



The Pastor's Ponderings

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!

We have come into Easter, the season of Resurrection Life!

Just a few weeks ago there was snow on the ground, and no leaves on the trees, and being still new to the mystery of seasons, I spent some time quite concerned for the bulbs which had only recently begun to push green leaves from the earth, and the trees which had just begun forming tiny little budlets on the ends of branches. Would the snow kill this tender new life? Would this spring be utterly without blossoms?

You may well laugh, but this Southern California gal was seriously concerned. I found myself praying for trees and garden patches to find the strength to fight off the cold; to hold on and wait for spring.

I doubted again just last week when several days of frost and freeze were forecast. A friend suggested throwing sheets over the newly flowering bulbs and trees just beginning to bloom. There is no way to cover *all* the trees and *all* the gardens, I complained. And so I prayed again for trees and flowering plants and waited to see what would happen.

I admit that, coming from a tropical climate, getting accustomed to gray cold winter has been a challenge. I felt a deep need for the bright colors of Spring. I felt helpless against the force of nature; I couldn't stop the frost. I would have to accept whatever came. Some of us are better suited to calm acceptance than others.

I awoke the next day and the next with my first thoughts on the daffodils out front and the dogwood in the back yard, checking for frost damage and wondering how others had fared.

Easter Sunday came and there were new trees blooming and more dandelions and daffodils than I had ever seen before, and even the tiny snowdrops were coming up thru the grass.

Somehow new life had once again survived, against all odds, to remind me that life is a greater force than mere frost. And where God is concerned, life is a greater force than even the cold of the tomb.

The same is true for you and me. There are seasons of life within us, as individuals and as a church, when we feel certain that the killing frost will have its way over the tenderness of growth. But the love of God shown to us in Christ Jesus has a strength that defies all sorts of destructive forces.

Resurrection Sunday reminds us, lest we be caught up in the tendrils of fast growing fear, that death has forever lost its sting. That Life, when it is rooted in God's love, is indestructible.

Your Pastor E

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**ABBEY ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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Coming Up

April 13, 6:30pm Diaconate

April 20, 6:30pm Worship committee

April 28, 6:30pm Pastoral Relations Cmte.

All meetings will take place in the sanctuary

- The Mother Earth Wholistic Fair will be held on Saturday, April 10, 10am-4pm, at the A.C. Brase Arena Building.
- Please sign up to serve in May! There are still some empty spots on the April worship schedule; please take a look & sign up to serve.



The Intent for the April 11 Meditation/Centering Prayer group is

Comfort

*May we find comfort
in God's love*

Worship Notes April 4

Attendance: 46

Offering: \$6420



Serving on April 11

At the Table: Jim Main (c), Steve Piker (o)

Scripture Reader: Pat Werner

Greeters: Peggy Bentlage, David Dickey

Ushers: Jamie Koehler, Laurie Taylor

Worship Captain: Allen Taylor

Lilies

In Memory of

Loved Ones, from Marge Janssen

Gene Farrar, from Barb Farrar & family

Thomas Israel, from Kijja Israel & family

*Our parents, Dwight & Pat Taylor and Bud & Laurene Holthaus,
from Allen & Laurie Taylor*



John & Deborah Browne, Luther Hunt, Mark Faith, Bill Cox, Joe Robb Blattner, Susan Spooler, Carol Gleason, Liz Meyer, Debbie Bradley, Dawn Knoderer, Kim Farrar Frank, George & Helen Amick, Pat Murray & Wally Allstun, Ed Sheridan & Nita Brackin, Martha D., Mary Hendrix, Wayne Piker, Kim Wells Schott, frontline workers, Felicia Fox, Henry S., Edna Ohmart, David H., Frank & Sue Batchelor, Troy & Wilma Dooley, Dorothy R., Calvin Wells, Linda Dillman, Ed Tilley, Alan Myers, Carla Jordan, Hugh White, Kara King, Jeneva Crampton, Jack McDonough, relatives & friends serving in the military, all who are hurting, lonely, and afraid.

Do you have someone to add to our prayer list? Please inform the church office or fill out a form found in the narthex.