Augustana Lutheran Church

102 Jonathan Blvd. N., Chaska, Minnesota 55318 Worship: 9:30 AM with Bible Class following the service

Quasimodo Geniti

April 19, 2009

Volume 5, Number 21

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The Word of Faith Bears God's Forgiveness to Men

Welcome to our guests in the name of Jesus Christ! Augustana Lutheran Church confesses and practices the full truth of God's Word, a heritage passed down to us by Luther, and confirmed in the public confessions of our church. We believe that the Bible in all its parts is inspired by the Holy Spirit, error-free, and the only source of divine revelation and absolute truth. If you have any questions about such Bible doctrine, or about our congregation, please direct them to Pastor Diers.

General Prayer

O God of all grace, mercy, and peace, who, by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, didst declare him to be thy Son and our Savior, and who, by the faithful testimony of the apostles, hast given us assurance that our faith stands upon a most true and sure record, grant us thy Spirit, that our hearts may rest in thy truth.

We thank thee for the gift of eternal life in thy Son. Preserve and defend us from all error, doubt, and unbelief, that we may hold fast to the profession of our faith. Save us from vain philosophies and worldly wisdom, and establish us in the truth of thy Word.

We lift up our hearts to thee in thanksgiving for thy Word. Illumine us by its heavenly light and instruct us by it saving truth, that we might bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Help us therein to find Jesus, our risen Lord; lead us to rejoice in him, and grant that we may receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls.

Breathe upon thy church, that it may faithfully preach thy Word and proclaim the Gospel of our risen Savior with courage and diligence in all lands and to all people. Enrich the schools of our churches, that they may bring forth youth who walk in true faith, and obedience to thy holy will.

Hearken unto the inner yearnings of our hearts which seek thy help and favor, and give us the assurance of thy mercy. And as we each must bear the cross, assure us that thou wilt not permit us to be tried above that we are able, but wilt strengthen us therein through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Forgive now the sins of thy people. Strengthen the doubting and the faithless. Bring back the forgetful and the wayward. And comfort the anxious and the distressed.

And as we go from this hallowed place this day, grant unto us all thy peace.

All this we pray in the Name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

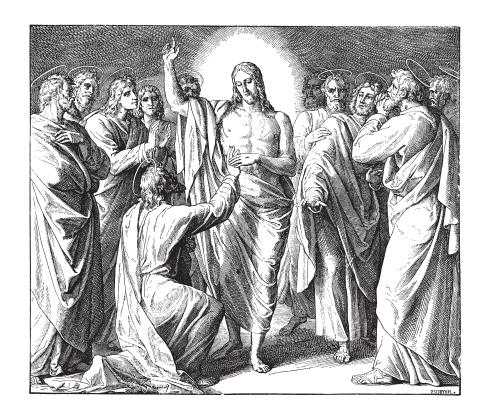
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Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone

> Quasimodo Geniti The Sunday After Easter April 19, 2009



GOSPEL LESSON and SERMON TEXT John 20:19-31

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 32:22-31

And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 John 5:4-10

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.