

# The Lakeside



## Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday March 25, 2024 - !! Corinthians 4:6

6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Read II Corinthians 4 for meditation and inspiration.



## ***THE FULLNESS OF GOD'S GIFT***

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Orchidaceous! I can think of no better opportunity to call forth one of my favorite words than today, Monday of Holy Week leading us to Easter Sunday. Even when you hear it for the first time, it's a word that immediately evokes an image of awesome beauty. When no other word will do, it is an expression of something extravagantly wonderful. And just like it sounds, the word harkens the imagery of an orchid flower in full bloom. Let's all picture that image for a moment on this most orchidaceous of all mornings!

At the dawn of the world, there was a time when the Lord God walked among the garden blooms in the cool of the day. But Adam, the man in the story, hid among the trees. "Where are you?" The Lord called to him, and Adam answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked (Adam refers here to his loss of holiness), and I hid".

Ages later, there was another garden and another Man. This Man did not hide. He who had said to Lazarus, "Come forth!" also Himself emerged from the tomb that held Him. He stood in the light of day and, unlike Adam, He was neither naked nor ashamed. No, this Jesus, Son of Mary, was clothed in the multi-colored coat of glory which His heavenly Father had given Him as a reward for His obedience. In the splendor of His risen body, He rivaled the radiance of the sun and the brilliance of a heavenly light which reveals all, and cleanses and purifies all that it shines upon. That is orchidaceous!!

Enjoy God's enormous forgiving love: bask in it, revel in it and be cloaked in it, for it is God's great gift to you!!

- Maundy Thursday with lessons learned, bread broken, and wine consumed.
- Good Friday with horror and hate on full display.
- Easter the last word of Love over it all.

May you have a meaningful and finally a joy-filled Holy Week with an orchidaceous  
Easter.

In the Resurrection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger