April 19:** Patricia Preece

*Will you volunteer for a ministry?*



## April Programs

**7:30 PM, SAT, APRIL 4**

### *Love Songs of the Americas* Eugene Friesen & Friends



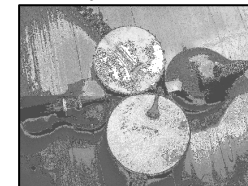
Cellist Eugene Friesen returns with Mili Bermejo, the celebrated jazz vocalist from Mexico in a program featuring popular songs from Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and the United States.

Mili and Eugene will be joined by Tim Ray, pianist with Lyle Lovett for 13 years, and Dan Greenspan on bass.

**7:30 PM, SAT, APRIL 25**

### *Old Timey Night,* with Eric Bye, George Ainley & Burt Porter

Before bluegrass, country-western, folk, and many other types of modern music there was "old-time"



– a broad designation that commonly refers to early traditional, popular music. Instruments commonly used in the old-time genre include fiddle, guitar, banjo (in several different configurations), voice, and mandolin. Burt Porter, George Ainley, and Eric Bye will share an evening of traditional tunes, many dating back to the British Isles and American plantation days.

*All concert tickets are \$5 on Sunday mornings during Coffee Hour (normal price \$15 general and \$10 for seniors and children under 12).*

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**Sun, 4/3: PALM SUNDAY SERVICE** with Eucharist, 9:30 am.

**Mon, 4/6:** Eucharist, 8:30 am.

**Tues, 4/7:** Morning Prayer, 8:30 am.

**Wed, 4/8:** Eucharist, 8:30 am.

**Thurs, 4/9:** Morning Prayer, 8:30 am.

**Thurs, 4/9: MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE** with Eucharist, 6:30 pm.

**Fri, 4/10:** Morning Prayer, 8:30 am.

**Fri, 4/10: GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY,** 12 noon.

**Fri, 4/10: STATIONS OF THE CROSS,** 6:30 pm.

**Sat, 4/11:** Morning Prayer, 8:30 am.

**Sun, 4/12: EASTER VIGIL** followed by Potluck Breakfast, 5:30 am.

**Sun, 4/12: EASTER SERVICE** with Eucharist, 9:30 am.

## Calendar

### ONGOING

**Sundays:** Choir Rehearsal, Chapel, 8:15 am

**Sundays:** Eucharist in the Church, 9:30 am.

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Suns:** Sun. School, Library, 9:30 am.

**Mon-Thurs:** Morning Prayer, 8:30 am  
(except Holy Week, see above)

**Mondays:** Community Supper, Undercroft, 5 pm.

**Tuesdays:** Ministry Support Team prayer meeting, Office, 6 pm

**Second Thurs:** Biblical Storytelling, Library, 5:30 pm

### APRIL 2009

**Sat, 4/4:** Stone Church Arts Concert, *Love Songs of the Americas*, Eugene Friesen & Friends, Church, 7:30 pm.

**Sun 4/19:** Vestry meeting, Office, 11 am

**Sat 3/25:** Stone Church concert, *Old Timey Night* with Eric Bye, George Ainley and Burt Porter, 7:30 pm.

**Sun 4/29:** *Baptism Ministry Conversations*, Chapel, Church, 11 am.

**Mon 4/27:** NEWSLETTER DEADLINE