

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
of Westfield

Messenger

April
2022

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Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor
Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As per usual April newsletter beginning: March winds bring April showers bring May flowers, or so the adage goes. I am not sure if that is always true, but I do know that this year April brings us to the second festival part of our Church Year Calendar, Holy Week. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday as we celebrate Jesus' last and triumphant entrance into Jerusalem when we sing our Hosannas to our King. The custom here at St. Matthew is that Palm Sunday is also our usual Confirmation Sunday, but as this year we do not have any of our youth read, we will continue this custom next year, and if the Lord wills, we will have five of our youth ready for Confirmation.

For me personally, and as I have encouraged in every parish in which I have served, Holy Week is best honored by our commitment to focusing on the events of each day. As I have done so in the past, so this year I will provide a reading list for each of the days of Holy Week (see pages in this newsletter). Also, I have encouraged all boards and committees and even all the volunteer groups with which I am associated to not schedule meetings for Holy Week so that we can contemplate on what Jesus did for us.

Holy week begins on Palm Sunday and then picks up on Maundy Thursday. When speaking with my friends from other denominations who do not recognize the sacraments, I ask if they know what Jesus was celebrating when He gave us His Holy Supper. He was celebrating the Jewish Passover Festival and from that celebration He has given us a new Supper, His Holy Supper, the Lord's Supper. Thus, on Maundy Thursday we will celebrate the Lord's Supper, and at the end of the evening service we will strip the altar in preparation for the following day, Good Friday.

On Good Friday we have the opportunity once again to be reminded of our part in Jesus' suffering and enduring the death penalty of hell for us, in our place. We will have our evening tenabrae service and carry the cross to the cemetery to conclude that service.

On Saturday we will prepare the sanctuary for our Easter morning joy-filled celebrations of Jesus' resurrection.

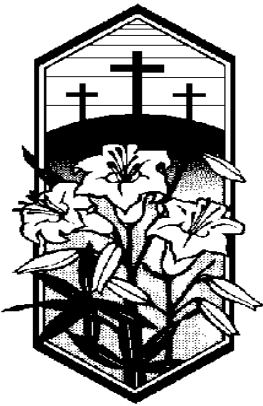
Of course, this year we will offer our noon services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and we will hear once again on Maundy Thursday how the Thursday service begins with an invocation but does not end with a benediction, how the Good Friday service has no invocation nor benediction and how our Easter Sunrise service has no invocation. The meaning of this custom is that the three services are to be understood as a continuation of one service ending in our joyous Resurrection celebration.

I especially encourage you to be at both services on Easter Sunday because the Sunrise service does not afford the opportunity to be given the Lord's gifts through His Holy Supper and because the two services have different messages, messages which complete our series on the "I AM" words of Jesus. As always, I would encourage you to take advantage of all the extra opportunities to come and be given the gifts that God gives.

God's richest blessings.
In His Service,

Pastor Bogs
1 Cor. 15:3-5

Don't forget, if you miss a Sunday, you can read the sermon on my blog: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com>



The Purpose of Lenten
By Rev. Arturo Mendez

John 3:16

¹⁶For 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.

This Time of the season is great to us first, because let us know that we are sinners and because of that we are separated from God the Father, and in this time of the season we reflect in our sinful condition with a constricted hart, and because of that we need a savior in our life.

And that Savior is Jesus Christ Our Lord. By Faith Alone in Him, God the Father Sent his only Begotten Son into the earth to save the whole world, unfortunately people didn't realize that all of us without Christ we are condemn. So also, is time to be the Light of the world. And reflect that Christ in our Lives to others. And when we had the opportunity to share our Faith let's Do it with all "CONFIDENCE" that our Lord and Savior is with you to proclaim his word to others.

Thanks be to God that we are secure in his Arms and all who believe had eternal Life in Heaven.

To God be the Glory in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior Amen!

April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
<i>Those Serving the Lord this Month:</i> Elders ~ Sonny French & BJ Jackson Greeters ~ Daniel & Christina Cross Ushers ~ Joshua Montemayor & Cody Williamson Counter ~ Robert & Melissa Sindlinger Altar Guild ~ Rose & BJ Jackson Acolytes ~ Alex Vaz, Aj Parsalaw, Kaitlyn Christie, Ruby Montemayor, Mackenzie Gentes, Lilly Williamson & Aaron Montemayor					Office Closed	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Happy Birthday April Harvey!		7pm ESL Classes	LENT 10am Bible Class 12pm Service 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Hymn Sing 7:30pm Divine Service	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes Happy Birthday Dan Cross, Scott Gentes & Dalhardt Goebel!	Office Closed	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting Happy Birthday Katie Clark!
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm Sunday 8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Happy Birthday Barbara Ellis & Mary Garrett!			10am Bible Class 5:30pm Confirmation Class	Maundy Thursday 10am Bulletin Deadline 12pm Service 7:30pm Service w/Lord's Supper	Office Closed Good Friday 12pm Service 7:30pm Service/ Cemetery	Happy Birthday Jonathan LaShomb!
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Happy Easter! 7:00am No Lord's Supper 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service w/Lord's Supper		7pm ESL Classes Happy Birthday Mary Davis & Ashley Massuda!	10am Bible Class 10 am Newsletter Deadline 7pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed	Ladies PRISM Meeting 9am in The Fellowship Hall Happy Birthday David Christie & Robert Sindlinger!
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7pm ESL Classes	10am Bible Class 7pm Evening Bible Class Happy Birthday George Gentes & Dwayne Lilley!	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes Happy Birthday Arrip Parsalaw!	Office Closed	
May 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7pm ESL Classes	10am Bible Class 7pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed	

Holy Days & Holidays in April

April 10 Palm Sunday
April 14 Maundy Thursday
April 15 Good Friday
April 15 Passover Begins
April 16 Holy Saturday
April 17 Easter Sunday
April 25 St. Mark, Evangelist
April 26 175th Anniversary of the LCMS

Happy Birthday to You!

April 3 April Harvey
April 7 Daniel Cross
April 7 Scott Gentes
April 7 Dalhardt Goebel
April 9 Katie Clark
April 10 Barbara Ellis
April 10 Mary Garrett
April 16 Jonathan LaShomb
April 19 Mary Davis
April 19 Ashley Massuda
April 23 David Christie
April 23 Robert Sindlinger
April 27 George Gentes
April 27 Dwayne Lilley
April 28 Arrip Parsalaw

Baptismal Birthdays

April 3 Carol Clark
April 3 Rose Goebel
April 3 Jake McIlhany
April 3 Kate McIlhany
April 8 Patricia LaShomb
April 9 Marilyn Kron
April 9 Aileen Mercer
April 14 Kelly Gentes
April 15 Peg Munson
April 18 Jack Christy
April 19 Shirley Coyle
April 21 Bryce Koslan
April 22 Aurora Franks
April 25 Jennifer Cornman
April 27 Tess Clark
April 27 Trent Clark

Confirmation Anniversaries

April 1 Jonathan LaShomb
April 2 David Cowger
April 3 Mary Garrett
April 5 Caleb Bogs
April 5 Tiffany Cowger
April 6 Eda Nitz
April 7 Joyce French
April 7 Janis Stayton
April 9 Hannah Bogs
April 9 Jordan Christy
April 9 Nathan Cross
April 9 William Gentes
April 9 Aaron Lilley
April 9 Rebecca Mendez
April 9 Naatah Mollie
April 9 Dillon Mosier
April 11 Larry Harvey
April 14 Barbara Ellis
April 14 Barbara Newbould
April 14 Cody Williamson
April 15 Ronald Bogs
April 15 Mary Gibbs
April 16 Gary McCorquodale
April 18 Devon Cowger
April 18 Dixie Garrett
April 25 Cathy Smith
April 28 Robert Sindlinger
April 30 David Christie

Wedding Anniversaries

April 6 Joe & Shirley Michka ~ 54 Years
April 17 Andy & Kathleen Montemayor ~ 23 Years
April 23 Robert & Melissa Sindlinger ~ 16 Years
April 24 Randy & Kathy Bogs ~ 34 Years
April 24 Kenneth & Joyce French ~ 68 Years
April 25 David & Mikaela Reese ~ 2 Years



Opportunities to Study God's Word

Sunday School for All Ages

Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in **Room #2**. They children are learning Biblical accounts from the Growing in Christ series. **The Sr. & Jr. High School class** is led by Pastor Mendez in **Room #3** which is now studying "Revelation".



Sunday Adult Bible Classes

All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited to attend the Adult Bible Classes each Sunday at 8:45 am. **Revelation** led by Pastor Bogs meets in the Fellowship Hall (gym). And **Galatians** led by Larry Harvey meets in **Room #4**. Please join us. Bring a friend!



Wednesday Mornings

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group at **10:00 am** in **Room #2**. We invite everyone who is available to join us to study God's Word. We are studying **Our Divine Service**.

Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday evening Bible Class will resume on April 20th at **7 pm** in **Room #2**. We are studying the **Psalms**. Bring a friend for an enjoyable evening!

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for the Men's Breakfast and Bible study on the **2nd Saturday** of the month at **8:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is April 9th. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



PRISM — Precious Rubies In St Matthew

PRISM is going to meet on April 23rd at 9 a.m. Ladies of all ages are invited to enjoy breakfast, fellowship, and Bible study. We will be diving into "Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma. "Living a Chocolate Life" invites women to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. This study reminds readers that the Holy Spirit fills them with sweet faith in the Savior and it is only He who can truly satisfy.

Trustees' Report

LED Light Improvement Fund

There is also a fund for a gradual upgrade of all building lights to LEDs to help in reducing our utility cost in the future. Any dedicated donations towards this fund please specify "LED Light Improvement Fund." Each light cast about \$100. Please consider "adopting" a light or two.

ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. Pray for this mission of St. Matthew that God will bless it to continue strongly in reaching out to our community not only teaching English but also sharing the Gospel of the Lord. Of you need more info, please see Pastor Mendez.

American Heritage Girls

AHG is a scout-like organization dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. Since 1995, AHG's vision has been to become the premier national character development organization for young women that provides a Christian program which embraces time honored moral standards while encouraging each member to grow in their faith in God, personal integrity, citizenship and community service. We have been blessed to have a troop in our area for over 10 years. Three of our St. Matthew girls are in AHG Troop TX0355 at St. James Catholic Church on Aldine Westfield, and we would like to invite all girls in Kindergarten through 18 years of age to come to St. James and check us out. Pass the word to your daughters, granddaughters, nieces, friends! For more information on the meetings, please contact Gayle Bogs. For more information on American Heritage Girls, go online to americanheritagegirls.org.



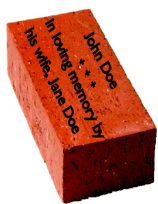
AMERICAN
HERITAGE
GIRLS™
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN



"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"
A Service of Sacred Music for the Season of Easter
3 p.m. CDT Sunday, April 24
Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus

Featuring Laudamus, the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale, the Concordia Seminary String Ensemble and the Clarion Bass. Celebrate with song our risen Lord this Easter season! Join us in person or via livestream at csl.edu/live. Find details on our events calendar and learn more about the Concordia Seminary Concert Series.

Memory Bricks



\$35
Standard

Includes 21 characters/spaces



\$45
with Symbol

Includes symbol of your choice
and 18 characters/spaces

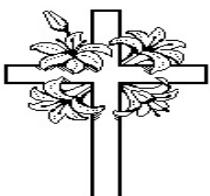
We are taking orders for new Memory Garden bricks in the Narthex now. The Memory Garden outside of the sanctuary leading to the bell tower was built as an American Heritage Girls' Stars & Stripes project in 2021 for a place of fellowship after services, as well as, to remember and respect life from the unborn to the elderly. Engraved bricks with names of loved ones who have gone to see Christ in heaven were donated for the project. Since the project was completed, some have requested new bricks of their loved ones who have gone to their eternal home. Once we have at least ten bricks ordered, we will make a church order. Bricks are now \$20 each (since it's not a project fundraiser), and there is a \$5 extra charge to add a symbol to your brick. The symbols available are next to the order form in the Narthex. 21 characters (including spaces) are allowed per line. Only 18 characters per line for those bricks with symbols. Please fill out the information for each brick separately on the form in the Narthex. You may combine your payment if ordering multiple bricks. Make checks payable to St. Matthew. If paying by credit card, go

to <https://www.stmatthewlcms.com/giving.html> and click on the "donate" button. If using a credit card, please add \$1 per brick to cover Paypal fees. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

****Update** We currently have 8 orders we need 2 additional to be able to place the order.**

Easter Breakfast

This year's breakfast will be by the S.M.A.R.T. Youth Group as they ask for your support for their Higher Things Youth Gathering trip this summer to Valparaiso, Indiana. We appreciate any donations you can make for them while enjoying great food and fellowship! Thank you!



Easter Lilies

The Easter Lily Sign-Up sheet is in the narthex. Lilies are \$9 a plant. Please make your checks payable to St. Matthew and state if you would like them in honor or in memory of someone. Thank you!

Readings for Holy Week

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	In other books
Palm Sunday					
The triumphal entry into Jerusalem	21:1-11	11:1-11	19:29-44	12:12-19	
Monday					
Cursing the fig tree	21:18-20	11:12-14,20,21			
Cleansing the temple	21:12-13	11:15-17	19:45-46		
Healing in the temple	21:14				
Tuesday					
His authority questioned	21:23-27	11:27-33	20:1-8		
Parable of the two sons	21:28-32				
Parable of the wicked tenants	21:33-41	12:1-9	20:9-16		
Parable of the king's son	22:1-14				
The question of the tax money	22:15-22	12:13-17	20:20-26		
The Sadducees' question	22:23-33	12:18-27	20:27-40		
The great commandment	22:34-40	12:28-34			
Jesus' question	22:41-46	12:35-37	20:41-44		
Woes pronounced against the Pharisees	23	12:38-40	20:45-47		
The widow's offering		12:41-44	21:1-4		
The visit of the Greeks				12:20-36	
Discourse on unbelief				12:37-50	
Prophecies of coming tragedies	24:1-14	13:1-13	21:5-19		
Discourse on signs and coming events	24:14-42	13:14-37	21:20-36		
Parable of the ten virgins	25:1-13				
Parable of the ten talents	25:14-30				
Discourse on the Judgement Day	25:31-46				
The plot of the Jews and Judas	26:1-5,14-16	14:1-2,10-11	22:1-6		
Wednesday					
Day of Silence					
Maundy Thursday					
The preparation for the Passover	26:17-19	14:12-16	22:7-13		
The passover meal	26:20	14:17-18	22:14-18		
Strife among the disciples			22:24-30		
Washing the disciples feet				13:1-17	
The traitor designated	26:21-25	14:18-21	22:21-23	13:21-30	
The Lord's Supper	26:26-29	14:22-25	22:19-20		1 Cor. 11:23-25
Jesus' parting words				14:1-31	
Parable of the true vine				15:1-11	
The promise of the Holy Spirit				16:7-15	
The intercessory prayer				17:1-26	
The agony in the garden	26:36-46	14:32-42	22:30-46	18:1	
The betrayal	26:47-56	14:43-52	22:47-53	18:3-13	
The healing of Malchus's ear			22:50-51		

Good Friday					
Jesus before the high priest	26:57	14:53	22:54	18:13-14	
Pete's denial of Jesus	26:58, 69-75	14:54, 66-72	22:54-62	18:15-18,25-27	
Jesus before the Sanhedrin	26:59-68	14:55-65	22:66-71	18:19-24	
Jesus before Pilate	27:1-2, 11-34	15:1-5	23:1-5	18:28-38	
Jesus before Herod			23:6-12		
Pilate's attempt to release Jesus	27:15-26	15:6-15	23:13-24	18:39-40	
The appeal of Pilate's wife	27:19				
Pilate washes His hands	27:24				
Pilate approves the death sentence	27:36-30	15:15	23:24	19:1-16	
Jesus mocked	27:30	15:16-20		19:1-3	
Suicide of Judas	27:3-10				Acts 1:18-19
Jesus led away to be crucified	27:31-33	15:20-22	23:26	19:16-17	
Weeping of the women			23:27-31		
Jesus is offered wine	27:34	15:23			
The Crucifixion	27:35-38	15:25-28	23:33-38	19:18-24	
Casting lots for his clothes				19:23-24	
The Jews mock him	27:39-43	15:29-32	23:35		
The dying thief's confession			23:39-43		
Jesus commends his mother to John				19:25-27	
Darkness comes, Jesus dies	27:45-50	15:33-37	23:44-46	19:28-30	1 Cor. 15:3; Ps. 22:1
The veil of the temple is torn in two, and graves opened	27:51-53	15:38	23:45		
The centurion's confession	27:54	15:39	23:47		
The descent from the cross	27:57-58	15:42-45	23:50-53	19:31-38	
The burial	27:59-61	15:46-47	23:53	19:39-42	1 Cor. 15:4
The watch at the tomb	27:62-66				
Saturday					
A day of waiting					
Easter Sunday					
The earthquake	28:2-4				
The coming of the women to the tomb to anoint the body	28:1-7	16:1-5	24:1-2	20:1	
Mary finds the tomb empty				20:2	
Mary Magdalene tells Peter		16:10		20:2	
Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene		16:9		20:11-17	1 Cor. 15:4
Jesus appears to the other women	28:8-10				Ps. 16:10
The report of the guards	28:11-15				
His appearance to Peter			24:34		1 Cor. 15:5
His appearance to the disciples at Emmaus		16:12-13	24:13-35		
His appearance to the disciples, Thomas absent			24:36-48	20:19-25	1 Cor. 15:5