



Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!

I wrote a sermon this past Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter) on John 20:19–31. After approving the sermon, my supervisor Pastor Mahlburg inserted it into the English language Sunday service video he created in his home, the fourth online service he's done. English is commonly spoken in Colombo so there are many Christian services in English. At Immanuel, the only Lutheran congregation in Colombo, several English speakers gather with the LCMS missionaries for weekly services. The online services are intended for them and any others who are interested.

In my sermon, I wanted people to fix their attention on Jesus and the marks of the nails in his hands and the mark of the spear in his side. These marks that Jesus will bear on his resurrected body forever remind us of his great love. They also remind us that suffering, however painful, is only temporary. Avoiding suffering isn't our calling but rather enduring it for the sake of others as Christ did for us. "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" (1 John 4:11).



In Colombo, we have been confined to our homes for the past four weeks (since March 20th). God supplies all of our needs abundantly. Systems have come into place for delivery of groceries and all the essentials. We are doing more prayer and devotions as a family, and we are spending lots of time together, getting lots of practice loving one another. We give thanks for your prayers and support of our family. We are praying for you too. Blessed Eastertide to you in the name of our risen Lord!



We celebrated Larson's birthday at the end of March. He discovered and has fallen in love with "Postman Pat," a very dear British cartoon series. So Grace made a themed coconut cake. It was so yummy!

Our three-year-old likes helping daddy in the "garden" on our balcony. We have a healthy colony of moss roses in pots and in every kind of plastic container imaginable.

Benjamin finds a little time to compose music for some Psalms in the Tamil language. During the curfew, he started up a YouTube channel which a few Tamil families are using to listen and learn.

We might enjoy a few more sunsets like this one from our rooftop before the curfew is over. The kids love it up here.



Thank you for your prayers and support!



Sri Lankan Vicar-hydes

Please Pray for Us

For good health and safety.

For God's guidance in using well this time He's given us.

For our Sri Lankan friends and neighbors, many of whom endure hardship during this difficult time.

Give Thanks For

Rest from travels.

Family time.

The Gospel still goes out even if we cannot. God's kingdom comes.

Consider

Adding us to your congregation's mission budget as a *Together in Mission* partner. For more information, call 888-930-4438.

Visiting with us over a video call in your bible study, day school, Sunday school, Women's group, etc.

Starting or renewing financial support for the Lord's mission in Sri Lanka.

To support the LCMS through our work, you may send your gifts to:

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

Make checks payable to The LCMS.

Write "Vanderhyde-Sri Lanka" in the memo line.

You may also send your gifts to:

Mission Central
40718 Highway E16
Mapleton, IA 51034



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