Trinity's Weekly Connection

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion Personal Hygiene Products Appeal continues Traditional Worship, 8 a.m. Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief band), 9:15 a.m. High School Bible Study, 9:15 a.m. Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m. Trinity Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal, noon Lenten Virtual Bible Study & Yoga, 8 p.m.

Monday, April 3

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m. Race and Restitution Reading Group, 1 p.m. Stephen Leaders Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Property Committee Meting, 6 p.m. Beyond Belief Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4

Lenten Grace Group, 9:30 a.m. LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m. Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. GriefShare, 2 p.m. Abuse Policy Meeting, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Outreach Committee Meeting, noon Lenten Grace Group, 10:30 a.m. Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 6

Maundy Thursday Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. Endowment Fund Committee Meeting, 6 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, April 7

Good Friday Good Friday Worship, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

Easter Brass Rehearsal, 8 a.m. Resound Bell Rehearsal, 10:30 a.m. Easter Flower Setup, 2 p.m.

Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Our Lord Personal Hygiene Products Appeal continues Easter Breakfast 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Easter Festival Worship, 8 a.m. Easter Festival Worship, 9:15 a.m. Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 a.m. Easter Festival Worship, 10:45 a.m.

(Please note that all three festival worship services on Easter Sunday will be in the sanctuary as the Easter Breakfast is served on the lower level. Be with us in celebration!)

Eternal Light for Worship Today

Today's Eternal Light is given by Bob and Nanci Guigue in loving memory of their son Adam.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Kristin Bradley Lector: Cindy Zientarski Communion Assistants: Dale Barkema Nancy Morrison Ushers: Bill Bailey, John Potter Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship Sacristans: Lisa Mead Lector: Steve Heacock **Communion Assistants: Lisa Postlewaite** Amanda Schneider Ushers: Cindy and Morrie Fongers, Lisa Mead, Nathan Peters Acolyte: Inara McNally

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Deb DeWitt Sacristan: Jim and Sue Coates Lector: Kara Day Communion Assistants: Dee Scales, Sandra Sudak Ushers: David, Bergen and Theo Marguardt, Brad Kessel, Scott Stoll Acolytes: Ethan Curtiss, Riley Day

Bread Baker: Rebecca Linstrom

Trinity Members in Our Pravers

We pray for Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery: Sue Bailey, Lisa Barkema, Don Barsema, Bob Beaudry, Krysta Billock, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bill Brock, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Cheryl Bushman, Mike Danielski, Donna Erickson, Ruth Ann Evans, Diane Field, Mark Hahn. Beth Hall, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Patricia Johnson, Roy Lamprich, Marilyn Leese, Jane Legault, Kristin Linkfield, Ken Lown, Tess Lundgren, Judy Mallen, Tom Mannisto, Rebecca Mattison, Gail Mazurek, Carolyn McCready, Jill McKinney, Stephanie McLeod, Marilyn Mellema, Charmayne Mulligan, Jo Murphy, Craig Mutch, Bertie Nelson, Jesse Platt, Dorothy Postema, Rick Radke, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Luanna Seyffert, Michael Smith, Patricia Stevens, Dale Volkerding, John Walls, Fred and Kathy Wilcox, Robert Williams, Marge Willman, Rick and Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kay Zeaman, Kathryn Zielinski and Cindy Zientarski.

We also lift up Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones: Kelli and John Basher, Greg and Rachele Battreall, George Bauer, Jennifer Brown, Bill and Patricia Bruin, Jim and Sue Coates, Morgan and Jaci Cole, Jack Danielson, Julie Earhart, Pastor Donna Erickson, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Diane Field, Sharon Fourcha, Eric Gohlke, Keith Gohlke, Bob and Nanci Guigue, Jill and Curtis Hahn, Carol Hendricks, Linda Holm, Brad and Gayl Kessel, Mike and Molly King, Terry and Susan Knoll, Beth Krueger, Kent and Kristin Linkfield, Mark and Rebecca Mattison, Matt and Lisa Mead, Craig and Patti Mutch, Tammy Parat, Kris Racek, Bruce and Joyce Schlanderer, Doug and Joan Start, Linda Taffs, and Phillip Youngman.

We also lift up in prayer this week the Pastor Dan Stoneback and people of Messiah Lutheran Church in Bay City, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for April 2

Matthew 21:1-11	
Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11
Psalm 31:9-16	Matthew 26:1427:66

- #344 All Glory, Laud, and Honor (red book) What Wondrous Love is This (red book) #666
- #855
 - Crown Him with Many Crowns (red book)

APRIL 2, 2023 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY



From cheers to rejection to triumph. DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11	Jesus enters Jerusalem
Monday	Mathew 26:14-27:66	Jesus' trial and crucifixion
Tuesday	lsaiah 50:4-9a	The servant's humiliation
Wednesday	Philippians 2:5-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	John 13:1-35	Jesus washes disciples' feet
Friday	John 18:1–19:42	Jesus suffers and dies
Saturday	Psalm 31:9-16	Prayer for protection
Sunday	John 20:1-18	Christ's resurrection

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Philippians 2:5-8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Eternal God, from the cross you triumph over all the forces that lead us away from you; give us faith to follow the way of the cross through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Suffering God, in a world where many lack the food they need, help us to care for others as you care for us with this meal today. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

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May God's face shine on you with the steadfast love of the cross of Christ. (Psalm 31:16)

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APRIL 2, 2023 HYMN OF THE WEEK

Stay with Me



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

• When was a time you were part of a crowd that was cheering loudly?

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• If you were part of the crowd cheering for Barabbas to be set free instead of Jesus, why do you think you would do that?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 26:14-27:66.

What we experience in life can help us see things in the Bible we might otherwise miss. For example, in the age of social divisions we witness today, we can understand how very fragile a democracy can be. Pilate gave the crowds a moment to be a democracy by asking them who to free, Jesus or Barabbas. The crowds chose Barabbas. The week before, crowds were cheering on Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. Within a week the crowds saw things differently. Jesus takes our fickleness, our lack of insight, our willingness to follow the crowd with him to the cross. It is all part of our brokenness that fails to see the truth of Jesus. However, our failures do not stop God's plan. God's plan—God's will—according to Philippians 2:10-11 is that *"at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."* From the cross we learn that our foolish ways as individuals and as a society will not conquer God's will.

Discuss: How do you tell the difference between the will of God and the will of a crowd? *Pray:* Suffering God, you know how we fail you and yet you love us all the way to the cross; give us faith and wisdom to follow you all the days of our lives through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you care for people whom others look on with disrespect?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This coming week is Holy Week. We remember the journey of Jesus from his entry into Jerusalem to his last meal, trial, crucifixion, death, and resurrection. These stories are central to our faith. Choose a space in your home to observe Holy Week. Each day, add an item (listed below), think or talk about its' role in the Passion story, and close with the prayer. **Sunday:** Palm branch, **Monday:** Bottle of perfume, **Tuesday:** Coins, **Wednesday:** Bowl of water, **Thursday:** Bread, **Friday:** Nails, **Saturday:** Stone. After placing an item each day, pray: **Eternal God, help us to grow in our faith so that we may be faithful witnesses to the power of Jesus' resurrection.** Amen.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org