



ALCB

In Touch

April 2018

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ALL
are
welcome
Lutheran
Church
Brussels

Vol. 11 No. 4

The Lord is risen! – He is risen indeed! – Alleluia!



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After celebrating a solemn Good Friday liturgy with surprisingly many people and a festive Easter Vigil at the end of March with candles and many hymns, we headed into Eastertide. We see the new light of spring in the nature, breathe in the fresh air and fragrance of the flowers and enjoy the sprouting green. Everything reminds us that life took a new start. It is a picture for our destiny: after our autumn of life we will face the winter and the grave to find rest. But as followers and believers of Christ we expect the new spring. Jesus Christ was the first to walk the way through death to new life. He found a way through darkness, suffering and pain to a new life, an eternal, perfect life in light. – I read an example in a devotion these days: Miners are trapped in their tunnel. Darkness everywhere,

the air runs shorter quickly. Desperation begins to emerge, staring into death's eye. But one of the miners doesn't accept the situation. He starts digging – and suddenly his shovel breaks through the stones. A bit of light falls into the tunnel, fresh air streams into his face and fills the dark cave. He turns to his fellows and shouts: "I have broken through! We are free! Come, follow me!" – This is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He became one of us in the tunnel of our lives, and after we were caved in by the sin of the world, he broke through into freedom and a new life in light and fresh air. This happened on Easter Morning and since then Christians all over the world have been celebrating Easter every Sunday to remember that we are fellows of this way out of darkness. – Come, as often as you can, to find new hope and to be strengthened for your life! Listen to the Lord when he calls us: "Come, Follow Me!" (hymn: "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake – LSB 688) – The second stanza says: "I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying; I bid you walk as in the day I keep your feet from straying. I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below." – I wish you that together with many blessings and joy for this Eastertide,

+ Yours Pastor Johannes

Please pray for...

... The Russo family that they may have a blessed start at their new home.

... for the bereaved of Robert Leruth, that they may find comfort and hope in the Gospel of Easter.

... for the projects of our congregation that we may reach many people with the Gospel.

... for all who live in partnerships, especially those who suffer under broken relations and conflicts that they may feel the peace and friendship of Jesus Christ and that they may find the power to end all quarrel.



Pastor's absences:

05 – 13 May (holidays)

25 – 27 May (Church gathering in Germany)

If necessary you can call the Pastor on his mobile (0470 10 38 26) or if you are in urgent need of a pastor, call Reverend van Hattem in Antwerp: 03 233 62 50

The Sundays after Easter have Latin names, just like the Sundays in Lent, taken from the first word(s) of the Psalm of the day/week. As well as for the Sundays in Lent there might be a mnemonic or memory trick to remember the Sundays and the right order. Unfortunately, I just know a German one, which is just a nonsense sentence, good enough for confirmation class. The English translation says: “Curd with currant can explode red.” I’ve tried to find an English version, you may take this one:

- Quality – Quasimodo Geniti (“Like newborn infants” – Ps 81, 1)
- Makes – Misericordias Domini (“The love/faithfulness of the Lord” – Ps 33, 1)
- Jesus – Jubilate (“Shout for joy!” – Ps 66, 3)
- Christ’s – Cantate (“Sing!” – PS 98, 1b)
- Redemption – Rogate (“Pray!” – Joh 16, 24b)
- Expecting – Exaudi (“Hear me (o Lord)!” – Ps 27, 1)



➤ **Quality Makes Jesus Christ’s Redemption Expecting.**

The Quality can be identified in the way we should worship: shouting for joy, singing, and praying. When we do this we experience and expect the love of the Lord, like newborn infants expect the milk of their mothers. Then we live like “Easter-people”, people with the true knowledge of a new life.

Financial Update

Month	Bank transfer	Offerings	Revenue in total	Expenses	Sum
February	€570,-	€812,80	€1382,80	€1246,74	€136,06
March	€5900,- (until 26/3)	€1249,52	€7149,52	€1822,53	€5326,99

Our church members with birthday in April:

- ☞ 2.4 Vini Lukacs
- ☞ 4.4. Mrs Shoo
- ☞ 5.4. Natalie Russo
- ☞ 22.4. Astrid Brunner



Hymnals for your private use

Since a few weeks we have been using the new red hymnal “Lutheran Service Book” (LSB). As the title says it’s not just a hymnal, it is much more. We find the liturgy in it as well as many prayers. It is good company in a Christian’s life, even during the week. At the moment we have more hymnals than we need on Sundays. (We hope and pray that the day may come that we have not enough hymnals for everyone. ☺) *If you would like to borrow a hymnal for a while to use it at home, don’t hesitate! Please just tell the Pastor so that he can make a note who has borrowed a hymnal.*

Out of the parish register

Death and Funeral of Robert Leruth

After the death of Ivan Halasz in February, who was the first member of ALCB to die, we have to bemoan the death of Robert Leruth in March. Robert found Pastor



Matthias and our congregation around ten years ago but started to be homebound a little while afterwards. The Pastor visited him regularly to celebrate Holy Communion at the nursing home. We solemnised his funeral with many people in the Sint-Paulus church in Vossem before he was buried in his home town Marche-en-Famenne in the south of Belgium. The funeral was put under a word of the Apostle Paul, taken from Romans 14, 7-9: “For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.”

Baptism of Daniel Wildemann Craggs

On Sunday Laetare (“Little Easter”), March 11th, we celebrated the baptism of Daniel. In a joyful service we baptised him in the name of the triune God to be a redeemed child of God the Father in heaven and brother of Jesus Christ. The baptism and his new life was put under a verse from that Sunday’s Old Testament Reading, taken from the Prophet Isaiah 54, 10: “”Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.”



Send-off of Michael and Susanne Russo

Michael and Susanne Russo and their daughters are going to move to France at the end of this month. We said goodbye in the service on the Sunday of the Good Shepherd (Misericordias Domini), March 15th. May the Good Shepherd lead you on all your ways and bless you according to the wealth of his mercy for your new life! Godspeed!

Our member and brother in Christ
Robert Leruth,
 born 11th April 1927 in Marche-en-Famenne,
 died 11st March 2018 in Brussels.
 He was buried on 17th March 2018
 after a Christian Funeral.

*May the Lord of life and death show him
 what he believed.*

Following services, always at 15:00 in the German Protestant Church in Woluwe:

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Date	Sunday	Sermon
22.04.	Jubilate	2Corinthians 4, 16-18
29.04.	Cantate	Acts 16, 23-34