



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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March 2020



### Holy Week Blessings!

Greetings and God's blessings to all of you from your brothers and sisters at Trinity Lutheran Church in Frankfurt, Germany!

Our congregation continues to gather at a distance. We were blessed to be able worship "together" throughout Holy Week. On Palm Sunday, we encouraged our families to make palm branches that they could wave as we sang together.

On Good Friday, we held a Tenebrae service. We asked our members to light seven candles in their home and then to extinguish them one by one as we did so in church. One of our families sent this photo from their home. They would like to remind us all that distance does not keep us from being together!

We have been especially blessed that so many of you have been joining us for worship on our YouTube channel: Trinity Lutheran Frankfurt. It is a true joy for us all to be together and to hear the hope-filled words of the Gospel in this way. If you have not been to our channel yet, we would like to encourage you to visit us there.

In particular, our Maundy Thursday video begins with a short clip of two of our boys waving their homemade palm branches and shouting their hosannas on Palm Sunday. You will be blessed by their joy!

We are continuing to pray for all of you during this time. We thank you also for your prayers. I would also like to thank all of you who are helping to make it possible for me to be here to share the good news of Jesus Christ with people here in Germany and all around the world!

### Confirmation Classes at a Distance

Our confirmation class continues to meet on Sunday morning by means of a conference call. Since our students are coming to us from their homes, one of our volunteers had a good idea about how we might all get to know each other better.

He asked each of the students and volunteers to find something in their home that is special to them and then to prepare a short video telling us the story behind it. The videos featured such things as teddy bears, team T-shirts and quilts made by grandma.

I shared a video about the typewriter pictured here. It is a Royal Manual. Maybe you recognize it or have even used one like it. This particular typewriter is the one my Grandfather used to write his sermons. Some of our students knew what it was. But none of them have ever used one.





## Meet Werner, Nadia and Eli Straeuli

Werner Straeuli is preparing for the Holy Ministry at the *Lutherische Theologische Hochschule* (Lutheran Theological College) in Oberursel, just north of Frankfurt. He, Nadia and Eli come from Pretoria, South Africa. When Werner completes his studies, he and his family plan to return to South Africa where he will serve as a pastor.

Werner's program of study requires him to complete a six week practicum before he goes on to vicarage. We have been blessed to have him complete his practicum with us here at Trinity Lutheran. He has had a very unique experience with us. When he began his time here, we were still able to gather for worship. Shortly after that, we began leading worship and teaching Bible classes on the Internet. Werner has been a great blessing to our congregation as he has helped us to work through this very rapid transition.

The Straeuli's have also been blessed to spend time in the United States. Werner completed one year of his studies at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. Many of you will be very happy to know that during the year they became, and remain, fans of the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers!

## Praying for Each Other

Your brothers and sisters in Christ are praying for you! We know that you are praying for us, too. In your prayers please remember:

- All those whose lives have been impacted by COVID-19. Please join us in praying for those who have lost loved ones, for God's healing grace on those who are sick and all those who are vulnerable in any way. We also ask you to pray for all those in government, health care and all areas of public service.
- Our efforts to reach our congregation and community by means of the Internet. We are praying that God would use these efforts to reach those who might not yet have faith in Jesus Christ.
- For all families, especially all those who are working and studying at home at the moment. Please pray that God would bless them with peace and extra patience.
- For Werner, Nadia and Eli Straeuli. Please pray that God would continue to bless them as Werner prepares to serve as a pastor in South Africa.
- All of the missionaries in the Eurasia Region and their families. Please pray that God would continue to work through each of us so that many more people might come to the knowledge of the truth.
- My family in the US. Please join me in praying that they continue to stay well during this time of quarantine. Please also pray for my parents as they both have other health concerns. My family truly appreciates your prayers!

To support the LCMS through the work of Pastor Gary Schuschke, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Pastor Gary Schuschke" Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at [lcms.org/schuschke](https://lcms.org/schuschke)

Or, you can send your support gifts directly to our friends at MISSION CENTRAL, 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034

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There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](https://lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."