



---

Hello, St. Christopher's Community!

---

### **Do Not Be Alarmed** *by Fr. Randy+*

This past week I was fortunate to escape the downtown office and all of the spinning activity that has been consuming my mind (and sometimes even my soul) during the current legislative session. Our elected officials are working hard to do the work they are charged with in governing our state. That being said, there are many demands and needs to address in order for the legislative process to move forward.

My escape plan was to leave very early on last Thursday to drive to far western Minnesota, to help several school districts and their public safety partners develop school reunification plans and actually exercise those plans later this year. It is an important task that is critical to the safety and security of students, staff, and their greater communities. Our overarching watchword to the groups as they advance their planning and training is, “***Do not be alarmed—Be prepared, not scared.***”

As I drove westbound from I-94 into the rolling hills of the Glacial Lakes Area of our state, I began thinking about this Holy Week—all of the planning and preparing the multitude of details necessary to present meaningful worship experiences for the faithful of St. Christopher's. I drove along the shoreline of Lake Minnewaska near Glenwood, and the roadway straightened and stretched towards the horizon—traversing the richly endowed agricultural flatlands.



And, the snow began falling and blowing and swirling—quickly covering the fields and tree-lined twisting/turning river valleys with a stunningly white shroud. I knew what to expect next—the highway would become slick and slippery and likely dangerous to move ahead. I mentally prepared for what I would likely experience the remainder of my travels.

But, then my eyes were drawn to something totally unexpected—something that was a complete shock—something which I was completely unprepared for! I looked towards a grove of trees lining the Pomme de Terre River—and saw the bare-branched trees filled with dozens and dozens of perched American Bald Eagles. The eagles were perfectly still—standing watch over the countryside as it became blanketed with pristine white snow. It was a jaw-dropping sight and nothing like I had ever witnessed before in my life.



I then remembered the Mark 16 story of the women arriving at Jesus' tomb, and reflected this story alongside the experience of nature I had just witnessed—the brilliantly white snowfall on the fields like the shroud enveloping Jesus' body in the tomb; the trees filled with Bald Eagles like an angelic host dutifully standing watch over the land soon coming to new life, much as the young man/angel standing watch in the tomb which Jesus had been laid.

I could not help but ponder this unbelievable scene, and to see a reflection of the moment in the gospel of Mark's story (Mark 16) of the women going to

Jesus' tomb following his crucifixion. Remember, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome brought spices to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body, But when they arrived, they discovered the stone blocking the entrance to the tomb was already rolled away. As they entered, they saw a young man dressed in a dazzling white robe sitting in the tomb. They were alarmed, but he said to them, "*Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place where they laid him.*"

The women WERE alarmed—not by what they had prepared for and what they had assumed they would find—a dead Jesus. They were not necessarily afraid of what they believed they would face—*death*. They had seen death. They had lived with death, and they knew what to do, what was expected of them, how to behave. Death, it seems, is simply part of living.

What frightened them was something they had *never* anticipated—Jesus was *not* there—*he was ALIVE!* What shocked them was *life*, and the possibility of life. And it terrified them; it was life that made them speechless and made them flee from the tomb—for they were afraid.

***“Do Not Be Alarmed.”*** Living into the risen life of Jesus can be shocking, terrifying, and alarming, because it manifests itself in Spirit-filled lives which are unpredictable, risky, and reverse to the way of the world. Life is so much easier when we know what to do, what is expected of us, how to behave. But a life empowered and emboldened by the Spirit of the Risen Jesus is unpredictable and risky, for that life is no longer ours, but Christ's who lives in us (Gal 2:20).

This is the life which will shock us back to our senses and rouse of from death. **Do Not Be Alarmed.** He is risen! The Lord has risen indeed!  
*Randy+*

---

## Time to Turn in your Lenten Calendar Donations!

Have you been following the Lenten Calendar that the kids presented in February? Please bring your donations on Easter Sunday, and mark the memo line, "Lenten Calendar." For more information about this project, please click this Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KoqyTm9IKmq88KP02PaMF5dJrBJEGIHP/view>

## Lenten Reflections

Thank you to Barb Hovey, Scott Crow, Angela Robinson, Elizabeth Stoltz, and Mary Rowe for providing our Lenten Reflections for Holy Week.

---

## Acts Bible Study Coming After Easter

Do you want to find out more about what happened in the young Church after the first Easter? Beginning on April 7, we'll learn the stories of the Apostles and other followers of Jesus in the Book of Acts. Bring your Bible (any version) and join us at 9:15 on Sundays through May. Questions? Contact Lyn Lawyer or Marilyn.

---

Space is still available for  
**Conversation, Crafts & Crunch**  
from the Event Fair!

Join us **Thursday, April 4** from 10:30-1:00 for crafting, fellowship and a salad luncheon. Bring your UFO (unfinished object) supplies and craft amongst friends - stitching, stamping, scrapbooking, mending or whatever you enjoy! Call Ann Trapnell at 651-325-8801 if you would like to register. **\$10/person**

---

## **Our Facebook WORSHIP Fans**

We've got our 10:30 service online, for those who cannot be with us. (If you're not following us on FaceBook yet, please do!) It's especially helpful with winter weather, and it's an opportunity to connect with our snowbirds, and people we haven't met yet.

Here's where **you** come in! We really need one person per Sunday to set up and monitor a tablet during the service, and take it down afterwards. We could use several more people so that the commitment is not a burden to a few. This is a great ministry opportunity for anyone to get started in a low-key way!

Volunteers of any age are encouraged; the only requirement is some familiarity with tablets, and we'll train and provide simple directions. Please consider this important outreach opportunity! Contact Marilyn+ for more information and to sign up. [Marilyn's email](#)

If you are not "on" FaceBook, here is a link that will take you to the St. Christopher's page, so you can watch the service live streamed, or go back later to watch the recording.

<https://www.facebook.com/St.ChristophersRoseville>

---

## **Upcoming Lectionary Readings**

### **March 31: EASTER**

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18.

### **April 7: Easter 2**

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1—2:2; John 20:19-31.

## **Sunday Ministries March 31**

### **8:00 AM**

Lectors - Tom M, Bruce W

Intercessor - Joan M

LEM - Chris M

Usher - Bruce W

Altar Guild - Ann T

Coffee Hosts: (open)

### **10:30 AM**

Nursery - Tom L, Janet C

Lectors - Erin B, Sue T

Intercessor - Lyn L  
LEM - Chris B, Lyn L  
Ushers - Ann & Larry J  
Altar Guild - Kathy A  
Crucifer - Kathy A  
Coffee Hosts: (open)

---

### **Are you receiving this email forwarded by a friend?**

You can now sign up to receive the weekly Parish Mail and monthly *e-Traveler* in your own inbox. A sign-up form is now on the main page at our website. Just go to [www.stchristophers-mn.org](http://www.stchristophers-mn.org).

---

[www.stchristophers-mn.org](http://www.stchristophers-mn.org)



---

*Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date.*

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church | 2300 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN 55113

[Unsubscribe](mailto:unsubscribe@stchristophers-mn.org) [office@stchristophers-mn.org](mailto:office@stchristophers-mn.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [office@stchristophers-mn.ccsend.com](mailto:office@stchristophers-mn.ccsend.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!