

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 20, 2024

A WORD FROM PT

This Sunday with our gathering for Palm Sunday/ Sunday of the Passion, Holy Week begins. We are nearing the completion of our Lenten Journey. We have one final Lenten Midweek Soup, Song and Story. And then during Holy Week we will assemble on Maundy Thursday, March 28, for the Agape Feast and on Good Friday, March 29 for the Tenebrae Service.

We have the rich opportunity this coming Sunday for a little festivity with the procession with palm branches. And then as we transition to a consideration of the Passion of our Lord, we will hear read the whole account of the Passion from Mark's Gospel. This includes all of chapters 14 and

15.

So, why is it called the Passion? We are used to the term referring to our emotions, desires, feelings, and convictions. But the Latin base for this word was synonymous with the word 'suffering'. That meaning with the English word has become obsolete in common usage, but the former meaning lingers in the Church. It deals with the part of the Creed which reads, "[He] suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried."

And speaking of the Creed, isn't it interesting how we jump immediately from Jesus birth "born of the Virgin Mary" to His Passion? It isn't that His healings, exorcisms, teaching, and example do not matter. Rather, it is the case that who He is and what He came to accomplish matter most. The Incarnate Son of God, now also fully man, came to suffer and die for us that we might have forgiveness and eternal life.

Roughly 30 percent of the Gospel Accounts are devoted to His final week on earth, what we call Holy Week. In Mark's Gospel we will read of Jesus' Anointing at Bethany; the Institution of the Lord's Supper at the Seder Meal; the prediction of Peter's denial; Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane; the betrayal and arrest; Jesus' on Trial; Peter's denial; and Jesus' death and burial.

In remembering his joyful and triumphant entry, we realize the irony of crowds that one week hail Him as King, and the next week cry "Crucify Him!" Palm Sunday is the prelude to the Cross in which all the events of the rest of the week participate.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What are we observing on "The Sunday of the Passion"?

To many this day is known simply as Palm Sunday. And indeed, the prelude to Jesus' final week begins with his triumphal entry into Jerusalem which involved a procession of Palms and shouts of joy. And yet, Jesus knows full well what lies ahead.

He will be wounded and killed. He knows that blood will be spilled and flow from His head, hands, feet, and side. He knows his death on the cross will bring about a great victory over sin, death, and the devil. The horror of being severely wounded lies ahead, and yet he will not be deterred. It is for this purpose that He has come into this

world.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 3/20 Lenten Midweek
6:30pm Soup, Son, and Story

Thursday, 3/21
9:30am Prayer Gathering

Friday, 3/22
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 3/24 Palm/Passion Sunday
8am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Fellowship
10:45am Education

Thursday, 3/28 Maundy Thursday
6:30pm Agape Feast

Friday, 3/29 Good Friday
7pm Tenebrae Service



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

THIS AND THAT...

Our final **Lenten Midweek Services** is Wednesdays, March 20 at 6:30pm. We gather at 6:30pm for a soup supper, and then a half hour devotional service at 7.

The theme for our **“Soup, Song, and Story” Lenten Midweek Services** is: “The Ten Commandments Preach Repentance”.

Looking ahead: **Holy Week** is the week of March 24, starting with **Palm/Passion Sunday**, then **Maundy Thursday** with our celebration of the Agape Feast

on the 28th, and then our **Good Friday Tenebrae** Service on the 29th.

A timely **Bible Study on 1 Corinthians** is being offered to all members on Sunday mornings at 10:45am, and to the Men over breakfast at 7am on Friday Mornings. A group study is an excellent way to learn God’s Word.

Don’t forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Mostads are signed up for

the week of March 17 to clean the church. It is yet to be determined who will cover the week of April 21

The March **Designated Benevolence** is for the **Voice of the Martyrs**.

More than anything else we should wish to tell others that Jesus suffered and died for them. That’s how much God loves us. And then telling people about Jesus’ triumphant resurrection from the grave gives us our greatest hope. Jesus promises believers a similar resurrection.

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

March 16..... Jackie Repaal
 March 16..... Jon Uy
 March 17..... Mike Meunier
 March 18..... Nikki Hanson
 March 26..... Asher Roll
 March 26..... Benjamin Roll
 Apr 1 Jarrod Roll
 Apr 7 Janie Uy
 Apr 9 Leslie Duesenberg

Anniversaries

Apr 27..... T&P Betlach

Top 10 Conversations Between Golfer and Caddy

- the final five...

5. Golfer: “Please stop checking your watch all the time.”
Caddy: “It’s not a watch - it’s a compass.”
4. Golfer: “How do you like my game?”

Caddy: “Very good sir, but personally, I prefer golf.”

3. Golfer: “Do you think it is a sin to play on Sunday?”
Caddy: “The way you play, sir, it’s a sin on any day.”
2. Golfer: “This is the worst course I’ve ever played on.”
Caddy: “This isn’t the

golf course. We left that an hour ago.”

- and the #1 best caddy comment:

6. Golfer: “That can’t be my ball, it’s too old.”
Caddy: “It’s been a long time since we teed off, sir.”

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

3/24 Palm/Passion Sunday

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Jeremy Schoonover
Crucifer: Stella Roll
Acolyte: Asher Roll
Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover
Counters: Jeremy S/Dan M
Comm Asst: Mike Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

Acolyte: not needed
Ushers: Jarrod Roll
Counters: not needed
Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: not needed
Livestreamer: not needed

Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: N/A
Livestreamer: Jed Roll

3/28 Maundy Thursday (Agape Feast)

Asst Minister: not needed
Reader: Jessica Schoonover
Crucifer: not needed

3/29 Good Friday (Tenebrae Service)

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Nikki Hanson
Crucifer: N/A
Acolyte: N/A
Ushers: Dan Molstad
Counters: N/A
Comm Asst: N/A

3/31 The Resurrection of Our Lord

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Karri Bjornstad
Crucifer: Dawson Staff
Acolyte: Elliott Cunningham
Ushers: Mary Bartos
Counters: Connie M/Ron K
Comm Asst: Tim Betlach
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: not needed
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
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Services held at 9am at:
 642 Western Avenue
 A block north and then
 a block west of King Furniture