



*Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church
Worship Resources
Week of
April 5th -April 11th,
2020*

Our Purpose: *Celebrate, cultivate and share God's love.*

Our Values: *Welcoming, Compassion, Serving, Respect.*

Announcements

The Church Office will have limited hours due to the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order in place until April 8th. If we are not here to answer your call, please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as we can. Thank you. You can reach Pastor Scott at 360-722-0500.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings. Some may have wondered how you can continue your financial support of Our Saviour's and it's ministries, as all of the expenses continue on. You can mail your offerings to the church. Another option is to sign up for **Simply Giving**. It is an automated giving program designed to help you conveniently and consistently contribute to Our Saviour's. If you would like more information, please contact the church office. Thank you for your giving!

Sunday worship resources are provided below. There you will find the Prayer of the Day, scriptures, Pastor's message and prayers for this Sunday, April 5th. You are invited to take some time on Sunday morning – or any time - and use these resources for your worship. **This Sunday is Palm Sunday** in which we normally have a procession with **Palm branches** at the beginning of the worship service. Since we are not able to gather this year, you are encouraged to cut a small evergreen branch from your yard and place that near you, for your palm branch, as you read through the lessons for this Sunday.

On a Happy Note! Tammy & Vance DeWard welcomed a new grandson on March 31st. Tammy's son Joshua and wife Brittany welcomed Henry James, 7lb 4 oz, 20 inches. This is their first baby and all are doing well. Joshua will have a couple of weeks with Henry & Brittany before he returns back to duty in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵“Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to | my acquaintances;

when they see me in the street | they avoid me.

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;
I am as useless as a | broken pot. R**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O LORD.
I have said, “You | are my God.**

¹⁵My times are | in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love.” R**

You are encouraged to open your Bible and read:

Gospel: Matthew 26:14--27:66

In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

Pastor Scott's Message



Palm Sunday/ Sunday of the Passion. “The long walk is part of the gift.”
4/5/2020

Dear friends, as we find ourselves moving through this anxious, upsetting and scary time of the Coronavirus, do you wonder where God is in all of this? The events of Holy Week, beginning with this Sunday can help us to find the answer. This Sunday begins Holy Week and is known as Palm Sunday and the Sunday of the Passion. This worship service, traditionally, begins with the account of Jesus riding into Jerusalem, as the people wave Palm branches and hail Jesus as the long-awaited King. You can read about this in Matthew 21:1-11- the Processional gospel.

The people living in the land of ancient Israel hope that Jesus will come as a mighty military leader and drive their oppressors out of the land and restore them to power.

We learn that Jesus does not come in the way of power, but the way of sacrificial love. The people will soon turn on Jesus and are prompted to ask for his death. You can read about this, the Passion narrative, in Mt. 26:14-27:66.

The good news of the Passion is that God came to us not in power or force, but the way of non-violence and love. As Jesus hangs from the cross – that cruel instrument of torture and death – we see God’s embrace of love for all of God’s creation and for you and me. The crucifixion of Jesus is the reminder that God is found wherever there is suffering, anxiety, fear, and death. The events of Holy Week remind us that God is walking with us and is here to provide us with strength and hope as we walk through this anxious, uncertain, fearful time of the Coronavirus.

There is a story about a Native American boy – I don’t know where it originated - who appreciated his teacher and wanted to give her a gift she would enjoy. He knew that his teacher loved seashells. One weekend, the boy walked to the ocean – a twenty-mile distance – found a beautiful shell and walked back home. On Monday morning, the boy gave his teacher the shell. She thought it was beautiful. It took a moment, but then dawned on her what the boy had gone through in order to give her the gift. She asked the boy, “You mean you walked all that way to the ocean and back just to give me the shell?” The boy looked at his teacher, and with a tear in his eye, he said, “The long walk is part of the gift.”

The long walk, that he took to the Cross, is part of the gift that Jesus offers as he entered into our human struggles and suffering. It can be easy to gloss over the suffering of Jesus, even while believing in his self-giving death on our behalf. It is easy to become desensitized to the words of the gospels describing what Jesus went through. It is easy for our minds to pass quickly over Jesus’ suffering and move to the resurrection. The resurrection, of course, is the “feel good” part of the story. Everyone loves a happy ending. And we know that the “good news” of Jesus’ rising from the dead is the ultimate happy ending! Yet we would do well to linger a bit more on the Scriptures that tell the story of the pain and agony Jesus went through in order to provide us with the gift of restored relationship with God and renewed life. And at this time in which all of us are feeling anxious and fearful it would be good to pause and reflect on how the crucifixion of Jesus is the reminder that God is found wherever there is suffering, anxiety, fear, and death. That is good news that God is with us and for us and will lead us through this difficult time.

This can be an important time to reset our spiritual lives – move past some of the more superficial things in our lives - and seek a deeper connection to God and a deeper trust in Jesus, that we can know a deeper peace. I encourage you to take the time this week to read through the Passion narrative from the scriptures. This week, may we be reminded of the extent and the cost of God’s love, as shown to us in Jesus. We should never forget or take for granted Jesus’ suffering and that “the long walk is part of the gift.” Dear friends, may you know and experience deeply God’s love with you this week.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of mercy, awaken your church to new proclamations of your faithfulness. By your Spirit, give us bold and joyful words to speak, that we sustain the weary with the message of your redemption. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, quiet the earth where it trembles and shakes. Protect vulnerable ecosystems, threatened habitats, and endangered species. Prosper the work of scientists, engineers, and researchers who find ways to restore creation to health and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, drive away fear and anger that cause us to turn against one another. Give courage to leaders who seek liberation for the oppressed. Bring peace and hope to those who are in prison and those who face execution. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, send your saving help to all who suffer abuse, insult, discrimination, or contempt. Heal the wounded. Comfort the dying. Bring peace to those suffering chronic or terminal illness. Tend to all who cry out for relief (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, we pray for all who will prepare and lead worship in this Holy Week. In all things, show us the ways that you call us to die to self, to live for you, and to give of ourselves for the sake of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of mercy, when we breathe our last, you raise us to eternal life. With all your witnesses in heaven and on earth (*especially*), let us boldly confess the name of Jesus Christ, our resurrection and our hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of Concern and Thanks

As we journey through this holy season of Lent: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ. (ELW Propers, pg. 26.) **Loving God, we remember that you are our source of life and hope.** We give thanks for your gifts of love and life; inspire us to be your hands and voice in your world; grant us courage to joyfully share your Good News. **We pray for our world, nation, and local communities.** We hold in prayer those who have contracted the COVID-19 virus, and the families of those who have died. We pray for medical workers, care providers, and first responders. We lift up those who feel anxious and worried.

Adult caregivers caring for loved ones

Al & Stacy Anderson and their two children who have contracted the COVID-19 virus in Prague Czech. (friends of Bob & Vickie Campbell)

Baby Eli - battling terminal illness, waiting to start a medical trial for Alexander's disease (grandmother is a friend of Ruth Gonzales)

Baby Kaden - did not have coronavirus, he and family are doing better. (foster child of Mindy & Steve Livingston)

Bob Campbell - left foot still needs to heal, still non weight bearing

Brian DeRosier - body rejecting second kidney transplant (neighbor of Ellen Winter)

Corrine Christie - health challenges

Debbie Wold - continuing immunotherapy for liver & kidney cancer (friend of Robin Barker)

Dennis Heaton - ongoing kidney issues

Diane & Harrison Densmore - Diane's scheduled kidney donation to her son Harrison is postponed until further notice (daughter & grandson of Jerry Magelssen)

Douglas Prindle - health concerns (son-in-law of Dennis Heaton)

Faith Breon - brain aneurysm stable, surgery postponed (daughter-in-law of Laurie Breon)

Frank Gonzales - prayers for vision in left eye to return, optical retinal vein occlusion

Glenn Zachery - recovery from fall, broken bone in neck (friend of Ken & Arlene Casperson)

Gretchen Forsman - recovering from surgery and doing better. (daughter-in-law of Toni)

Jay Jodock - learning to walk with new prosthetic leg.

Larry Campbell - prayers for ongoing health issues (friend of Arlene & Ken Casperson)

Leslie Faxon - heart numbers have improved, undergoing a new type of chemo (friend of Ruth Gonzales)

Patti Vincent - undergoing treatment for liver cancer (Liz & Steve Moore son's mother-in-law)

Richard Hovet - diagnosed with Alzheimer's (father of Beth Husted)

Rob Pattermann - holding his own, on a modified life style (friend of Bob & Vickie Campbell)

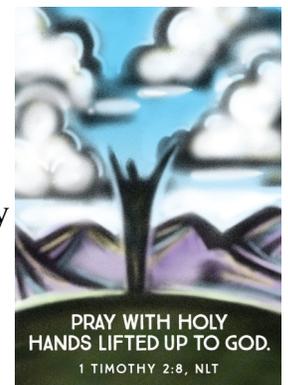
Ruth Yost - struggling with health issues.

Susan Maxwell - doing well, praise God!

Virginia Muniz - is in the healing process and learning a new lifestyle (friend of Amy Williams)

Family and Friends of Myron "Mike" Taylor (father of Ellyn Erickson)

Those serving in uniform.



Announcements Continued

Christ in Our Home Daily Devotional booklets for April - June are now available on entryway table. You can pick up your free copy by appointment. Please contact Tammy at 360-631-8037.

Also available online for free:

With this current health crisis, some people may be without a physical copy of Christ in Our Home. To assist with devotional life during this time, a limited-time complementary email subscription is being offered. Sign up and receive the daily devotional to your email for the remainder of March and April 2020. <https://go.augsburgfortress.org/christ-in-our-home-email-subscription>

Preschool Registration for 2020-2021. Early registration begins Monday, April 13th, at 9:00am and will go through Thursday, April 16th. Registration Forms will be available in the Church Office and here online. \$75.00 deposit due at time of registration. Early Registration gives the opportunity to enroll before Open Enrollment to the general public. Open enrollment will begin Monday, April 20th at 9:00am.

Early registration is for:

1. Current Students & their siblings-4/13
2. Church Members-4/14
3. Siblings of former students-4/15
4. Children enrolled at Our Saviour's Childcare-4/9

****Early applications will not be accepted. Please wait for your registration date.**

Arlington Public Schools has been partnering with the Arlington Boys and Girls Club to provide **FREE** childcare to the children of healthcare professionals and first responders during the extended school closure. **This service has now been expanded to include the children of pharmacy workers and grocery store workers.** If you or someone you know falls into one of these categories, stop by the Arlington Boys and Girls Club (18513 59th Ave. NE) to complete a registration form. Childcare is available from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Please contact the Arlington Boys and Girls Club at 360-435-4442 with any questions.

5k Fun Run! May 16th 10am at Camp Lutherwood on Lake Samish near Bellingham. Lutherwood is excited to announce the first annual trail race! Come out to support Lutherwood for the morning to run the trails and jump into the lake! Spend the morning playing Gaga, Basketball, enjoying the lake side and of course running! Other options include staying on camp for the weekend, if you're interested. Register at: <https://www.camlutherwood.org/events>

Lutherwood Campground and Retreat Center in Bellingham. Did You Know? Lutherwood has campground. Lutherwood has 20 spots available in the campground with electricity and water hook-ups. Bring an RV or a tent to enjoy summer weekends underneath the stars. Call Lutherwood office for availability, (360) 734-7652.

The Church Directory has been updated and emailed out. There are some hard copies available in the office. If there are any changes that need to be made, please contact the church office, 360-435-8921. Thank you.

**Our Saviour's Lutheran
Church Childcare and
Preschool**

615 E Highland Drive
Arlington, WA 98223
360-435-8921
www.arlingtonwachurch.org

Ministers: All the baptized. We live out our ministry in our daily lives and in the Church.

Pastor	Scott Summers	Email: pastor@arlingtonwachurch.org Cell phone: 360-722-0500
Office Assistant	Tammy DeWard	Email: office@arlingtonwachurch.org

**Our Saviour's
Office Hours**

**Monday-Thursday
9:00am - 2:30pm**

**Friday
by appointment**

This Week at Our Saviour's April 6th - April 12th		
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		Maundy Thursday
Friday		Good Friday
Saturday		
Sunday		Easter Sunday