



# TÕE TERA / THE SOWER - MARCH

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO  
EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



## EASTER STORY

Where is the Easter Story in the Bible? Specifically, the story can be found in the Books of Matthew, John, and Luke. The gospels take us through the story from Jesus entering Jerusalem to His resurrection on Easter Sunday. The resurrection is also mentioned throughout the New Testament, from Philipians to Romans, to Corinthians.

### The Easter Story in 14 Bible Verses...



#### 1. Matthew 21:7-9 — Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

*"They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"...*

#### 2. Matthew 26:14-16 — Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

*"Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, 'What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?' So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over."*



#### 3. Matthew 26:18 — The Last Supper

*He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"*

#### 4. Matthew 26:36 — The Garden of Gethsemane

*"Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.'"*

#### 5. Matthew 26:39 — Jesus Prays in the Garden

*"Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.'"*



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### Kantselei Tunnid/Office Hours

Teisipäeval/Tues. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Kolmapäeval/Wed. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Neljapäeval/Thurs. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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**6. Matthew 27:1-2 — Jesus Delivered to Pilate**

“Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.”

**7. John 19:6 — The Trial of Jesus Before Pilate**

“As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, ‘Crucify! Crucify!’”

**8. Matthew 27:30-31 — Jesus’ Final Steps**

“They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.”



**9. Mark 15:33 — Darkness Comes**

“At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.”

**10. Luke 23:46 — The Death of Jesus**

“Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.’ When he had said this, he breathed his last breath.”

**11. Matthew 27:57-59 — Jesus’ Body**

“As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth...”

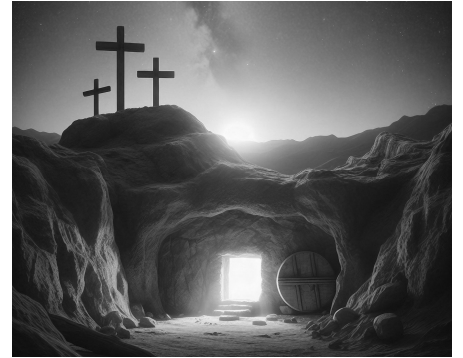


**12. John 19:40-41 — Jesus is Buried**

“Taking Jesus’ body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid.”

**13. Luke 24:1-6 — The Resurrection**

“On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body



of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

**14. Matthew 28:8-10 — Jesus Appears**

“So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. ‘Greetings,’ he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’”





## UUDISED / NEWS

### In Memorium

Laas Leivat 1941—2024



On Saturday, February 3rd, members of the Estonian community gathered at St. Peter's to mourn the passing of Honorary Consul of the Republic of Estonia in Canada, Laas Leivat. The service was conducted by Pastor Jüri Puusaag, organist Erik Kreem. Condolences were offered by daughter Maaja Leivat-Uukkivi, Laas' granddaughters, the Estonian Ambassador to Canada Margus Rava, Korp. Fraternitas Estica Tiit Romet, the President of the Estonian Central Council in Canada Kairi Taul Hemingway, and friend Marcus Kolga.



Musical remembrances by soloist Avo Kittask and the Toronto Men's Choir. The service was live-streamed and may be viewed on our website.

### Looking toward the future.

On February 5th, the Executive met with the leaders of St. Andrew's Congregation to share our perspectives of the challenges facing our congregations. We discussed how we can continue to support each other. This was an opportunity to share ideas and identify how we can revitalize our congregations.



### Sharing Experiences

On February 6th, the Executive had a very productive meeting with four of our Estonian community religious leaders. It was a great opportunity to share experiences, ideas, and thoughts for the future. We examined the overall state of our community and the issues that our churches have to overcome. We are grateful for the many insights that their years of service provided to us for our future planning.



In attendance were Pastors Peeter Vanker, Kalle Kadakas, Jüri Puusaag, and Ando Kass along with Executive members Väino Einola, Toomas Trei, Anne Keelmann, Linda Laikve & Tiit Roiser.

### Seniors Friendship Luncheon

On February 10th, a senior's friendship afternoon gathering, Lõbus Sõbrapäeva Pärastlõuna, took place in our large hall. Great music, food, and company were enjoyed by all. A great thank you to the Lõbus Sõbrapäeva Pärastlõuna group that hosted and organized the event.



What do rabbits say before they eat? "Lettuce pray."



### We have a new dishwasher!

The bulk of the cost of that shiny new appliance in the basement kitchen was donated by the Guild. The former Ladies Guild worked hard to hold events, and combined with the proceeds of cookbook sales, provided most of the funding for our new purchase. Thank you!

Photos: Squeezing into the lift & landing successfully in the basement.



### Mass Mailing to Update our Membership List

A large mass mailing was recently undertaken in order to update our church records. We note that some of your membership information is out-of-date, or missing.



**If you consider St. Peter's to be your home congregation, please update your contact information by emailing or calling the church office, or filling in this online form:**

<https://forms.gle/gQ7A5wiLbEbtXTcY6>

Please be sure to indicate who is the primary member, additional family members, and your postal and email address.

### Income Tax Receipts

A word about your tax receipt... St. Peter's abides by the Canada Revenue Agency's "Donation Tax Receipt" rules by providing a donation tax receipt to the person who made the donation.

CRA Donation Tax receipts will be mailed by the end of February. If you have a question about your donation(s), please call the office.

### Room Rentals

The church welcomes groups that wish to rent the facility whenever we have excess capacity. Rentals need to be coordinated with the office so that bookings do not interfere with scheduled services and prior bookings. We try not to overlap bookings within the church.



*Ma olen väike karjane,  
mul loodud laulja keel,  
sest laulan nagu lõoke,  
ja rõõmus on mu meel.*

*Kui vaatan taeva ülesse,  
siis tuleb meelde see,  
et seal on hea Karjane,  
ma tema talleke.*

*Sind, kallis taeva Karjane,  
ma tänan südamest,  
et hoiad, kaitsed heldesti,  
mind, oma tallekest.*

*Viis ja sõnad:  
Martin Körber, 1817-1893.*

One Palm Sunday, little Johnny was sick and stayed home from church. When his brothers and sisters came home carrying palm branches, Johnny asked where the palms came from. His father replied, "When Jesus walked by, people held palm branches over his head."

"Just my luck!" Johnny said. "The one time I don't go to church, Jesus shows up."





## A HERITAGE MOMENT IN HISTORY

### Remembering Heljo Liitoja—



At the request of Pastor Puhm, Heljo Liitoja (Nurm), organized a Sunday School for St. Peter's in January of 1949. The group of 19 children quickly grew in size, and soon the Sunday School had spread out throughout the church building.

Arranged according to ages, several groups met in the large hall, some in the smaller. The kitchen was occupied, so was the stage, and even the pastor's office. At its largest, the Sunday School had 256 students. Do you remember participating in the choir? The rhythm band, singing at one of the three concerts each year? There were picnics, Christmas parties, and a grand Christmas play held at Northern Secondary School.

Heljo was not alone, there have been many Sunday School teachers over the years. In the beginning, Linda Soopere directed the children's choir, history was taught by Klaudia Voiko, folk dance by Ants Saar. Ellen Martens took over Estonian lessons, Meta Puhm taught the older children. Ene Falkenberg created amazing costumes and stage designs.



*The first year of Sunday School—June 1949.  
Below: Sunday School outing to Jõekääru 1953.*



*Musical ensemble 1958.  
Below: Christmas in the Forest "Jõulupuu Metsas" 1965.*



## CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS / JUMALATEENISTUSED & ÜRITUSED

### March 3 (Sunday) -

11:30 English-language service with Pastor Pamela Korman. Chung Lee organist. After the service, coffee will be served in the Guild room.

**March 6 (Wednesday)** - 12:00 noon Guild meeting to discuss edits and additions to 2nd edition of Cookbook.

**March 21 (Thursday)** - 12:00—2:00 p.m. Interactive activity with Tiina Tambaum of Haapsalu kolledž (Tallinna Ülikool) hosted by the Estonian Relief Committee in Canada (Eesti Abistamiskomitee). Refreshments will be served with a voluntary donation requested for St. Peter's. Please register your attendance with the church office at 416-483-5847.

**March 29 (Good Friday)** - Congregation-led gospel readings and prayers

in Estonian and English followed by a film: *Martin Luther: A Return to Grace, Luther's Life and Legacy*. Narrated by Hugh Bonneville, directed by David Batty, the great drama of Martin Luther's life comes

alive in this vivid portrayal of the penniless monk's quest for truth—a quest that would re-shape the church, and the world. Martin Luther triggered a seismic upheaval that rocked the western world in the 1500s—with an impact that continues to reverberate to this day. Running time 1 hour & 45 min. The film will have an intermission with a light luncheon, voluntary donation requested to cover the cost of food. Please register your attendance with the church office at 416-483-5847.



### March 31 (Easter Sunday) -

11:30 Estonian Service with some English. Pastor Ando Kass, Erik Kreem organist. An Easter brunch will follow the service in the downstairs hall, \$25. Please register your attendance with the church office at 416-483-5847.

A man wanted an Easter pet for his son. He considered a baby chick versus a baby duck. They were both cute, but he decided to buy the baby chick. Do you know why? The baby chick was a little cheaper.

## PALVUSED



**Suurel Reedel - Jumala Tall** - Issand Jeesus, Jumala Tall, Sina alandasid end ja olid kuulekas kuni surmani. Me täname Sind, et Sa võtsid enese peale meie haigused ja valud ning kandsid karistust, et meil oleks rahu. Ärata ja valgusta meid, et tunnek-sime ja kahetseksime oma pattu. Puhasta meid oma ohvriverega. Sinule olgu ülistus ja au nüüd ja igavesti.

### **Kristuse ülestõusmise püha ehk 1. ülestõusmispüha - Kristus on surnuist üles**

**tõusnud!** - Kõigeväeline Jumal ja Isa, me ülistame Sind selle eest, et Sa äratasid surnuist oma Poja Jeesuse Kristuse, võitsid surma ja avasid meile tee igavesse ellu. Süüta tõelist ülestõusmisrõõmu meie südames, kes me ristimises oleme osa saanud Sinu ülestõusmise väest. Kinnita meid, et kogu südamest usuksime Kristusesse kui meie Lunastajasse ja püsiksime Temas. Jeesuse Kristuse, Sinu Poja, meie Issanda läbi.