



**MANITOBA NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO SYNOD**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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E A S T E R

As we come to the end of Holy Week, we prepare ourselves again to remember and live out the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Good Friday shows us that we are sinners undeserving of God's grace, and yet, receiving God's ultimate act of grace in the saving death of Jesus.

This season takes seriously that there is death in the world, but that God's promise of life is stronger. In fact, Easter is not just a promise of life but God's decisive action to restore and renew all of creation. Easter is the first day of our reconciled relationship with God through the cross of Christ. It is the first day of humanity restored to be the image of God.

Our call, as disciples of Jesus, is to see and live out this new creation in our lives and through our ministry. No doubt you have seen death in your congregations, but how is God calling you into a new creation? How is God giving you new life?

For the synod, we are in the final stages of refining our vision for where God is calling us. We are exploring what new life God has in store for us and we are trying to articulate how we will commit to being disciples of Jesus, restored through the cross.

I hope that this Easter Sunday will be the start of new creation for you. I hope that you will see God clearly at work in your lives and in your congregations. I hope that you will see clearly where Jesus is leading you as a disciple, renewed and restored for God's work in the world.

Blessings to you this Easter.

Rev. Jason Zinko  
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