

Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023
Lutheran Service Book, Divine 4, page 203

Opening Hymn “If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee”

LSB 750

- 1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee
 And hope in Him through all thy ways,
 He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
 And bear thee through the evil days.
 Who trusts in God's unchanging love
 Builds on the rock that naught can move.

- 2 What can these anxious cares avail thee,
 These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
 What can it help if thou bewail thee
 O'er each dark moment as it flies?
 Our cross and trials do but press
 The heavier for our bitterness.

- 3 Be patient and await His leisure
 In cheerful hope, with heart content
 To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
 And His discerning love hath sent,
 Nor doubt our inmost wants are known
 To Him who chose us for His own.

- 4 God knows full well when times of gladness
 Shall be the needful thing for thee.
 When He has tried thy soul with sadness
 And from all guile has found thee free,
 He comes to thee all unaware
 And makes thee own His loving care.

- 5 Nor think amid the fiery trial
 That God hath cast thee off unheard,
 That he whose hopes meet no denial

Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to ev'rything.

6 All are alike before the Highest;
'Tis easy for our God, we know,
To raise thee up, though low thou liest,
To make the rich man poor and low.
True wonders still by Him are wrought
Who setteth up and brings to naught.

7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Psalm 121

Spoken by the congregation

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

My help comes from the LORD,

who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, he who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil;

he will keep your life.

The LORD will keep

your going out and your coming in

from this time forth and forevermore.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1–9

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Jesus The Very Thought of Thee”

Holy Cross Handbells

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“God Cares For Me”

Holy Cross Choir

Holy Gospel

John 3:1–17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God

is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB page 206

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come

again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

LSB 722

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
 Upon life’s way;
Direct, protect, and feed me
 From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor
 I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior,
 And lead the way.

- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
 I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages,
 Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding,
 I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding,
 In peace I go.

- 3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen
 And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen
 My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
 O blessèd Friend;

So take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
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Sermon

“Follow God’s Direction”

Genesis 12:1-9

Stand

Prayer of the Church

LSB page

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, Your Son has shown Your love to the world in His death and resurrection. Give Your people hearts to remember Your gracious works and to proclaim Your name in all things. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Lord God, heavenly Father, You promise us an inheritance not because of Your law but because of Your promise to Abraham and to us. In Your grace, nourish us in the faith unto life eternal. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You made Your servant Abraham the father of us all through faith, and You have given all fathers the calling of Abraham to hand down the Gospel of Christ. Fill their hearts with the words of Christ, and remember them according to Your great mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, remember our nation and its leaders. Bless all who make, administer and judge our laws, and enable us to be good and responsible citizens. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, be near to the sick and the suffering [*especially* _____]. Comfort them with Your divine promises, and grant healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, Nicodemus was led by the word of Jesus to the cross, and from the cross he received the body of Jesus. Grant us faith like his to trust Your Word and receive Christ's body and blood in the Holy Sacrament for forgiveness, life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, You give life to the dead and have united the faithful of all ages in the Body of Christ. As You shelter all the saints in the arms of Your mercy, so comfort us who await Your final victory over death and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

Preface

LSB page 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally.

Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB page 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB page 209

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB page 209

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB page 209

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB page 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

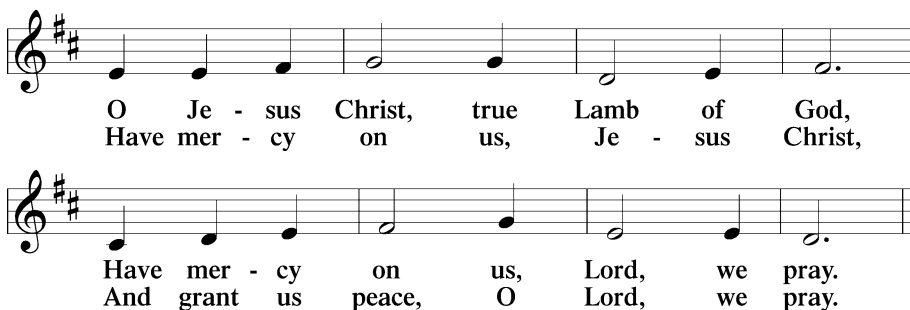
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB page 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution Hymn

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
 Follow His example pure,
 Through a world that would deceive us
 And to sin our spirits lure.
 Onward in His footsteps treading,
 Pilgrims here, our home above,
 Full of faith and hope and love,
 Let us do the Father's bidding.
 Faithful Lord, with me abide;
 I shall follow where You guide.

- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
 And with patience bear our cross.
 Joy will follow all our sadness;
 Where He is, there is no loss.
 Though today we sow no laughter,
 We shall reap celestial joy;
 All discomforts that annoy
 Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
 Jesus, here I share Your woe;
 Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
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Distribution Hymn

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LSB 702

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me,
 Oh, may my love to Thee
 Pure, warm, and changeless be,
 A living fire!


3 While life's dark maze I tread
 And griefs around me spread,
 Be Thou my guide;
 Bid darkness turn to day,
 Wipe sorrow's tears away,
 Nor let me ever stray
 From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
 When death's cold, sullen stream
 Shall o'er me roll,
 Blest Savior, then, in love,
 Fear and distrust remove;
 O bear me safe above,
 A ransomed soul!

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB page 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB page 212

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB page 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB page 212

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

- 1 Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
 Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
 Hold me with Thy pow’ful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 Feed me till I want no more;
 Feed me till I want no more.

- 2 Open now the crystal fountain
 Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
 Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,
 Be Thou still my strength and shield;
 Be Thou still my strength and shield.

- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell’s destruction,
 Land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
 I will ever give to Thee;
 I will ever give to Thee.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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THE SUNDAY HERALD

March 6 -12, 2023

MONDAY

Evangelism Ministry 7:00pm
AA 7:00pm

TUESDAY

Ladies Guild 1:00pm
Elders Meeting 7:00pm
TOPS 8:30am & 6:00pm

WEDNESDAY

Lenten Dinner 5:30pm
Midweek Lenten Worship 7:00pm

THURSDAY

Prayer Group 3:00pm
Bells 6:30pm
Choir 7:30pm

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 8:00am
Women's Bible Study 9:00am
Worship 5:30pm

Mite-y Muffins Sale

SUNDAY

Sunday School and
Adult Bible Class 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Mite-y Muffins Sale

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE 3RD WEEKEND IN LENT

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Epistle: Romans 5:1-8

Holy Gospel: John 4:5-30, 39-42

ABOUT THE COVER

All the Scriptures testify to Christ, and Christ alone, as the Savior of the world. John specifically tells us that his Gospel account was written so that we might believe (John 20:31). In the most well-known verse of the Bible, we have this central message of all the Scriptures put most succinctly: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

We will be collecting items for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. A box will be in the hallway leading from the

parking lot and will be labeled "Earthquake Relief". All items need to be collected by Sunday, March 12 for shipment. Thank you for your support. Questions contact Margaret Yusko. Items needed: new or gently used blankets, coats, gloves, scarves, beanies/hats, new only underwear, and any warm clothing items.

LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Lenten Worship Services are on Wednesdays thru March 29, with a worship service each week at 7:00 pm and quiet communion will be offered after each worship service. The theme of Deacon

Tony's sermon series is "This is Love". Join us for dinner before the worship service at 5:30 pm. The schedule is listed below.

LENTEN SUPPERS

3/8 – Pizza & Salad (Sunday School)

3/15 – Irish Stew topped with mashed potatoes, salad & rolls (Choir/Bells)

3/22 – Chili, Hotdogs, corn bread & Salad (Church Council)

3/29 – Penne pasta with meat sauce or alfredo, bread & salad (Mark & Cinda Coon)

All meals are from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. A free-will donation is collected. Come and join us for good food and fellowship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday April 8th the Sunday School will be hosting, and Easter egg hunt and we need your help. We will be collecting plastic eggs and candy to fill the eggs. Donations can be dropped in the basket outside the Sunday School office. Please make sure the candy is wrapped and is small enough to fit inside the plastic eggs. We appreciate your support. If you have any questions, please talk to Laurel Clemons.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone from the Car Club & Ladies Guild and others who helped with the Ash Wednesday/Sunday meal. Our freewill offering brought in \$228 for the Building & Property Committee. Thank you!!

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date, April 30th, 2023, for a potluck in honor of our charter members and early members of Holy Cross. This will follow our 10 am service. Hope to see you there.

MITE-Y MUFFINS

will be on sale (freewill offering) next week, March 11 & 12. All proceeds will be given to LWML mites. As you know, LWML supports various mission grants, and these grants are funded through your mite giving. Please help us by purchasing a muffin!

HOLY CROSS CPR/FIRST AID TRAINING

There will be a CPR/First Aid training class offered for all who would like to participate on March 18, 2023, at 10:00 am. I will have a sign up sheet posted in the Narthex so we can provide the instructor with an accurate count before the class. It is highly recommended that all Elders and Ushers attend. The class is open to anyone interested. Thank you, Michelle Hoeft.

TELLERS NEEDED

We are in need of additional tellers to count offering on Sundays. The commitment is about 32 – 40 hours for the year. No teller experience needed. If you would like to be part of the Sunday fun, please reach out to Denise Vandenberghe at 248-320-6704. Thank you.

LENTEN / EASTER SEASON

Lenten Dinners - Wednesdays,
5:30 pm

Lenten Worship - Wednesdays,
7:00 pm

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 8

Holy week begins with Palm Sunday Weekend - April 1 & 2

Maundy Thursday - April 6, 7:00 pm

Good Friday - April 7, 7:30 pm

Easter Egg Hunt - April 8, 11:00 am

Easter Celebration - April 9, 10:00 am