CROSSWORDS

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 Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

 When we think about what is fair and unfair, what do we think about? Most times we probably think about how life has treated us unfairly. All of the injustices that have been done to us can make us feel that the world is an unfair place. Truth of the matter, it is. If it was fair though, that would be bad news for us. In a fair world, we would be rightly condemned before God and driven from His presence due to our sin.

 At Easter we remember how for our benefit, Christ came to take upon Himself our sin and pay the punishment we deserved. We could say that is unfair. Christ never sinned. Christ never once strayed from the Father’s ways. Yet it is He that is found on the cross on Good Friday taking the whole wrath of God upon Himself for our justification. Unfair is Christ on Good Friday being declared by Pontius Pilate to be innocent, yet sentenced to death.

 This is the depth of Christ’s love for us. We who are at enmity so often with the will of God have been redeemed by that same God’s great love for us. How can we do anything else at Easter than give great thanks to God for all He has done for us?

 As you go into Holy Week this year, take the time to dwell on the meaning of your salvation: what it cost God, and how much God loves you that time after time and sin after sin, Christ is there willing to forgive those with contrite hearts.

 I wish you many blessings during the rest of Lent and the start of the Easter season!

 Pastor Brian

 I encourage all of you to participate in the Holy Week services. These are the services that run from Palm Sunday through Holy Saturday. On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday we participate in the Triduum. The Triduum is the service of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. The proper way to look at these services is that they are one service. Thursday starts the service as we remember the night when our Lord was betrayed and when He instituted for our blessing His Holy Supper; we have the solemn remembrance on Good Friday when we remember Christ bearing the whole wrath of God and weight of our sins; and finally the Easter celebration at the Easter Vigil where we remember the darkness being shattered by the triumph of Christ. I encourage you and your family to make it a point to come to all the services. If you want the full impact of the marvels of Easter morning, as Christians, we are called to worship at each of these services.

 **NEWS AND NOTES:**

* **FAITH SHARING TIPS** (from the Evangelism Committee): 1) Invite family members, friends and neighbors to join you at worship on Easter Sunday. Some people are more willing to attend on special days like Easter and Christmas; 2) find creative ways to help neighbors and friends in times of need with a bag of groceries, some help around the house, a card, flowers, or a listening ear.
* **OUR GIVING:** Need each week: $2,574. Received: 2/26 $1,747; 3/5 $3,666; 3/12 $1,892; 3/19 $1,938. We are - $3,505 as of 3/19/17.
* **Schedule for HOLY WEEK – Maundy Thursday:** 7:00 pm; **Good Friday:** 7:00 pm; **Saturday Easter Vigil:** 7:30 pm; **Easter Sunday:** breakfast 7:45 am, Easter Celebration 9:00 am.
* Good Friday, April 14th, **TRE-ORE SERVICES** will again be held at Racine Lutheran High School. There are six (6) meditations, each ½ hour long, from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm. You can attend one or two or all of the meditations. Pastor Brian will be preaching at the 1:00 pm meditation.
* Don’t forget **SCRIP** cards during the coming weeks. This is a great way to buy gas, groceries, fast food, gifts, etc. and benefit our Building Program at the same time. Orders are due the last Sunday of each month.
* When you make a purchase on **Amazon.com**, pick Lutheran Chapel of the Cross as your charity and 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to church. **The web address is: smile.amazon.com.** Check Lutheran Chapel of the Cross, Mt. Pleasant, as your charity and continue on as usual placing your order.

Items for the May Crosswords need to be submitted by April 23rd.