

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday, March 28—The Blessing of the Palms and Reading of Luke's Passion Narrative

We remember Jesus' triumphal procession into Jerusalem as the coming Messiah with praise and palms raised high. However this joy is short-lived as his entrance into the holy city puts into motion the events leading to his death.

Holy Wednesday, March 31, 7pm—The Laying on of Hands and Forgiveness of Sins

We began Lent with confession and repentance on Ash Wednesday. As we prepare for the Three Days of Christ's Passion, we confess our sins and receive forgiveness from our Lord.

Maunder Thursday, April 1, 7 pm—Holy Communion with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar

We remember how Jesus loved his disciples by washing their feet and by offering his own body and blood as a sacrifice for our sins. Our fourth graders and their families participate in Holy Communion with their hand-painted chalices. The service ends with the stripping of the altar reminding us of how our Lord was treated as a criminal and stripped of his dignity.

Good Friday, April 2

12:15 pm Service of Nails for Children

We follow the cross as it journeys through our nave as we hear the events leading up to Jesus' own death on the cross. Worshipers may hammer a nail into the cross recounting how our Lord was nailed to a cross for his crucifixion.

7 pm Tenebrae—The story continues as we follow Jesus from arrest to trial to crucifixion in the Gospel of John. The darkness deepens and worship enfolds us. We close this service in silence and complete darkness.

Easter Vigil, April 3, 7:45 pm

From the Easter Fire, the Paschal Candle, representing Christ, is lighted. The nave, still dark from Good Friday, slowly fills with light as we enter with our candles. We relive the dramatic stories of how God has saved his people time and again. From Noah and the Flood to Moses and the Red Sea to Jonah being saved from the Great Fish, we hear salvation unfold. And then the Gospel is proclaimed: Jesus has triumphed over the grave and brought us new life! Alleluias ring and the joy of Easter resounds! The story of salvation continues as we gather around the font for Holy Baptism. We celebrate and share the feast of Christ' resurrection.

April 4

Easter Sunday



Easter Breakfast - On Easter morning the men of Good Shepherd will be providing a breakfast. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall anytime between 7:30am and 11:30am.

Resurrection of our Lord/Easter Day (Notice Time Changes)

We celebrate the festival of Easter, the most important day of the year for Christians. The tomb lies empty. Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Darkness gives way to dawn. We celebrate our Lord's victory over death and the grave as those who live in his unfailing light. The Festival of Holy Communion is celebrated at all our worship services.

6:45am Sunrise Service in the Memorial Garden

8:00am Shepherd Song Ensemble

9:30am Good Shepherd Sanctuary Choir and Bell Song Handbell Choir

11:00am HEARTSONG Youth Choir and Shepherd Children's Choir

Easter Lilies can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one for \$11.75. Please see the Wittenberg Information Center for more information and to sign up.

When you pray...



When you fast...



When you give alms...



Our Lenten Journey

A guide to Sunday, Wednesday and special events beginning February 17h through Easter Sunday.

Wednesday's

Ash Wednesday, February 17

12:15 pm and 7:00 pm

Marking with Ashen Crosses & Holy Communion

We are marked with the cross of Jesus as a visual reminder of our baptism into Christ. This worship opens the doorway into Lent, a time given to wrestle with who we are in light of who Jesus is.

Wednesdays in Lent

Lenten Worship, 7:00 pm

Based on the Old Testament Readings & the Psalms We explore a variety of spiritual practices to deepen our life of prayer with God.

- Feb. 24** Almsgiving
- Mar. 3** Guided Visual Meditation
- Mar. 10** Fasting
- Mar. 17** Daily Examen (A way to reflect on the day with God)
- Mar. 24** Guided "Letting -Go" Meditation

Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall, 6:00 pm

Enjoy this tremendous opportunity for all ages to break bread together before worship on Wednesday. If you want to bring a pot of soup, sign up at the Wittenberg Information Center or email Lois Walker (lois@gslchurch.org)

Lenten Mid-Week Offerings

Our offerings will support Campo Verano, our week-long day camp for Hispanic children. Children come at no cost. In partnership with counselors from Lutheridge, we will welcome around 35 children this summer for our 7th year of camp.

Sunday, March 21, 3pm HEARTSONG CONCERT
Our Middle and High School Youth Choir fill our sanctuary with abundant praise. This is HEARTSONG'S 5TH Annual Concert.

When you pray.....

When you fast....

When you give alms....

During the forty days of Lent we journey with Jesus to the foot of the cross. We begin this journey on Ash Wednesday as we confess our sinfulness and our need for a Savior. In the weeks that follow the Scriptures we read in worship remind us of the covenant relationship God has formed with us as his people. Through the stories of the covenant with Abraham, Israel's journey to the promised land, and Isaiah's message to exiled Israel, we hear about a God who is faithful and keeps his promises. Our Gospel lessons echo this theme through Jesus' temptation, the faithfulness of a father to his prodigal son, and Mary anointing Jesus' feet as he prepares for his death.

This Lent we are focusing on our response to God in this covenant relationship. Prayer is the way we connect and grow in relationship with the God who loves us. There are many ways to pray and build a deeper relationship with God. In this season there will be many opportunities to explore a wide variety of prayer practices:

Walking Meditation

5,160 miles to Jerusalem
Take part in the Lenten challenge to walk to Jerusalem. Walking can be a great way to pray. Pick up a pedometer in the narthex beginning Feb. 7 and record your steps. Each week you can post your miles in the Fellowship Hall where a map and chart will be posted on the wall. Together we can get there.

Other

Prayer Opportunities

Other Prayer Opportunities

Thursday Morning Eucharist

7 am (brief service)

Centering Prayer

Thursdays at 11:30 am

Individual Prayer during Communion - An opportunity to request prayer for you or someone else and have a prayer minister pray with you.

Prayer Vigil—From the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service to the beginning of the Good Friday Tenebrae, the nave will be open for individual prayer. Participants can sign up at the Wittenberg Information Center to pray for thirty minute or hour intervals. Hosts can also sign up for the night hours. For many at Good Shepherd, this experience has become a regular part of preparing for Easter. If you have never participated in the Prayer Vigil, please consider trying something new this year!

Our 4th graders and their parents will journey through Lent on Sunday mornings in a series in Holy Communion.

