

## Life Is Not Fair

May I gently but firmly remind you of something you know but may have forgotten? Life is not fair. That's not pessimism, it's a fact. It's not a complaint, it's just the way things are. I don't like it. Neither do you. Ever since the kid down the block got a bike and we didn't, we've been saying the same thing, "That's not fair!"

At some point someone needs to say to us, "Who ever told you life was going to be fair?" God didn't. In James 1:2, he didn't say, "If you have many kinds of troubles," he said, "When you have many kinds of troubles." Troubles are part of the package. Jesus said, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. My kingdom is from another place (John 18:36)."

When all of earth turns against you, all of heaven turns toward you. To keep your balance in this crooked world, think of home!

From *And the Angels Were Silent*

**LIFE'S NOT  
FAIR!**



## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing have I asked of the LORD,  
that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
and to inquire in his temple.

I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!

Wait for the LORD;

be strong, and let your heart take courage;

wait for the LORD!

**ROCK of  
MY SALVATION  
JESUS**

## Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith--being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire--may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## Gospel: John 20:19-21, 24-29

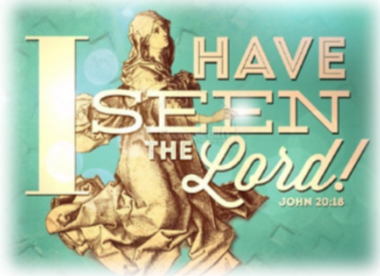
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."



## UPCOMING EVENTS



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.

Remember to keep reaching out to our community members/each other, especially those who may not be connected electronically (share w/ them the newsletter info, bulletin, recorded service, etc)



## 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](mailto:robkrajewski72@gmail.com) or, Jerry Youngquist**

**[jerry.youngquist@gmail.com](mailto: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**



**Evie Yates sends: "Best wishes to everyone!"**



There are some adults in the congregation that have never been confirmed. and 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!