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Easter Blessing

*John 11:25
(KJV)*

*Happy
Easter!*

*I am the
resurrection,
and the life:
he that
believeth in me,
though he
were dead,
yet shall he live:*

(Newsletter published for private circulation only)

The Trumpet

CSI Congregation of Dallas

April 2018 Newsletter



He is
RISEN

Beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Easter is a great celebration in our faith journey in commemoration of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Easter is a joyous and victorious celebrations of the cross and the victory of the evil powers of this world. In Luke 24: 13-35, we see the two disciples travelling to Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem and they were talking with each other about all the things that has happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. They were happy to have another companion. They could not identify the stranger. The stranger began the conversation and asked what they were talking about? The dimness of the vision, the dullness of the wind and the coldness of heart obscure our sight and understanding. At times, our co-pilgrims and accompanies help us analyze the meaning of the happenings around us. They help us to look into the things we are concerned with from a new perspective, from an adjective view of an outsider and thus help us to understand their meaning and significance. Jesus asked men about their conversation. They were sad. They revealed to him the story of Jesus of Nazareth, referred to him as a prophet, a popular conception of who Jesus was. Jesus started to break the two walking disciple's misconceptions. Jesus reviewed the rest of the story from scripture. This fascinating incident tells us something more about the life of Jesus. Jesus expounded the scripture. Their sad face became radiant at the expounding of scripture while on their way and they experiencing a burning in their heart. Their confusion sorrow and doubt vanished.

So they drew near the village to which they were going, he acted as if he was going faster, but they urged him strongly, saying, stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent: so he went to stay with them (v28&29). They requested him to abide with them. How much would they have missed had they not invited him to stay with them. Jesus went in. The guest became a host. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it and gave it to them, and their eyes opened and they recognized him. They saw the risen Lord in the breaking of the bread. Jesus continues to bring home to us the fact of Easter through the scripture, the joy of Easter through his eternal and unfailing presence and the power of Easter through the Eucharistic sacrament of the church.

The two disciples after their encounter with the Risen Lord rose and walked back to Jerusalem the very night to report the good news to others. They were the witness of the fact of resurrection, heirs of the joy or resurrection and bearers of the power of resurrection. The gloom of their face was replaced by joy. The encounters with risen Lord will turn all our gloom into joy, all our sorrows into hope. Let us be enriched by the resurrection experience and experience good news of the kingdom of god which derives new humanity in the risen Lord.

May God bless us,

Rev. K.G. Thomson

Worship Service & Bible Readings

April 01,2018	Resurrection: Celebrating the Joy of Salvation (Malayalam)	1 st Lesson – <i>Exodus 14: 5-31</i> Mr. Daniel Mathew <i>Psalms 118:14-29</i> Riya Samuel 2 nd Lesson – <i>Colossians 3:1-11</i> Mrs. Vincy George Gospel – Matthew 28:1-10
April 08,2018	1 st Sunday After Easter Encounter with the Risen Lord (English)	1 st Lesson – <i>Genesis 32: 22-32</i> Mr. Roshan Abraham <i>Psalms 40</i> - Ashby Joseph 2 nd Lesson – <i>Acts 9: 1-18</i> Mrs. Anjana Jacob Gospel – John 20 : 24-29
April 15,2018	2 nd Sunday after Easter Identifying Risen Lord in the Work Place (Malayalam)	1 st Lesson – <i>Ruth 2:1-18</i> Mr. William George <i>Psalms 15</i> Julia Mathew 2 nd Lesson – <i>Acts 9: 36-43</i> Mrs. Annamma George Gospel – John 21:1-14
April 22, 2018	3 rd Sunday After Easter Community Formation around Resurrection Experience (English) <i>** (to be arranged by youth) **</i>	1 st Lesson – <i>Isaiah 25 :1-9</i> <i>Psalms 126</i> – 2 nd Lesson – <i>Acts 4 :32-37</i> Gospel – Luke 24: 13-35
April 29, 2018	(Seniors Sunday) Believe in Christ: The Resurrection (Malayalam)	1 st Lesson – 2 Kings 4: 27-37 Mr. John Joseph <i>Psalms 90</i> - Mrs. Leelamma Varghese 2 nd Lesson - Acts 26 :12-23 Mrs. Mariamma George Gospel – John 11:17-28
May 06, 2018	Christ Invitation to be an Expression of Mission (Malayalam)	1 st Lesson – Ezekiel 34: 25-31 Mr. Prince Cherian <i>Psalms 47</i> - Evan John Varghese 2 nd Lesson – 1 Peter 2: 1-10 Mrs. Lisa Jacob Gospel – John 20: 19-23

April Birthdays

April 3 Miss. Raina Abraham
April 7 Mr. Vinn Varghese
April 11 Mrs. Rubikutty Shaji
April 15 Mrs. Annamma George
April 15 Mr. Neal Abraham
April 17 Mr. Prakash Varghese
April 18 Miss. Julia S Mathew
April 19 Mast. Aaron George Kurien
April 19 Mrs. Sherly Itty
April 20 Mr. Kevin Varghese
April 27 Mrs. Deepa John
April 29 Mast. Ethen Eapen Kurien
April 30 Mast. Abel Mathew
April 30 Rev. K. G. Thomson

Wedding Anniversary

April 05 Mr. Jacob Jacob & Mrs. Anjana Jacob
April 20 Mr. Bobby George Tharian & Mrs. Rayni Mary Tharian
April 20 Mr. George K Poikayil & Mrs. Cissy Kuruvilla
April 20 Mr. George Thomas & Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas

Sunday School Corner

*Congratulations to - **Riyana Abraham, Amelia Cherian, Sarah Cherian & Nathan Thomas** (students in Beginners class) for memorizing Psalms 23!! Special thanks to the wonderful parents as well! So proud of you all!!*



*Congratulations to **Abel Mathew, Edwin Varghese & Hannah Thomas** for submitting "7 sayings of Jesus on the cross"!! (March newsletter assignment)*

Announcements

- ❖ All Sunday school students are to read and learn about Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter by April 8, 2018.
- ❖ Quarterly examination will be held on April 15, 2018.
- ❖ Students are to memorize all 66 Books of the Bible. We will have a quiz on April 29th, 2018
- ❖ Vacation Bible School will be held from June 22-24, 2018. Mrs. Christine Tharian will be our VBS coordinator. More details to follow.

Chorister's Corner

"BLESSED REDEEMER"

"In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:14)

A song which reminds us of the redemption that we have through the blood of Christ is "Blessed Redeemer" (#107 in **Hymns for Worship Revised**). The text was written by Avis Marguerite Burgeson Christiansen (1895-1985). Other songs by Mrs. Christiansen in Hymns for Worship include "How Good Is the God We Adore" and "Give Me a Burning Heart." The tune (Redeemer) for "Blessed Redeemer" was composed by Harry Dixon Loes, who was born in Kalamazoo, MI, on Oct. 20, 1892. At birth he was named Harold, but during his early childhood became known as Harry and retained this name throughout his life. During his student days, he chose his own middle name after A. C. Dixon, who was then minister at the Moody Church in Chicago, IL. After a brief period of work with Marshall Field and Co. in Chicago, he studied at Moody Bible Institute and began composing gospel songs under the guidance of Daniel Brink Towner.

Later, Loes studied at the American Conservatory of Music, the Metropolitan School of Music, and the Chicago Musical College. In 1920, while listening to a sermon on the subject of "Our Blessed Redeemer," he was moved to write this melody, sending the music and the suggested title to Mrs. Christiansen, a friend of many years and a capable writer of hymn poems. She produced the three stanzas and refrain as they now stand. The hymn was copyrighted the following year and first appeared in **Songs of Redemption**, compiled in 1921 by W. Plunkett Martin and James W. Jelks, and published by the Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, GA. The copyright was later assigned to Singspiration Music and after its renewal in 1949 was owned by John T. Benson Jr.

For more than twelve years, Loes was engaged in evangelistic work throughout the United States and Canada. From 1927 to 1939, he lived in Okahoma, serving as music director first at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee, and then at the First Baptist Church in Muskogee.

In 1939 he returned to Chicago and joined the music faculty at the Moody Bible Institute. After his retirement, he remained in Chicago, continuing as a part-time teacher at Moody and becoming associated with the Rodeheaver Company, for whom he wrote many gospel songs and choruses. In all, he composed some 1500 hymn texts and 3000 hymn tunes. His death occurred in Chicago on Feb. 9, 1965.

Among hymnbooks published by members of the Lord's church during the twentieth century for use in churches of Christ, "Blessed Redeemer" may be found in the 1977 edition of the 1971 **Songs of the Church**, the 1990 **Songs of the Church 21st C. Ed.**, and the 1994 **Songs of Faith and Praise** all edited by Alton H. Howard; the 1978/1983 **Church Gospel Songs and Hymns** edited by V. E. Howard; and the 1992 **Praise for the Lord** edited by John P. Wiegand; in addition to **Hymns for Worship Revised** (not in the original edition); and the 2007 **Sacred Songs of the Church** edited by William D. Jeffcoat.

The song describes what our Redeemer did for us and what our response should be.

I. Stanza 1 pictures Christ on His way to Calvary to die for our sins

"Up Calvary's mountain, one dreadful morn,
Walked Christ my Savior, weary and worn;
Facing for sinners death on the cross,
That He might save them from endless loss."

A. Calvary is the Latin name for the hill Golgotha where Jesus was crucified: Lk. 23:33

B. One of the basic facts of scripture is that Jesus died on the cross for our sins: 1 Cor. 15:1-4

C. His purpose in doing this was to save us from endless loss: 1 Tim. 1:15

II. Stanza 2 pictures Christ on the cross with the great love that He had

"'Father forgive them!' thus did He pray,
E'en while His life-blood flowed fast away;
Praying for sinners while in such woe
No one but Jesus ever loved so."

A. Christ's love for sinful mankind is seen in His prayer that His crucifiers might be forgiven: Lk. 23:34

B. It was the shedding of His blood that made remission of sins possible: Matt. 26:28

C. Given the fact that all have sinned and thus deserve eternal punishment, there is no act of love greater than what Jesus did in giving Himself for us: Eph. 5:2

III Stanza 3 pictures Christ as the object of our praise for being our Savior and Friend

"O how I love Him, Savior and Friend,

How can my praises ever find end!

Through years unnumbered on Heaven's shore,

My tongue shall praise Him forevermore."

A. Because of what He has done for us, Christ is worthy of our loving Him with all our heart: Mk. 12:29

B. Also, because of what He has done for us, He is worthy of our praising Him with our lips: Heb. 13:15

C. And the hope of Christians is to love and praise Him forever in heaven: Rev. 5:9-10

CONCL.: The chorus focuses our minds on the suffering that Jesus experienced for us by His death on the cross.

"Blessed Redeemer! Precious Redeemer!

Seems now I see Him on Calvary's tree;

Wounded and bleeding, for sinners pleading,

Blind and unheeding—dying for me!"

This song could be a welcomed addition to those we use in preparation for the Lord's supper. It could also be an effective invitation song.

Since Christ paid the price of our redemption, we should certainly be thankful for this "Blessed Redeemer."

Secretary's Notes

- ❖ Women's Fellowship Prayer at parsonage every Wednesday at 10:00am.
- ❖ We will have Tele prayer every Friday from at 8- 9 pm, the dial in number is 515-604-9057, access code is 539672 followed by the “#” sign.

CSI Congregation of Dallas Executive Committee 2018

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