

Wilson Lutheran Church
401 310th Street
Wilson WI 54027
Address Service Requested

Mission Statement

Wilson Lutheran Church serves to provide all people the opportunity to become disciples of Jesus Christ, encourage faith and obedience to Christ and, through diverse opportunities for evangelism, serve God's people in our communities, nation, and throughout the world.

*April 2022, Newsletter for
Wilson Lutheran Church*



*Wilson Lutheran Church
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Cover Picture by Pastor Doug Brandt

Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson April 2022



2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?

has changed in your life?

If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what
What difference does Jesus make in your life?¹ What has Jesus made new?

- What difference does Jesus make to my 35 year old nephew whose brain tumor came back, faces radiation treatments and is struggling with his ex for visitation of their three year old son?
- What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?
- What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled"² we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us. Those of us who doubt our faith and question its relevance are challenged by Easter's promise to see and know God in the transformed lives around us.

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Christ has risen and forever lives,
to challenge and to change.
All whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present,
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

Friends we know that Jesus changes our weeping into laughing, our mourning into dancing, our despair into hope, our winter into spring and our death into life. Jesus changes things and makes all things new. We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

¹ Challenge: In 24 words or less, answer this question, "What difference does Jesus make in your life?"

²Inspired by the Hymn, *Christ has Risen While Earth Slumbers*, vs 4. [All Creation Sings](#) #938, ELW Supplement, Augsburg Fortress, 2020.

Easter People

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Martin Luther

On Sunday, April 17 Christians around the world will celebrate Christ's resurrection, without doubt the single most important event in human history. The words spoken to Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James and the "other" women at the empty tomb on that first Easter, *"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen"* (Luke 24:5c) ring in our ears, and the Alleluia's return to our worship. The reality of the resurrection is what prompted St. Augustine to declare, "We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song." Truly, it is a wonderful day as we celebrate, in faith, the fulfillment of God's promise made visible in Jesus Christ.

The resurrection of our Lord is fundamental to our life of faith. Those beloved words from John's Gospel, *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life"*, (John 3:16) give us hope, not only for eternal life (as if that were not enough in itself), but eternal hope throughout our lives; an Easter hope. Faced with the reality of death, and all the sorrows and tragedies of our lives, we remember Christ triumphed over the grave; that death does not have the last word; that Christ has promised to make all things new.

But the celebration doesn't end on Easter Sunday, or at least it shouldn't.

The words of Martin Luther quoted above help us remember we are "Easter People" every day, always walking in the light of Christ and his resurrection; a that the light doesn't go out with sundown on Easter Sunday, but a light that shines for us, on us, and through us every day of our lives.

And if we need to be reminded it is a daily thing, we need only look to hear Luther's words and look to the new life around us. As the cold and snow of winter recedes from the word around us, we see that new life in every new leaf that shoots up from the earth, the new buds on tree branches, the birds that return to our feeders, and the animals that emerge from their cold winter slumber. Everywhere new life springs forth to be warmed by the light of the sun - and the light of the Son.

As "Easter People" we are called to share that light, dispelling the darkness of the world every day; becoming, not only one among many, but together a community of faith that always carries the resurrection message in our hearts and shares it with all in need of hearing its promise.

It's life-giving, this Easter celebration, but it's not just a one-time deal. It's for tomorrow, the next day, and all days after that. Indeed, it's for our whole lives. It's for the life of the world.

So, spread the Good News Easter people. "Christ has Risen! He is Risen Indeed!"

Happy Easter – All year long.

Pastor Bob

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

April 2022 – Holy Week and the Season of Easter

Sunday, April 3 – Lent 5

- ❖ Color: Purple
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 12:1-8: Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

Sunday, April 10 – Palm / Passion Sunday

- ❖ Color: Purple
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56: Through the teachings and events of the passion story we see and hear the great contradictions that characterize the coming of God's reign. The leader serves the followers, proud Peter is revealed in his cowardice, and Jesus—the innocent bringer of life—is arrested, beaten, executed, and buried.

Thursday, April 14 – Maundy Thursday

- ❖ Color: Purple
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 2 Corinthians 11:23-26
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35: The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

Friday, April 15 – Good Friday

- ❖ Color: None
- ❖ No Communion
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 18:1-19:42: On Good Friday, the story of Jesus' passion—from his arrest to his burial—is read in its entirety from the Gospel of John.

Sunday, April 17 – Easter Sunday

- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 24:1-12: Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

Sunday, April 24 – Easter 2

- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31: The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

MISSION STATEMENT

Wilson Lutheran Church serves to provide all people the opportunity to become disciples of Jesus Christ, encourage faith and obedience to Christ and, through diverse opportunities for evangelism, serve God's people in our communities, nation, and throughout the world.

Pastor's Office Hours: Pastor Bob may be reached at the church office, 715-772-3150, Wednesday through Friday, and Saturday morning. In the event of an emergency or hospitalization, he can be reached at 715-235-4900 (home), 612-270-3838 (cell), or by email at PastorBob@wwt.net.

Wilson WELCA: WELCA meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Wilson Council: The next regular meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

March 10, 2022 Council Meeting Highlights: *(Complete minutes are available in the church office.)*

- The lights behind the stain glass window have been installed and beautifully shining through the glass. Thanks to David and Mike.
- A day will be set as soon as all the pew cushions arrive to remove old ones, clean pews and place new cushions. Followed by setting a date for a dumpster to dispose of old cushions.
- The new web site development is done.
- We are still in need of Synod Assembly Representatives – 1 male and 1 female for April 30.
- Covid precautions will stay the same with hopes of being able to sing by Easter.
- Council agreed to Katie Hague's request to reduce cleaning the church to two times a month from May 1 – September 1 for half the pay.
- David made a motion to accept the Bible Campers Fee, parents will pay \$65.00, the Congregation and WELCA will split the remainder, second by Sharon. Motion carried.
- The Synod will be hosting a Youth Gathering at UWRF July 25-27 as the ELCA Youth Gathering has been canceled. The cost is \$275. Tracy made a motion for the parents to pay \$50.00 and the Congregation \$225 for youth 9-12 grades that want to attend, second by Louanne. Motion carried.
- David and Tracy will meet with Pastor Bob to discuss and finalize a new mission statement.
- Somporn Moore, Jerry and Vickie Glampe's Aunt, made a beautiful wall hanging for Wilson Lutheran. It will be hung up after the meeting and Ginny will send a Thank You card.

Tuesday Community Supper: Peace Lutheran Church will be handing out supper from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 in the Gethsemane parking lot. Drive by to pick up a meal of ham, vegetable and rice casserole, roll and a cookie.

The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of the month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin, Wisconsin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community. Area churches, businesses and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food.

Food Pantry Support: Thank you for your continuing support of our Food Pantry program, serving the five area food pantries: Baldwin, Elmwood, Glenwood City, Spring Valley, and Woodville. Your Generous March donations again filled the Food Pantry box and went to support the Baldwin Food Shelf. April contributions will go to Woodville.

Thank You for all the cards, gifts, messages, and good wishes I received for my 71st birthday, and for celebrating the day with me after worship last Sunday. It was very kind of all of you.

VANCO (GIVEPLUS) ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM

The Vanco GivePlus Online Giving Program is now available for Wilson members, and anyone wanting to make a special gift to our mission and ministry. GivePlus allows you to set up weekly and special offerings, as well as special one-time donations. Contributions may be made to the General, Benevolence, Memorial, or Building Funds. Contributions to the Memorial and Building Funds may be designated for specific projects. MasterCard, Visa, and Discover are accepted. You can also contribute using your financial institution's debit card, checking or savings account. Visit our new Web site at www.wilsonlutheran.org and click the "Online Giving" link in the menu bar at the top of the Home Page. You can also download the GivePlus app for Apple or Android smartphones.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENT OFFERING

Each year, Wilson Lutheran has dedicated our Wednesday evening Lent offering to a special purpose. This year the church council has dedicated our offering to the Spring Valley Community Cancer Fund. Under the motto of "Supporting Our Own" SVCCF is committed to providing care and resources for persons in our area during their journey with cancer. This generous organization reaches out to cancer patients and their families with gas cards, food cards, letters, prayers, and in many other ways. Indeed, several of our members have benefitted from the work of this community funded organization. Let's lift SVCCF up with our Wednesday Lent giving.

THE THREE DAYS

The Three Days, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter, represent the pinnacle of Christian worship. The events of these days stand not only at the very heart of our faith, but also represent the richest and most profound rituals of any Christian liturgy. Although we do not celebrate the Vigil of Easter at Wilson, it is significant to our understand of the Sunday we call Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of Our Lord.

Maundy Thursday: On Maundy Thursday, our Lent services come to an end and the church participates in one of the constants of human life: marking significant occasions with a meal as we gather with Christians around the world to begin the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. While we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, our central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in that meal. As Jesus washed his disciple's feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body of Christ through Holy Communion, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world.

Good Friday: Life and death stand side by side as we enter Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. Our worship is marked not by excessive sorrow, as if we are pretending Christ is still dead, but by solemn devotion, always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life.

Vigil of Easter: This is the night of our salvation, a night different from all other nights. On the Vigil of Easter, Christians around the world gather around fire, word, water, bread and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith is experienced. Claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ, we gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news that Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

(Portions of this article are taken from Sundays and Seasons, Year C 2022, Augsburg Fortress, and from "The Three-Day Feast" by Gail Ramshaw, Augsburg Fortress, 2004)

VIRTUAL EASTER LILIES

One of the good things to come out of that time when we were unable to worship together due to COVID 19, has been Wilson Lutheran’s Virtual Poinsettia and Virtual Easter Lily programs. Your generous participation in these programs has resulted in hundreds of dollars be donated to the area food shelves in Baldwin, Elmwood, Glenwood City, Spring Valley and Woodville, allowing them to meet needs not typically addressed by food donations alone. THANK YOU!! for supporting this vital ministry. You are truly serving your neighbors in need.

And those needs remain. In fact, area food shelves are being utilized more than ever. Last year 56 pictures of Easter Lilies filled the front windows of our church building, and people noticed! As of today (3/29) 40 orders have been received.

If you would like to join in this very special (and truly unique) program, simply complete the order form below and send, along with your check, it to the church office by Sunday, April 10. Look of the pictures to begin appearing in the windows the first week of April.

**WILSON LUTHERAN CHURCH
VIRTUAL EASTER LILY ORDER**

_____ *Easter Lilies @ \$10.00 each*

Given by:

_____ **In Honor of**

_____ **In Memory of**

_____ **(#) To the Glory of God**

PLEASE ORDER BY APRIL 10

**Make checks payable to: Wilson Lutheran
Church and Mail to: Wilson Lutheran Church,
401 – 310th Street, Wilson, WI 54027**



LENT AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| April 6 | Wednesday Lent Worship – 7:00 p.m. |
| April 10 | Palm / Passion Sunday – 9:00 a.m. |
| April 14 | Maundy Thursday Worship – 7:00 p.m. |
| April 15 | Good Friday Worship – 7:00 p.m. |
| April 17 | Easter Sunday – 9:00 a.m. |

PARISH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – APRIL 2022

| Birthdays | | | | Anniversaries | |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Apr 3 | Darren Peterson | Apr 20 | Sarah Blegen | Apr 15 | Keenan & Becky Stahl |
| Apr 4 | Jordan Lamb | Apr 24 | Sue Faber | Apr 21 | Andy & Jes Lamb |
| Apr 7 | Kinsley Blegen | Apr 24 | Nicole Lamb | Apr 24 | Dean & Linda Rambo |
| Apr 13 | Peggy Timm | Apr 27 | Sawyer Pomasl | Apr 28 | Dean & Sue Timm |
| Apr 17 | Briana Lund | Apr 27 | Cody Pomasl | | |

ACOLYTE and READER SCHEDULE

| Month | Date | Acolyte | Reader |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| April | 3 | Charlie Lamb | Ginny Overland |
| | 10 - <i>Palm Sunday</i> | Ryan Peterson | Don Hogenson |
| | 14 - <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | Billy Gray | Janet Brandt |
| | 15 - <i>Good Friday</i> | Cade Lamb | Doug Faber |
| | 17 - <i>Easter Sunday</i> | Charlie Lamb and Ryan Peterson | Rex Brandt |
| May | 24 | Billy Gray | Barb Kronholm |
| | 1 | Cade Lamb | Xen Larson |
| | 8 | Charlie Lamb | Chandra Lamb |
| | 15 | Ryan Peterson | Dean Rambo |
| | 22 | Billy Gray | Sherry Ellefson |
| | 29 | Cade Lamb | Jes Lamb |

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

| Month | Altar Care | Communion Assistant | Ushers | Sundays |
|-------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| April | Sue Faber | Ginny Overland | Jerry Glampe and Chuck Walz | 4 Sundays <i>Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday</i> |
| May | Help Needed | Help Needed | Help Needed | 5 Sundays <i>Mother's Day Memorial Day</i> |

Please contact the church office if you are unable to serve as scheduled.

May Worship Help

Worship Assistants are needed for May. If you are unable to serve all the days during the month, consider serving at one or more of the services. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

Revised Common Lectionary
Daily Readings – Year C
April 2022

| Date | Day | Psalm | Old Testament | Epistle | Gospel |
|------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Friday | Psalm 126 | Isaiah 43:8-15 | Philippians 2:25-3:1 | |
| 2 | Saturday | Psalm 126 | Exodus 12:21-27 | | John 11:45-57 |
| 3 | Sunday | Psalm 126 | Isaiah 43:16-21 | Philippians 3:4b-14 | John 12:1-8 |
| 4 | Monday | Psalm 20 | Exodus 40:1-15 | Hebrews 10:19-25 | |
| 5 | Tuesday | Psalm 20 | Judges 9:7-15 | 1 John 2:18-28 | |
| 6 | Wednesday | Psalm 20 | Habakkuk 3:2-15 | | Luke 18:31-34 |
| 7 | Thursday | Psalm 31:9-16 | Isaiah 53:10-12 | Hebrews 2:1-9 | |
| 8 | Friday | Psalm 31:9-16 | Isaiah 54:9-10 | Hebrews 2:10-18 | |
| 9 | Saturday | Psalm 31:9-16 | Leviticus 23:1-8 | | Luke 22:1-13 |
| 10 | <i>Palm Sunday</i> | Psalm 31:9-16 | Isaiah 50:4-9a | Philippians 2:5-11 | Luke 22:14-23:56 |
| 11 | Monday | Psalm 36:5-11 | Isaiah 42:1-9 | Hebrews 9:11-15 | John 12:1-11 |
| 12 | Tuesday | Psalm 71:1-14 | Isaiah 49:1-7 | 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 | John 12:20-26 |
| 13 | Wednesday | Psalm 70 | Isaiah 50:4-9a | Hebrews 12:1-3 | John 13:21-32 |
| 14 | <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 | Exodus 12:1-14 | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 | John 13:1-17, 31b-35 |
| 15 | <i>Good Friday</i> | Psalm 22 | Isaiah 52:13-53:12 | Hebrews 10:16-25 | John 18:1-19:42 |
| 16 | <i>Holy Saturday</i> | Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16 | Job 14:1-14 | 1 Peter 4:1-8 | Matthew 27:57-66 |
| 17 | <i>Easter Sunday</i> | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Acts 10:34-43 | 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 | Luke 24:1-12 |
| 18 | Monday | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Joshua 10:16-27 | 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 | |
| 19 | Tuesday | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a | Revelation 12:1-12 | |
| 20 | Wednesday | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | 2 Samuel 6:1-15 | | Luke 24:1-12 |
| 21 | Thursday | Psalm 150 | 1 Samuel 17:1-23 | Acts 5:12-16 | |
| 22 | Friday | Psalm 150 | 1 Samuel 17:19-32 | Acts 5:17-26 | |
| 23 | Saturday | Psalm 150 | 1 Samuel 17:32-51 | | Luke 24:36-40 |
| 24 | Sunday | Psalm 118:14-29 | Acts 5:27-32 | Revelation 1:4-8 | John 20:19-31 |
| 25 | Monday | Psalm 122 | Esther 7:1-10 | Revelation 1:9-20 | |
| 26 | Tuesday | Psalm 122 | Esther 8:1-17 | Revelation 2:8-11 | |
| 27 | Wednesday | Psalm 122 | Esther 9:1-5; 18-23 | | Luke 12:4-12 |
| 28 | Thursday | Psalm 30 | Isaiah 5:11-17 | Revelation 3:14-22 | |
| 29 | Friday | Psalm 30 | Isaiah 6:1-4 | Revelation 4:1-11 | |
| 30 | Saturday | Psalm 30 | Genesis 18:1-8 | | Luke 14:12-14 |
| 31 | Sunday | Psalm 30 | Acts 9:1-20 | Revelation 5:11-14 | John 21:1-19 |

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Prayer Ventures
April 2022

1 Arab American Heritage Month Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and advance the advocacy, witness, leadership development and support for ministries provided by ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.

2 Give thanks for the resources of our church, including ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, which guides us through Lent and helps us pray, study Scripture, respond to our neighbors in need and give generously for the good of communities around the world.

3 Pray that we will each use our unique gifts and passions as disciples of Christ, called to share the gospel and serve our neighbors, and that we will trust the Spirit to equip, inspire and embolden us for doing God's work in the world, together.

4 Give thanks for the commitment and work of planning team leaders, volunteers, youth ministry leaders in congregations and churchwide organization staff who prepared for the now-canceled 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering and are now refocusing their attention on the 2024 event; ask the Spirit to guide, strengthen and enliven their work.

5 Remember in prayer our neighbors in countries and regions beset by conflict, civil unrest or violence, including places we have forgotten because they have slipped from the headlines. Pray for healing, hope and strength for our neighbors who suffer trauma, loss, displacement or uncertainty, and pray that leaders will work to resolve conflicts, reconcile enemies and forge new relationships based on justice, respect for human life and mutual concern.

6 Pray that God will comfort and stir hope and joy in those who suffer grief; ask God to help us be present with them in their sorrow, bringing empathy, respect, support and patience.

7 Give thanks for Women of the ELCA and women of all ages who gather in more than 4,500 locations in the United States and the Caribbean for service, study,

advocacy and fellowship, mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

8 Ask the Spirit to make us purveyors of grace, joy and unexpected generosity, especially to people who live with worry, despair, turmoil or loneliness.

9 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945) Remember and give thanks for our siblings in Christ — past and present — who risk their lives for justice, the well-being of our neighbors and the truth of the gospel. Pray that their witness, courage and sacrifice will inspire and guide our pursuit of justice and peace in the world.

10 Palm Sunday Jesus endured false accusations, betrayal by his closest followers, an unfair trial, public humiliation and the pain of death on a cross for our salvation and the fulfillment of God's promises. Give praise and thanks to the Son of God, the promised Messiah!

11 Pray for pastors and seminary students serving as chaplains for the armed forces, Veterans Affairs hospitals and federal correctional institutions, and for pastors serving in other contexts, including hospitals, nursing homes, hospice programs, social ministry programs, state and local correctional facilities, and organizations serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

12 Give joyful thanks that God's boundless, unimaginable love is made known to us in ways that we can grasp: through Jesus Christ's humble birth, life of service, suffering, death and resurrection.

13 Ask God to renew and strengthen our commitment and courage to face the painful truth of gun violence in our country — to prevent gun violence; attend to individuals, families and communities traumatized by it; advocate for common-sense gun safety laws; and care for the perpetrators of violent acts.

14 Maundy Thursday "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). Pray that we will be mindful of how we bear witness to Jesus through our humility, sacrificial service, words of love and Spirit-inspired actions.

15 Good Friday Reflect on what we see in the cross, the feelings it evokes and what it represents in our faith and life. Pray that through the symbol of the cross we might

see God's unconstrained power over death and God's awesome gift of grace that gives us life — both new life in the present and life eternal.

16 Pray that we will bear God's grace, mercy, hope and kindness to incarcerated youth and adults who experience isolation from society, our communities and the church.

17 *Easter Day* "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Hallelujah! Shout prayers of joy and thanksgiving for the enduring, trustworthy gifts of love, forgiveness, healing and new life fulfilled by God in the resurrection of Jesus Christ — our Savior, teacher, hope and salvation.

18 Give thanks for faith-based preschools and day care centers that encourage faith, support parents and serve communities. Pray that their teachers, staff and administrators will be strengthened for their work providing safe and nurturing care for children.

19 Pray that the gifts of forgiveness, love and new life we receive through Jesus will fill us with joy, moving us to share the good news and work for healing and justice in the world.

20 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Western Iowa Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

21 Pray that the Spirit will lead us into conversations about faith and the good news of Jesus Christ with people we encounter in our daily lives; pray that we will see God working through us even when we feel uncomfortable or imperfect in expressing our faith.

22 *Earth Day* The mysteries and awe of creation defy our comprehension and stir wonder in us. Give praise, gratitude and recognition for all God has made for our sustenance and joy; pray that we will be wise, generous, responsible stewards and restorers of the earth's resources for the glory of our Creator.

23 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Alaska Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

24 What nagging questions do you have about Scripture, faith or God's actions in the world? Amid a life of doubt and uncertainty, ask God to grant us reassurance and insight; pray that our faith and belief will grow deeper and stronger through the work of the Spirit, the support of our siblings in Christ and the opportunities for study, prayer and discernment in our communities of faith.

25 Pray for church leaders and congregations participating in Valparaiso University's Institute of Liturgical Studies, a source of renewal and re-creation through worship, music, study and reflection on the church's challenges and opportunities after the pandemic.

26 "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 150:6). Consider how each thing you do today can glorify God.

27 Pray for congregations and communities preparing for severe weather, that they might preserve human life, respond to community needs, and prove resilient in the face of natural disaster. Give thanks for our ability to respond to disasters through Lutheran Disaster Response in collaboration with companion churches, disaster response organizations and ecumenical partners.

28 Give thanks for ELCA Young Adult Ministries, Young Adults in Global Mission and their work of providing inspiration, opportunities, connections and resources to young adults and people facilitating young adult ministries.

29 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana, Northeastern Minnesota and Arkansas-Oklahoma synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

30 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Minneapolis Area Synod, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

APRIL 2022

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|-------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School | 4 Pastor's Sabbath | 5 Pastor's Day Off | 6 5:30 Lent Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Lent Worship | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Palm Sunday 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School | 11 Pastor's Sabbath | 12 Pastor's Day Off | 13 | 14 Maundy Thursday 12:30 Council Meeting 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship | 15 Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship | 16 Vigil of Easter |
| 17 Easter Sunday 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School Newsletter Deadline | 18 Pastor's Sabbath | 19 Pastor's Day Off | 20 6:00 7 th and 8 th Grade Confirmation | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School | 25 Pastor's Sabbath 1:30 pm Esther Krueger Interment Service | 26 Pastor's Day Off | 27 6:00 7 th and 8 th Grade Confirmation | 28 | 29 | 30 Synod Assembly – Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire |