

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SERMON OUTLINE -- APRIL 2, 2023

Hard Decisions

(Matthew 27:20-22)

INTRODUCTION:

This morning we are going to talk about decisions...

I. SOME HARD DECISIONS WERE MADE BETWEEN PALM SUNDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

- A. Jesus is now at trial, & some bad decisions had already been made by Judas, Peter, and the other disciples
- B. And now, at Jesus' trial, we meet a faceless crowd, a Roman Governor, & a criminal named Barabbas
- C. The 1st hard decision has to be made by the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate... and he cannot seem to make up his mind (Matthew 27:22-26)
- D. The 2nd hard decision is made by the crowd... and it is a surprising decision (vv. 22-26)
- E. But the truth is, we should not be surprised... what is behind their decision is what is behind our bad decisions today: Sin!

II. THANKFULLY, GOD ALSO MADE A HARD DECISION

- A. God, in His mercy for sinners, identifies us with Barabbas
- B. Jesus, Who was given as Barabbas' substitute, is also given as our substitute
- C. This is "*The Great Exchange*" (2 Corinthians 5:21 & 8:9)
- D. God's decision for us is called forgiveness

CONCLUSION: *Hey, you, Barabbas –
run, jump, & shout... you are set free!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week Events

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, April 2 at 11:00am

POTLUCK SOUP & DESSERT SUPPER

Thursday, April 6 at 6:00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thursday, April 6 at 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

The most important day for Christians!

Friday, April 7 at 11:00am

RESURRECTION EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 8 at 11:00am

EASTER FESTIVAL SERVICE

Easter Sunday, April 9 at 11:00am

Soup & Dessert Supper

Our Maundy Thursday Soup Supper is back this year! Bring some soup or a dessert to share and join us at **6:00pm on Maundy Thursday, April 6** for dinner before the 7:00pm service.

Resurrection Egg Hunt

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 8 at 11am** for our **Resurrection Egg Hunt!** We'll start the program in the church listening to the Resurrection story. After the story the children will be released to hunt for eggs!

Children up to the age of 10 are welcome to join us for this event. If you would be interested in volunteering for this event, please speak with Samantha.

Informational Meeting for a New Pastor

Sunday, April 16, 2023 at Noon: After a Special Bilingual Worship Service at 10:30am, we will gather in the hall for refreshments and learn the procedure for Lutheran Church-Canada congregations to call a new pastor. Regional Pastor Robert Mohns will preach the sermon that day and give info at the meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, April 30, 2023 at Noon: After another Special Bilingual Worship Service at 10:30am, we will meet for the 2023 AGM to review and approve the 2022 Financials, hopefully decide what to do with the parsonage, and discuss needed housing allowances for Trinity's pastors. [Watch for more details.](#)

Young Adults

Trinity is hosting a **Young Adult Retreat** (ages 18-35) at **Camp Luther** in Mission from **May 5-7**. Registration is now open for this retreat, the online registration form and more information can be found at <https://linktr.ee/yaretreat>

Have any questions about these events? Ask Samantha!