



Kirkkopulletiini OF FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH *Maaliskuu March – Huhtikuu April 2024*

Olemme keskellä paaston aikaa, joka valmistaa meitä pääsiäiseen, Jeesuksen ylösnousemusjuhlaan. Puhe ylösnousemuksesta saattaa hämmentää monia, koska siihen liittyy evankeliumeiden mukaan järjelle käsittämättömiä asioita, kuten enkeleitä, suuren kiven ihmeellinen vieritys, Jeesuksen ilmestymisiä ystävilleen ja viimein taivaaseen astuminen. Jos yrittää kaikkea tuota ymmärtää tai kovin syvällisesti tutkia, joutuu helposti sivupolulle.

Kannattaa muistaa, että osa Raamatun teksteistä on kirjoitettu ymmärrettäväksi metaforisesti. Ja kannatta myös muistaa, että metaforinen tulkinta on paljon syvempää kuin kirjaimellinen tulkinta.

Apostolien teoista voimme lukea, että Jeesus ilmestyi kuolemansa jälkeen ystävilleen 40 päivän ajan. Nämä ilmestykset synnyttivät kristinuskon. Jeesuksen ystävät tulivat vakuuttuneiksi, että Jeesus ei jäänytkään kuoleman valtakuntaan, vaan elää.

Jeesuksen ystävät eivät olleet mitään super uskovaisia, vaan tavallisia ihmisiä, jotka joutuivat kamppailemaan elämän ja olosuhteiden tuomien haasteiden kanssa siitä huolimatta, että olivat seuranneet Jeesusta. Heikkoina ja haavoittuvaisina.

Kuitenkin he olivat varmoja, että Jumalan voima oli Jeesuksessa ja nyt saman voiman vaikutuksesta kuolema ei voinut pitää Jeesusta.

Apostolien teoista myös voimme lukea kuinka Jeesus siirtyi viimein toiseen todellisuuteen, joka on meidän aistiemme ulottumattomuuksissa.

Kristinuskossa me luotamme, että koska Jeesus on ylösnoussut kuolemasta Jumalan voimasta, myös me ylösnousemme. Mutta siitä, mitä kuoleman jälkeen tapahtuu, kukaan ei voi sanoa varmuudella mitään. Me kaikki olemme osa Jumalan suurta kertomusta. Siinä kertomuksessa olemme Jumalan suuren armon varassa.

Emeritus piispa Wille Riekkinen sanoo että hänellä on sellainen tunne, että kuoleman rajan tuolla puolen on jotain enemmän, kuin me osaamme ajatella – on toinen todellisuus.

Häntä on puhutellut suomalaisen taitelija Helene Schjerfbeckin maalaus *Ovi*, jossa on kappelin tumma ovi.

Oven ja oviaukon välissä on rakoja, joista säteilee kirkas valo.

Sitä valoa piispa Riekkinen luonnehtii tuonpuoleiseksi.

Se valo antaa meille toivoa jo nyt, ja siksi voimme keskittyä siihen, miten voimme parhaiten elää täällä kristittyinä. Rakastaen, palvelen, tarvitsevan vierellä kulkien.

Pastori Nina

We are in the midst of Lent, which prepares us for Easter, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The thought of resurrection may confuse many because, according to the Gospels, it involves things incomprehensible to reason, such as angels, the miraculous rolling of a great stone, the revelations of Jesus to his friends, and finally the ascension into heaven.

If you try to understand all of that or study it very deeply, you can easily get sidetracked. It is worth remembering that some Bible texts are written to be understood metaphorically. And it's also worth remembering that metaphorical interpretation is much deeper than literal interpretation.

In the book of Acts, we read that Jesus appeared to his friends for 40 days after his death. These apparitions gave birth to Christianity. Jesus' friends became convinced that Jesus did not remain in the realm of death, but lives.

Jesus' friends were not super believers, but ordinary people who struggled with the challenges and circumstances of life despite having followed Jesus. They were as weak and vulnerable as anybody else. However, they were sure that God's power was in Jesus and now, under the influence of the same power, death could not hold Jesus.

In the book of Acts, we can also read how Jesus finally moved into another reality that is beyond our senses. In Christianity, we trust that since Jesus was resurrected from death by the power of God, we too will be resurrected. But about what happens after death, no one can say anything with certainty. We are all part of God's great story. In that story, we live by God's great grace.

Bishop Emeritus Wille Riekkinen says that he has the feeling that there is something more beyond death than we can think of – another reality.

He has been impressed by Finnish artist Helene Schjerfbeck's painting *The Door* that depicts the Dark Door of a Chapel. There are gaps between the door and the doorway, from which a bright light is emitted. Bishop Riekkinen describes that light as the afterlife.

That light already gives us hope, and therefore we can focus on how we can best live here as Christians. Loving, serving, walking beside the needy.

Pastor Nina



FLC COUNCIL 2024

Ilkka Lähdesmäki, President
Satu Mikkola, Vice President
Marja Hall, Secretary
Eila Winter, Treasurer
Mark Hillman
Bill Cox
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The year 2024 started out with the unfortunate news of extensive water damage in the downstairs area of the FLC building. The Council and the Building Committee have been busy coordinating the remediation and rebuilding activities, as well as addressing insurance coverage for the damage. Work is now well under way to restore the downstairs to a fully usable condition.

The other project of high importance has been arrangements for a successor for Pastor Nina. The Call Committee appointed by the Council has been working with Pastor Marita Toivonen on employment terms and a visa application. The Council is hoping to have an agreement in place soon and a visa application submitted shortly after that.

Despite being very busy with water damage remediation activities, the Building Committee has also acted in terms of removing the railing from the altar area. As a result, there is now more space for choir performances and other activities in that part of the sanctuary.

If you would like pastor Nina to visit you, please let her know pastor@finnishlutheranchurch.org or ninatetrim@msn.com or call/text the church phone 206 789 0864 or Nina's phone 503 464 6106.

Pastor is at the church office on Wednesdays 11-2. If you plan to come to see her, please call or send a message in beforehand. She is also available when needed.

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BENEFIT CONCERT FOR UKRAINE AND MIDDLE EAST

Another concert, "Songs for Peace: A Benefit for Ukraine" will be held at FLC on Sunday, **April 14, 2024 at 12.30 PM**. The concert will consist of performances by several music groups such as Folk Voice Band; Finnish Choral Society and Evergreen Livakat Kantele Ensemble. The raised money will be given in full to Ukraine and Gaza through ELCA Eastern European Crisis Response to provide humanitarian aid for Ukrainians affected by Russia's war against Ukraine which began on February 24th 2022.

WELCOME!

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We are now in the middle of Lent. Lent is a season of renewal.
Would you like to deepen your understanding of Lent and deepen your spirituality during the Lent?
Join us on Wednesday evening for short services with texts, music, prayer and reflection.
Services on March 6th, March 13th and March 20th at 7 PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2239421655?pwd=K2xtcUc1U3lJZW9jY252eDF6a0FkZz09>

Or dial in from a landline to the phone number:

+1 253 215 8782

Meeting ID: 223 942 1655

Password: 505118

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FLC UPCOMING EVENTS IN MARCH

Wednesday, March 6 Lent evening service on Zoom at 7 PM
Sunday, March 10 Taize type service at 10 AM. Music, texts, prayer, silence.
Wednesday, March 13 Lent evening service on Zoom at 7 PM
Sunday, March 17 In-person service at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Bellevue at 1 PM.
Address: 2650 148th Ave, SE, Bellevue 98007
Wednesday, March 20 Lent evening service on Zoom at 7PM
Sunday, March 31 Easter service at 10 AM

FLC UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL

Wednesday, April 10 Webinar on Lutheranism on Zoom at 6 PM. I am a Lutheran, what does that mean?
Sunday, April 14 Peace concert at 12.30

COMMUNITY EVENTS AT FLC

Saturday, April 13 Women's clothing exchange from 12 noon to 3 PM. All ladies welcome to get clothes and accessories for free. You can also bring some nice and clean clothes and accessories.

Saturday, April 20 Finnish Folkdance workshop from 10 AM to 4 PM. Refreshments.
Volunteer donation towards the refreshments and musicians. Please, RSVP ninatetrim@msn.com



MARCH 2024 MAALISKUU

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Alpo, Alvi, Alvi	2 Virva, Virve
3 Kauko Service at 10 Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö	4 Ari, Arsi, Atro	5 Laila, Leila	6 Tarmo Office 11-2 Lent Zoom service 7 PM	7 Tarja, Taru	8 Vilppu	9 Auvo
10 Aurora, Aura Service at 10 am Taize type service Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö	11 Kalervo Council Zoom meeting	12 Reijo, Reko	13 Erno, Ernesti Office 11-2 Lent Zoom service 7 PM	14 Matilda, Mathilda, Tilda	15 Risto	16 Ilkka
17 Kerttu, Kerttuli In person service at 1 PM Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö Service at St Andrew's Lutheran Church, Bellevue	18 Eetu, Edvard	19 Juuso, Josefiina	20 Aki, Kim, Joakim Office 11-2 Lent Zoom service 7 PM	21 Pentti	22 Vihtori	23 Akseli
24 Gabriel, Kaapo Service at 10 Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö Palm Sunday	25 Aija	26 Manu, Manne	27 Sauli, Sale Office 11-2	28 Armas Kiirastorstai Maundi Thursday	29 Jouni, Joni, Joonas Pitkäperjan tai Good Friday	30 Usko
31 Irma, Irmeli Service at 10 Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö Communion Easter						

APRIL 2024 HUHTIKUU

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Peppi, Raita	2 Pellervo	3 Sampo, Veeti Office 11-2	4 Ukko	5 Irene, Irina	6 Vilho, Ville
7 Allan, Ahvo Service at 10 am, Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö	8 Suoma, Suometar	9 Elias, Eelis	10 Tero Office 11-2 Zoom Webinar on Lutheranism 7 PM	11 Verna, Minea	12 Julia, Julius	13 Tellervo Women's clothing exchange 12-3
14 Taito Service at 10 am Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Cantor Maria Männistö Peace concert 12.30	15 Linda, Tuomi	16 Jalo, Patrik	17 Otto Office 11-2	18 Valto, Valdemar	19 Pilvi, Pälvi	20 Nella, Lauha Finnish Folkdance workshop 10-4
21 Anssi, Anselmi In person service at 1 PM Nojatuolikirkko Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Organist Maria Mannisto Service at St Andrew's Lutheran Church, Bellevue	22 Alina	23 Yrjö, Jyrki	24 Pertti, Albert Office 11-2	25 Markku, Marko	26 Terttu, Teresa	27 Merja
28 Ilpo, Tuure Service at 10 am Pastor Nina Tetri-Mustonen Organist Maria Männistö Communion	29 Teijo	30 Mirja, Miia				

KAHVIKULMA (COFFEE CORNER)

You are most welcome to be in charge of making coffee/refreshments on a Sunday/Sundays you would like. If you do not want to be in charge, perhaps you would like to help Greg by setting the coffee table, perhaps bringing something to eat and cleaning afterwards.

If you are interested in the coffee business, contact Greg gregpirate7@gmail.com. Thank you!

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FOOD DRIVE FOR THE BALLARD FOOD BANK

"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18 (NIV)

Please, consider donating food and/or hygiene items for the needy through the Ballard Food Bank.

You can bring the items to the church and place them in the bins/boxes in the hallway on Sundays 9.30AM-1PM and on Wednesdays 11AM-2PM.

Thank you!

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10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

1 Love is the answer. Always.

2 Vulnerability is not a weakness. It's a strength.

3 Your body is sacred. Cherish it.

4 Gratitude is everything. Be thankful.

5 Forgiveness sets you free. It really does.

6 You cannot change others. Only yourself.

7 Little acts of kindness are never little. Never.

8 Fun is underrated. Enjoy yourself.

9 Age is just a number. It's never too late.

10 Life is precious. Live it now.

Finnish Lutheran Church

8504 13th Avenue NW
Seattle, WA 98117

Finnish Lutheran Church is located in Crown Hill. The services are bilingual, **English-Finnish** on Sundays at 10 am, in person and on Zoom, every third Sunday at 1 PM at St Andrew's Lutheran Church in Bellevue, in person only. You are welcome to stay for a coffee and refreshments after church and get to know new people!

DO YOU ALREADY HAVE YOUR FLC T-SHIRT?



Sizes s, m, l, xl

\$ 20

Come to the church to get yours!

Or contact pastor Nina ninatetrim@msn.com,
pastor@finnishlutheranchurch.org