

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Thursday is my new Saturday. These days, Troy and I record my weekly sermon on Thursday afternoon. Before the quarantine, I would deliver my sermon five times each weekend: two on Saturday afternoon and three on Sunday morning. A few have commented that the Saturday 3 pm Country Gospel Service sermon might seem like a 'practice' run. And there may be some truth there. I do remember that recently I tried an illustration that I thought was funny and all I heard from you was 'crickets.' I tried again at 5 pm. Same thing. I decided not to put the Sunday crowd through the torture.

This weekend, we have another Easter story. I really love it, but I say that about all the Easter stories. The resurrection has happened and the world continues to change. The name of the sermon is "We Never Walk Alone." Jesus saddles up to two disappointed and disillusioned disciples on Easter afternoon. The story is found in Luke 24:13-35 if you would like to preview it.

In culinary news, I did make a chicken dish and it was good. Julie made some chocolate butterscotch bars that were eye-rollers. You eat one and your eyes nearly roll out of your head because they are so delicious. Pastor Ken wrote yesterday about self-control; I'm trying to fixate on that.

I thank you all for your continued gifts to our church. I thank you for your prayers and kind words. My prayers everyday now are for the reopening of the country. Be safe and keep the faith.

Blessings to you all,
Pastor Martin