



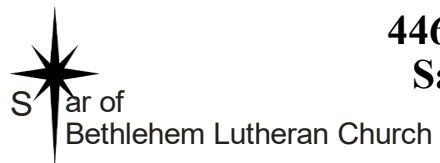
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

*"This son of
mine was
dead and is
alive again;
he was lost
and is
FOUND."*

Luke 15:24



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, March 31, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in LENT

Theme of the day: The repentant sinner rejoices at being found in the loving embrace of the Father's full, free, and "foolish" forgiveness.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our friends and visitors! Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is eager to share with you the blessings of its Christ-centered ministry. If you are a new or long-time resident of the Central Coast looking for a church home, we invite you to meet with us at the close of this worship service or at your convenience. All are welcome to stay for refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Families are encouraged to worship together. If you need to step out with your children, the service can be seen and heard in the fellowship hall or narthex area. Feel free to enter and return at any time.

OUR MISSION

Our congregation exists for the purpose of "HOLDING OUT THE WORD OF LIFE." This is accomplished by faithfully preserving and proclaiming all of God's inerrant word, and administering the Sacraments as they were instituted by Christ.

Divine Service I

OPENING HYMN: # 748 “Lamb of God”

♪ **Your only Son No sin to hide
But You have sent Him From Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God
 Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
 I love the Holy Lamb of God
 Oh wash me in His precious Blood
 My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God**

**Your gift of Love They crucified
They laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble King They named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God
 Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
 I love the Holy Lamb of God
 Oh wash me in His precious Blood
 My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God**

Please stand for last verse:

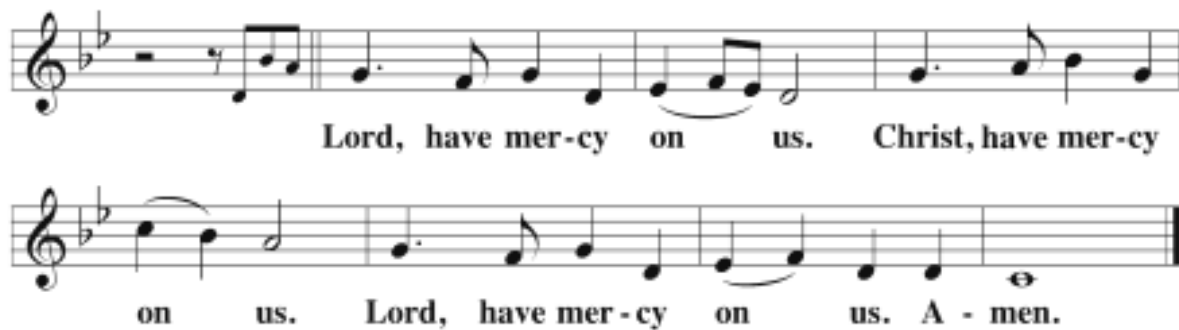
**I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God
 Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
 I love the Holy Lamb of God
 Oh wash me in His precious Blood
 My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God**

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Congregation: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

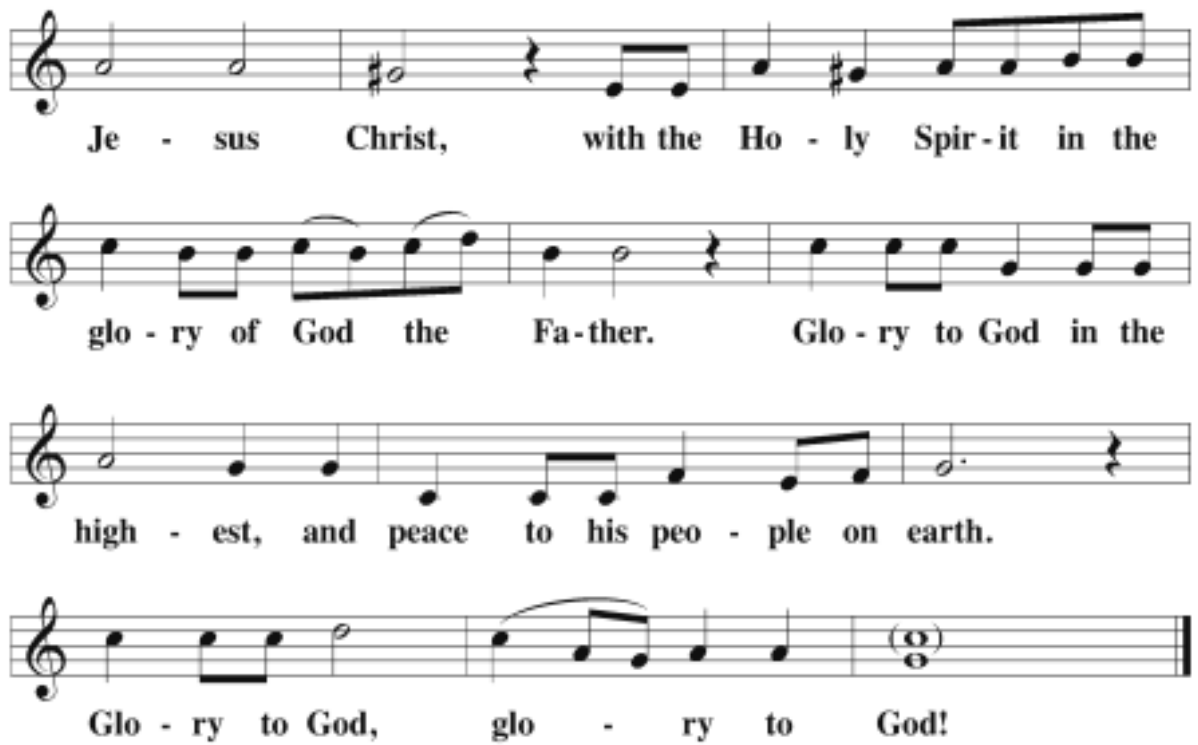
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -

ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Isaiah 12:1-6

In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, O LORD.

**Although you were angry with me,
your anger has turned away
and you have comforted me.**

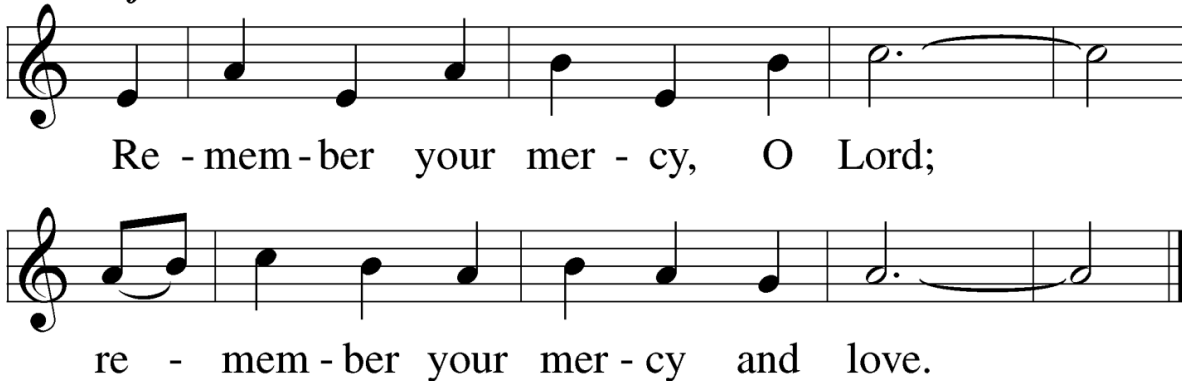
**² Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid.**

**The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.”**

- ³ With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
- ⁴ In that day you will say:
“Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;
make known among the nations what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.
- ⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.
- ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 32

Refrain



Psalm tone



Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,*
whose sins are covered.

When I kept silent, your hand was heavy upon me;*
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you*
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”*
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain

You are my hiding place;*
you will protect me from trouble.

Many are the woes of the wicked,*
but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds those who trust in him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Verse of the Day:

M: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith;

**C: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal
life. (John 3:16)**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

**“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”**

²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Hymn: #379 “Amazing Grace — How Sweet the Sound”

**♪ Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.**

Sermon: Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear him. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ¹¹ “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ “ ‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ ”

Hymn: # 387 “Drawn to the Cross”

♪ **Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in you my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.**

**How well you know my griefs and fears,
Your grace abused, my misspent years;
So now to you with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.**

**Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing through your cross and pain, Christ crucified, I
come.**

**To pledge my labor willingly,
Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me, Christ crucified, I come.**

Offering

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

M: Blessed Lord, you have given your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (spoken) Amen.

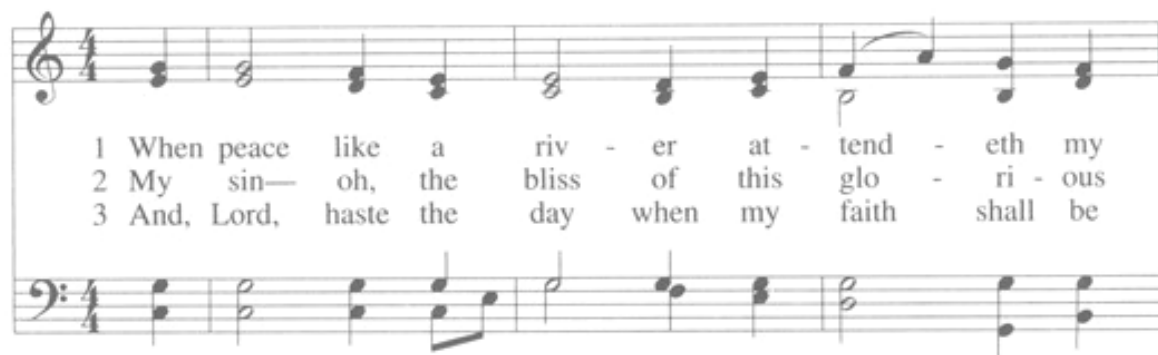
**M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.**

C: (spoken) Amen.

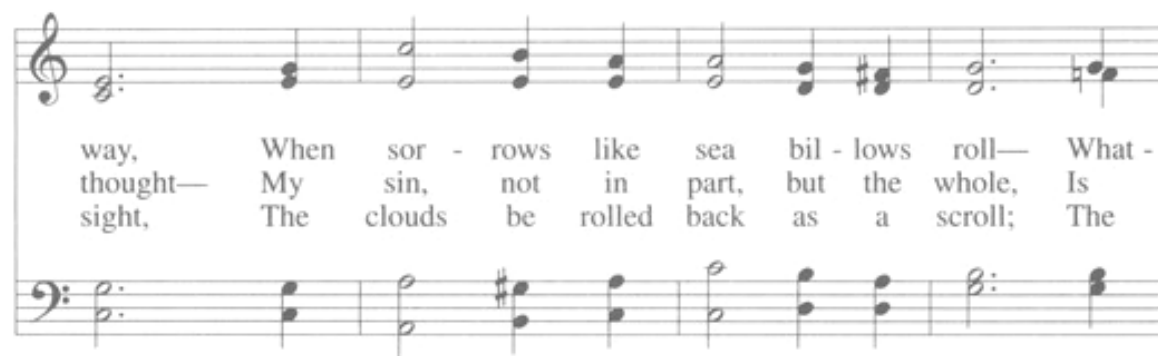
CLOSING HYMN:

760

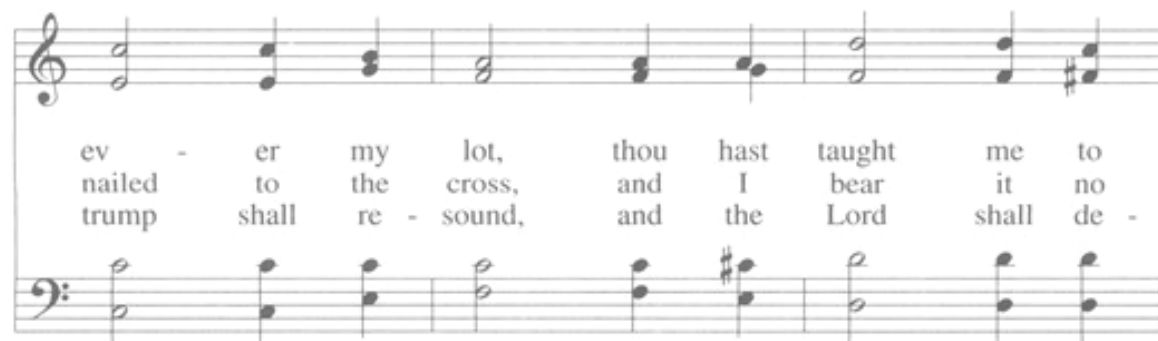
When Peace Like a River



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my
 2 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 3 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be



way, When sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll— What -
 thought— My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is
 sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The



ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 nailed to the cross, and I bear it no
 trump shall re - sound, and the Lord shall de -



say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 scend; E - ven so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain



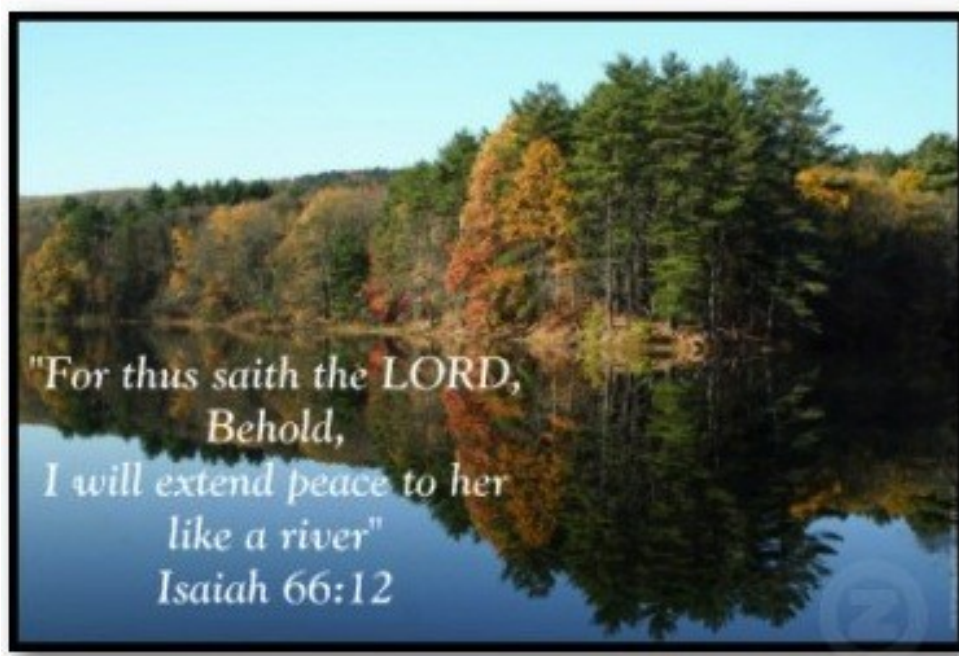
It is well with my soul.

It is well with my

It is well, it is well with my soul.

soul.

The WELS Connection



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Evers on the occasion of Janetta's birthday.

PRAYERS Pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, Bob and Carol Munk, John Velasques, Douglas Ward, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, and Midwest storm & flood victims.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have something for which you would like us to be praying, please let Judy Moore (thecamoores@gmail.com) or Pastor Foley (revmikefoley@gmail.com) know. You can also request to be made part of our prayer chain.

HELPING HANDS FUND: The Elders have certain monies at their disposal for helping members in need. If you know of someone in our congregation who could use the help, please speak to Pastor Foley or one of the Elders.

EASTER MEMORY GARDEN: Forms are available in the narthex and the fellowship hall for providing flowers for Easter.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	ESL, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Midweek Lenten Service, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
	ESL, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.

COMING UP

Clean-up/Work Day: Saturday, April 13, 9:00-12:00

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday - April 14, 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 19, 7:00 p.m.

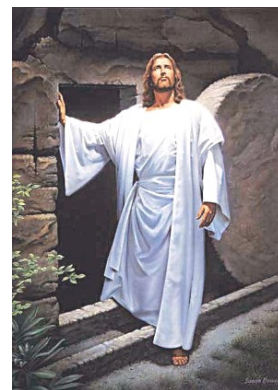
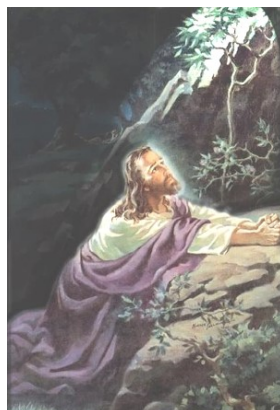
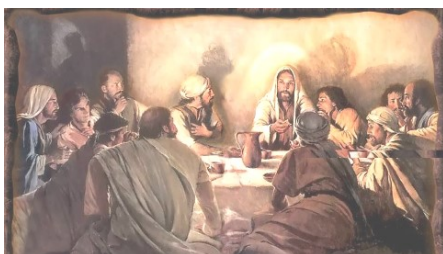
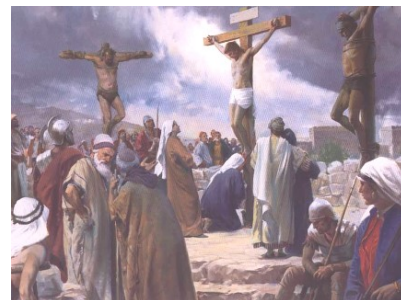
Easter Sunday - April 21, 10:00 a.m.



Ash Wednesday Is It I?
 Midweek 2 Love One Another
 Midweek 3 Watch and Pray
 Midweek 4 I Am He

Midweek 5 What Is Truth?

Midweek 6 Take Him Away!
 Palm Sunday Save Us Now!
 Maundy Thursday Take and Eat;
 Take and Drink
 Good Friday It Is Finished!



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