



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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March 2012,

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent focuses on the passion of Jesus Christ and the events leading up to His crucifixion and resurrection. One of the most often overlooked verses regarding Jesus actions during this time period is:

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives. (Mark 14:26 KJV)

It may not seem unusual that they sang a hymn. This hymn was a group of Psalms normally sung at Passover. What is incredible is that Jesus sang the hymn and it is wonderful to think of Jesus raising His voice to the words that describe His mission and the events that He was about to undergo. Just think of Jesus singing:

I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice *and* my supplications.² Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon *him* as long as I live.³ The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.⁴ Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. (Psalm 116:1-4 KJV)

What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me?¹³ I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.¹⁴ I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD *is* the death of his saints.¹⁶ O LORD, truly I *am* thy servant; I *am* thy servant, *and* the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.¹⁷ I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.¹⁸ I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,¹⁹ In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD. (Psalm 116:12-19 KJV)

The stone *which* the builders refused *is* become the head *stone* of the corner.²³ This *is* the LORD'S doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes.²⁴ This *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.²⁵ Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.²⁶ Blessed *be* he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.²⁷ God *is* the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, *even* unto the horns of the altar.²⁸ Thou *art* my God, and I will praise thee: *thou art* my God, I will exalt thee.²⁹ O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. (Psalm 118:22-29 KJV)

How beautiful to think of Jesus singing to His Father, singing as one of us and singing on our behalf of the things He would suffer for us to gain our salvation. We are so blessed to have such a gracious God and Lord. (It is a wonderful Lenten meditation to read Psalms 116, 117 and 118 in light of Christ's passion and imagine Him singing them with His disciples.) May you and yours enjoy a blessed Lent.

God's Peace,
Jay Weidner



Donations received...

In memory of Walter Hendrickson
from Neal & Cheryl Hendrickson

In memory of Daniel Bender
from Neal & Cheryl Hendrickson



Seminary Service Schedule 7 p.m.

March

- 4th – Nick Kandoll @ Zion
- 11th – Ray Stenersen @ Alston
- 18th – Charles Jousma @ Painesdale
- 25th – Nick Kandoll @ South Range

April

- 1st – Ray Stenersen @ Seminary
- 8th – EASTER (no service)
- 15th – Josh Bergstedt @ Alston
- 22nd – Ryan Kandoll @ Laurium



LOOKING AHEAD IN APRIL....first annual *SPRING SING* service hosted by the Inter-Lutheran Seminary

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 29 at 7PM. The students, staff and local musicians will be having a *Spring Sing* service in the seminary sanctuary located at 916 Pine Street in Hancock. Refreshments will be served afterwards. A free will offering will be collected and used to carry on the work of teaching and preparing our students for ministry. Hope to see you there!



SPRING SEMESTER UNDERWAY

The spring semester is underway and students are very busy with their current class load. Charles Jousma, Nick Kandoll, Ray Stenersen, Josh Bergstedt, and Ryan Kandoll continue to study as full-time students. Brittany Nelson and Karen St. Peter are also full time students in the Deaconess Program. Lavonne Olson, Lynn Jarvi, Adrienne Hilman, Mike Karinen, Tina Kanninen, Barb Manninen and Bjorn Kristensen are local students taking classes part time this semester as well as James Greydanus who is an Inter-Varsity student. The Monday night class on the Gospel of Matthew has approximately 40 students including Dean Niskanen (Greer, SC) who is taking this class on line. Orval Wirkkala & Carl Aho (Kingston, MN) and Bishop Louis Mphahlele (South Africa) are studying independently by DVD.

As we continue the work of the seminary, we thank you for your prayers, your encouragement and your financial support. ***We cannot do this work without you.*** The ministry of the seminary is not limited to a few select individuals, but is the collective effort of many brothers and sisters in Christ who have a vision for the importance of the teaching and preaching of God's Word. The Apostle Paul speaks of something similar when he writes to the church in Philippi: ***"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, ⁵For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; ⁶Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ..."*** **Philippians 1:3-6**

If you are already a financial supporter of the seminary, we thank you and pray that God will bless you and enable you to continue helping us. If you have not been a financial supporter of the seminary in the past, please consider assisting us in the future. Every contribution not only helps to sustain the current work of the seminary, but also allows us to look at expanding our ministry in the future. Thank you for your kindness and thanks be to God for the riches of His grace through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS THRIVENT CHOICE SM

Thank you for your Thrivent Choice donations in 2011. The seminary received approximately \$4,000 in grant funds that **you chose** to be given to our organization. As a benefit member, your ownership of Thrivent Financial products and services helps make this support possible.

Again this year, Through the Thrivent ChoiceSM Program, you can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes part of its charitable outreach funds. Members' eligibility and the Choice Dollars designated are based on: Holding a Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership position, annual premiums or qualifying insurance products, or contract value on qualifying products. If you are eligible and have not signed up for a choice dollar designation, call 800-847-4836 or visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. We appreciate your continued support!