St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Second Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2019

WHY IS IT SO HARD TO BELIEVE?

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Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

In spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus’ victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One,
for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly.
Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source.
We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.
Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life,
bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.
Here, death is washed away forever.
Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,
with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly,
into this community, and throughout all creation.
Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.
Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.
GATHERING HYMN  (ELW p. 376 )  Thine Is the Glory

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  And also with you.

KYRIE

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Cristo, Cristo, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy.

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit’s breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit’s breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Oremos. Oh Dios de la vida, nos alcanzas en medio de nuestros temores con las manos heridas de tu hijo resucitado. Por el aliento de vuestro espíritu reavivar nuestra fe en vuestra misericordia, y fortalecernos para ser el cuerpo de vuestro hijo Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y Señor, que vive y reina con vosotros y con el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, ahora y para siempre. Amén.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus’ death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church’s proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.
When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 118:14-29

R: You are my God, and I will exalt you.

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
15 Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!
16 The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”
17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. R
18 The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.
20 “This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”
21 I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation. R
22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
23 By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Hosanna! O Lord, save us!
We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days! R
26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.
27 The Lord is God and has given us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.
28 You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.
29 Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God’s mercy endures forever. R
SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
   Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

   To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7 Look! He is coming with the clouds;
   every eye will see him,
   even those who pierced him;
   and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

8a I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: John 20:19-31

Glory to You, O, Lord.

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.
The Peace of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW p. 646) The Peace of the Lord

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

TRUSTING GOD’S PROMISE OF NEW LIFE, WE PRAY FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, AND ALL OF CREATION.

THE ASSEMBLY SHALL KNEEL, AS THEY ARE ABLE

STRENGTHEN THE WITNESS OF YOUR CHURCH IN ALL CORNERS OF THE WORLD. MAKE US VISIBLE SIGNS OF YOUR GRACE SO OTHERS SEE YOUR GOODNESS AND COME TO BELIEVE. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

HAVE MERCY ON THE MANY PEOPLE IN MOZAMBIQUE, AFRICA THAT HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE EXTREME FLOODING IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS. BREATHE LIFE AND PEACE INTO YOUR CREATION. PROTECT HOMES, FIELDS, AND COMMUNITIES FROM DAMAGING WINDS. BLESS ENVIRONMENTALISTS, ENGINEERS, AND LEGISLATORS WHO WORK TO CURB POLLUTION AND TO ENSURE CLEAN AIR FOR US AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

GIVE TO ALL GOVERNMENT LEADERS A RENEWED SPIRIT OF HUMILITY AND SERVANTHOOD, FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST, OUR LEADER, SAVIOR, AND RULER. UPHOLD CEASE-FIRES, TREATIES, AND ALL AGREEMENTS AND AGENCIES THAT FURTHER THE CAUSE OF PEACE ON EARTH, ESPECIALLY THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS IN HAITI, MALI AND THROUGHOUT AFRICA, EL SALVADOR, KOSOVO, AND PAKISTAN. **HEAR US, O GOD. YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

BY THE RESURRECTION OF THE WOUNDED CHRIST, DRAW NEAR TO THOSE WOUNDED IN BODY OR SPIRIT. LIBERATE ALL WHO ARE BOUND BY GRIEF, ABUSE, ADDICTION, OR PAIN. COMFORT ALL INJURED AND OTHERWISE AFFECTED BY YESTERDAY’S SHOOTING AT THE CHABAD OF POWAY SYNAGOGUE OUTSIDE OF SAN DIEGO. RESTORE FAITH TO THE DESPAIRING AND HOPE TO THE SUFFERING, ESPECIALLY GILBERT, MITCH, LINDA, LAQUITA, MARY LOUISE, FRANCIS, ELFREN, LEROY, ALEJANDRA, LIZ, JOHN, AS WELL AS THOSE THAT WE NAME OUT LOUD OR IN OUR HEARTS... HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

AS WE SOW SEEDS OF HOPE, WE PRAY FOR ST. JOHN LUTHERAN IN WESTHOFF. GUIDE THEM TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND ABILITIES TO DRAW YOUNGER PEOPLE INTO THE CONGREGATION. WE PRAY ALSO FOR ST. PETER’S IN ELGIN THAT THEY MAY CONTINUE THE PATH YOU HAVE SHOWN THEM THROUGH CONTINUED VISION AND DIRECTION, AS YOU USE THEM AS AN INSTRUMENT OF GRACE IN THEIR COMMUNITY. WE PRAY FOR ST. PAUL’S – KARNES CITY AND ST. PAUL’S – NORDHEIM AS THE CONGREGATIONS GROW THEIR MINISTRIES THROUGH THE ST. PAUL’S SQUARED OPPORTUNITY. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

WITH ALL CHURCHES IN THE SOUTHWESTERN TEXAS SYNOD WE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER AND ALSO FOR ELCA MEMBER CONGREGATIONS SUCH AS THOSE IN THE TEXAS LOUISIANA GULF COAST SYNOD, FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH IN BEEVILLE, TX, AND NEWBERRY COLLEGE. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

PROTECT AND PROVIDE FOR ALL WHOM YOU SEND OUT IN MISSION ACROSS THE WORLD. EMPOWER GLOBAL MISSION ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTNERS WHO PROVIDE FOR THE PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF OUR NEIGHBORS. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

WE GIVE YOU THANKS FOR ALL THE SAINTS WHO BELIEVED IN YOU AND WHO NOW ENJOY ETERNAL LIFE IN YOUR NAME. SUSTAIN US WITH YOUR EVERLASTING PRESENCE, FOR YOU ARE ALPHA AND OMEGA, OUR BEGINNING AND OUR END. HEAR US, O GOD. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

WE COMMEND THESE AND ALL OUR PRAYERS TO YOU, O GOD. COME NEAR TO US WITH YOUR SAVING HELP, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR RISEN LORD. **AMEN.**

PEACE

THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

**AND ALSO WITH YOU.**
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

(ELW p. 186) Create in Me a Clean Heart

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love’s sake. Amen.


GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Santo, santo, santo es el Señor,
Holy, holy, holy Lord... God,

Dios del universo; santo es el Señor.
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Santo, santo, santo, santo es el Señor,
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord... God,

Dios del universo; santo es el Señor.
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en la tierra.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Bendito el que viene en el nombre del Señor.
Blest is he who comes in the name... of the Lord.
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.
LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table.
Alleluia! Come to the feast.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION SONG

Cor-da-ro de Dios, tú que quitas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . . God, you . . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

... ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, have . . . mer-cy up-on us, have . . . mer-cy up-on us.

... Cor-da-ro de Dios, tú que quitas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . . God, you . . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

danos tu paz, grant us your peace, danos tu paz.
DISTRIBUTION – All are WELCOME at the table of the Lord.

This meal gives you strength for your journey of faith & life. Go forward as the body of Christ in your family, community and the world. Children or anyone choosing not to commune, but wishing to be blessed, may indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion where you are seated.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. Amen.

SENDING SONG (ELW p. 536) God Be with You Till We Meet Again

DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

DOXOLOGY (ELW p. 884) Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
For Prayerful Consideration


For those in the military: Nick Adams, Anthony Alvarez, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Jon Wayne Schulz, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva

Welcome!

We have all come to St. Paul’s by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul’s. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us. If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance, please signal an usher.

Palm and Garment Sunday at Spirit in the Hills Lutheran Church Supports Austin Area Homeless

Members of Spirit in the Hills Lutheran Church, 3001 RO Rd. at Bee Creek Rd., collected over 250 pieces of men’s clothing during their April 14 observance of Palm & Garment Sunday. While many area churches celebrated Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, with the waving of palms and a parade-like procession, Spirit in the Hills decided to do something new this year. Rev. Drew Ingram explained, “All four gospel accounts of Jesus’ Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem mention the crowd laying down their cloaks and garments along the path. In addition to participating in a traditional palm branch procession, we invited our Palm Sunday worshipers to bring a piece of new or like-new clothing to lay down as an in-kind offering to be donated to local men experiencing homelessness.” Members sorted and delivered the donated garments to the United Methodist’s Men’s Homeless Men’s Clothing Closet and Mobile Loaves and Fishes. Both organizations name adult men’s clothing high on their wish lists.

2021 ELCA Youth Gathering Planning Team Applications OPEN

The Gathering is primarily planned and led by amazing volunteers who serve on 14 different teams. Starting April 21, 2019 we will be accepting applications from individuals who would like to participate in the planning process. Applications will be accepted until June 21, 2019. A few additional details about the application process: We expect to receive hundreds more applications than available planning team roles. We hope that if you are not selected for a planning team, you will consider attending as an adult leader participant with your congregation or apply to serve as a Gathering volunteer. More information about serving as a volunteer will be released this fall. During the application process you will be asked to select up to three teams that are of interest. Learn more about each teams’ responsibilities here. Those selected for a planning team will be notified by the respective planning team leader no later than August 21, 2019. If you have questions about the application process, please email gathering@elca.org.
ALMIGHTY GOD, our Heavenly Father, we look to You alone for the future of America. By Your providence, You have placed each of us here at this time in history to be in this nation. Thank You for this blessing.

BUT ABOVE ALL, we thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. It is in His name, we come to You as we intercede in prayer for America.

FORGIVE US, OH LORD, for the sins we have committed against You in America. We are failing You by dishonoring one another through our harsh and bitter words about each other. We are failing You through broken relationships. We are failing You by devaluing human life. We are failing You with the division in our nation.

LORD, WE TURN FROM these sinful actions and refuse to live this way. Please forgive us now and help us to choose love over hate, unity over division, and life over death.

WE CHOOSE to live by Jesus’ words: Love One Another. Therefore, we pray for a future America that will choose to love willfully, sacrificially, and unconditionally just like Jesus loves us.

WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH in America to love one another. Empower each church to be full of love for one another. Ignite a revival of love for one another. Since we are to be known by our love, help us to love one another.

WE PRAY FOR EVERY FAMILY, EVERY WORKPLACE, EVERY COMMUNITY, AND EVERY CITY IN AMERICA to choose love. We believe there is power in love. We believe love is the better way. We believe love is God’s Way. Oh Lord, change families, workplaces, communities, and cities through the power of love.

WE PRAY FOR ALL ETHNICITIES AND PEOPLE IN AMERICA to love one another. Lord, tear down every wall of division and change any attitude that divides us today. Bind up our nation’s wounds and may the transforming love of God lead us to the day when justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

WE PRAY FOR YOUR LOVE to surround America. We pray for Your love to surround and protect us in every public setting and private place. Protect us from harm.

WE ASK YOU ALONE OH GOD, wake up Your church and revive Your people today. We ask You to begin a mighty spiritual awakening in every town, every city, and every county in America.

WE ASK YOU TO HELP US TO CHOOSE love and forgiveness, love and restitution, love and healing, love and unity, and a future that will be transformed by the power of unconditional love. IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, the only Savior and Hope in this world we pray. Amen.
From the Interfaith Welcome Coalition of San Antonio via the Southwestern Texas Synod: The city has done a great job pulling together city and non-profit organizations to help immigrants as they travel through San Antonio. The city and non-profits are in it for as long as needed, and we need your help.

**Help is needed to sort donations at Catholic Charities** at 202 W. French Place, San Antonio (210) 222-1294 and to organize and replenish the needs at the Resource Center set up by the city close to the bus station.

**Donations needed through Catholic Charities:**
- children’s shoes
- socks for men, women, and children
- new underwear for men, women, and children.
- light weight car seats for those traveling by Flix bus
- clothing that is clean and in good condition, particularly more babies and young children
- donations for travel tickets for Eagle Pass families

**Interfaith Welcome Coalition needs:**
- volunteers
- financial donations
- backpack items, including:
  - toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, hand wipes, travel size Kleenex, hair bands or scrunchies
  - fruit snacks, trail mix, granola bars, packages of animal crackers, Cheezits or salty snacks (peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, etc.)
  - bottles of water and water bottles
  - pens, small note pads, coloring books, crayons, small blankets (4x6)
  - English-Spanish dictionaries
  - small stuffed animals

**Please send the backpack donations to:**
Interfaith Welcome Coalition
Jane Fried
University Presbyterian Church
300 Bushnell Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78212

**Also Needed: Lunches - To - Go!**
When families are welcomed at the bus station by Interfaith Welcome Coalition, they are in the midst of their long journeys to sponsors and family. Interfaith Welcome Coalition provides encouragement and hope along with a back pack full of travel items & a ‘double’ lunch to keep them nourished during the remainder of their trip.

The wonderful volunteers of Mobile Loaves and Fishes provide 200 ‘double’ lunches each week. Interfaith Welcome Coalition gives out a total of 350 - 400 lunches.

**Where do the rest of those ‘double’ lunches come from?** They are delivered to the bus station by volunteers who gather a group of friends to purchase the supplies, assemble the lunches and bring them to the bus station. **It is a great group-project! It is a great way to lend your support to courageous families who are seeking peace and safety.**

**Get in on the action! Call, text or email Dawn Silvius to volunteer or get more information.** (210) 559-6453 dawnsilvius@gmail.com