



If you've never researched the history of Mother's Day, it would be worth your time to do so. It might interest you to know that the woman credited for Mother's Day being established as a national holiday was never married and was never a mother. She simply wanted to acknowledge and celebrate the sacrifices that mothers, including her own, made for their children.

Mother's Day has become one of the most popular American holidays and results in more phone calls than any other day of the year. But, don't let all the festivities fool you. This Mother's Day there will be women among you who will be wearing smiles, but under that happy face is a sad, restless heart. There will be women among you wishing they had a mother worth dedicating a national holiday to, and there will be women among you wishing they had children of their own that would one day rise and call them blessed.

This Mother's Day, take a moment to survey the women around you. You may or may not know each of their personal stories, but you can be sure they each need prayer. My hope is that God will give you insight as to what the women around you might be experiencing this Mother's Day. And may this serve as a reminder that no flower, card, or gift will benefit those around us as much as our prayers.

Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

My times are in your hand.

Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-5, 9-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation - if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

Jesus said, "*Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.*"

Thomas said to him, "*Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?*"

Jesus said to him, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.*" ...

Gospel – (cont'd)

Then, Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

SALEM FAMILY EVENTS

"Due to not being able to gather, some announcements that are typically not put in the bulletin but simply spoken at the end of our service will be printed now. They'll be found in this feature called "Salem Family Events." Please pass on to us any special events, activities, or achievements that Pr. Rob might normally announce (like birthdays, anniversaries, awards, gatherings, misc. announcements, etc.)."



There are some adults in the congregation that have never been confirmed. Both Pr. Rob and the council have decided to offer an **Adult Confirmation Class** to any in the congregation that would (1) like to become confirmed or (2) like to have more information on Lutheranism, the Bible, and faith in general. If any of these options appeals to you, please see Pr. Rob!



The latest newsletter was sent out just before Easter...if you haven't seen it and we have your email address, look for it in your spam folder. Finding it there, mark it "not spam" and future editions will go to your inbox.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Food Shelf - they are in desperate need at local food shelves...if anyone can donate to Family Pathways at this time, please do so! You can donate either (or both) foodstuffs or dollars. For food, simply drop off at Family Pathways' building across from the North Branch movie theater.

For dollars, simply mail a check to: **Family Pathways, 6413 Oak St.**

North Branch, MN 55056



Prayer List – Updates – please send name to either Pr. Rob robkrajewski72@gmail.com or, Jerry Youngquist

jerry.youngquist@gmail.com



Please send your offering to the parish's street address –

**Salem Lutheran Church of Oxford
26950 Furman St. NE
North Branch, MN 55056**



GRINABLES

- Therapist: I've concluded that you are incapable of describing your feelings. Patient: I can't say that I am surprised!
- People say, "I'm taking it one day at a time." You know what? So is everybody. That's how time works.
- Ann: I heard that you are a hypochondriac. Stan: Well, my doctor says I'm not, but I spent 3 days reading about it on the internet and I have all the symptoms.
- I'm sick of following my dreams. I'm just going to ask where they're going and hook up with 'em later.
- Q: What do you get when you combine an insomniac, an agnostic, and a dyslexic? A: Someone who lays awake at night wondering the true meaning of Dog.
- Did you hear about the two psychiatrists who passed each other on a walk? One said to the other, "You're fine, How am I?"