

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
March 31, 2019



Welcome Home!

AS WE GATHER

We live in a world of broken relationships. Without reconciliation, life is draining, not unlike plants without water or a dead battery. But Isaiah looked forward to a day in which God's people would not only return from exile in the short term, but "will draw water from the wells of salvation," as we do. David was drained, his strength "dried up as by the heat of summer," but he rejoiced that God forgave and reconciled him. The father in Jesus' parable single-handedly reconciled his prodigal son to himself and offered that to his elder son, as our heavenly Father does to us each day.

Reflect on your brokenness and confess it. Rejoice in your Father's forgiveness and receive it. Relish the celebration of the feast that's been prepared for you and share its joy with every other prodigal you know.

Today we will be receiving the **Student Aid Offering** to help support our students going into full-time church work.

WELCOME – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

GATHERING FOR PRAISE (INVITATION)

OPENING PRAISE SONG:

Here I Am To Worship (Tim Hughes/Danny Gokey)

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You
created
All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Christ is enough for me
Christ is enough for me
Everything I need is in you
Everything I need

I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back

The cross before me
The world behind me
No turning back, no turning back
The cross before me
The world behind me
No turning back, no turning back

Christ is enough for me
Christ is enough for me
Everything I need is in you
Everything I need

GREETINGS

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Call to Worship: *(inspired by Psalm 8)*

Leader: Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and blessed by God,

People: We come to worship one, holy God.

Leader: O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth.

People: Your majesty is the music of the starry skies, yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

Leader: In the name of the Healer, the Provider and the Enabler, let your gratitude and joy be made known.

ALL: O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

GATHERING FOR FORGIVENESS

Change My Heart O God (Eddie Espinosa)

Change my heart, Oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart, Oh God

May I be like You

You are the potter

I am the clay

Mold me and make me

This is what I pray

Change my heart, Oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart, Oh God

May I be like You

You are the potter

I am the clay

Mold me and make me

This is what I pray

Change my heart, Oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart, Oh God

May I be like You

The Confession of Sins

Minister: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Please Kneel

All: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Please Stand

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Epistle *2 Corinthians 5:16–21* (Be reconciled to God.)

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

The Holy Gospel (The parable of the prodigal son)

Reader: The Holy Gospel is written in 15th chapter of St Luke, beginning at the first verse:

Reader: In Jesus' parable, the father represents God; His words will be read by me. We are often like the other characters and we will read those parts.

Reader: Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying,

People: This man receives sinners and eats with them.

Reader: So He told them this parable: . . . "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father,

People: 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.'

Reader: And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said,

People: "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.' "

Reader: And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him,

People: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

Reader: But the father said to his servants,
"Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate. Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him,

People: "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound."

Reader: But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father,

People: "Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!"

Reader: And he said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please Be Seated

*(As we sing the following praise song, we will gather our **Student Aid** offering to encourage and support those from Saint Paul preparing for full-time ministry)*

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul (Ezzy, Grull, McPherson)

Jesus, lover of my soul

Jesus, I will never let You go

You've taken me from the miry clay

You've set my feet upon the rock

And now I know

I love You

I need You

Though my world will fall

I'll never let You go
My Savior
My closest friend
I will worship You until the very end

Repeat All

I will worship You until the very end

Sermon – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

*Do you know that God runs to meet you with His merciful embrace? Who do you need to GO and FORGIVE, or to embrace with Christ's peace? Ok, **make plans to reconcile with that person this week.**
Don't wait!*

Stand

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs. Let us pray for all who, like the people of Isaiah's day, languish under fear and oppression.

People: **Reconciling Lord, use police and military people and resources, political powers and courageous leaders, to restore liberty and freedom to all who are displaced or denied justice. Renew in them faith in Your promises and a realization that You are in their midst even in difficult days.**

Pastor: Let us pray for all who, like David in his earlier days, deny their transgressions, defend their iniquities, and groan in their misery.

People: **Reconciling Lord, by Your Word of Law and Gospel bring them to true contrition and repentance. Be a hiding place for them, and surround them with Your love. Grant that we may act as Your embracing arms.**

Pastor: Let us pray for clergy and lay leaders around the world, who, like Paul, are Christ's ambassadors through whom God is making His appeal.

People: **Reconciling Lord, strengthen and protect Your Church around the world, all who bring the good news of salvation to the people they meet. Guide us as we carry the ministry of reconciliation in our various relationships. Help us encourage one another on behalf of Christ to be reconciled to You each day.**

Pastor: Let us pray for all who reflect the family members in Jesus' parable: those who find themselves destitute, those harboring resentment, and those offering compassionate care.

People: **Reconciling Lord, where generations are at odds, bring understanding. Where families are fractured, bring healing. Where people are forgotten, unseen, and marginalized, bring dignity and new hope. Use us gathered here—as well as emergency personnel, health-care workers, mental health consultants, and social agencies of all sorts—to care for their needs of body, mind, and spirit.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Sit

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

We invite you to fill out our Friendship Card during the offering which is found on the back of the pew. Please pass your card to the center aisle and leave in pew.

At the Offering

Above All (LeBlanc and Baloché)

Above all powers, above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of
man
You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever
known
Above all wealth and treasures of the
earth
There's no way to measure what You're

worth.
Crucified, laid behind the stone
You lived to die, rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all.

Repeat All

Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all.

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

Please see our communion policy stated on the inside front cover.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.



The Words of Institution

Sit

Distribution

COMMUNION WINE: For those who may not be able to take regular wine, we offer non-alcoholic wine, which is the light colored wine in the center of the communion tray.

++ We offer **Gluten-free** wafers upon request. ++

Lord, I Need You (Matt Maher)

Lord, I come, I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart
You're the One that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
Where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way

When I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, you're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

You Are My All in All (Dennis Jernigan)

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name

Taking my sin my cross my shame

Rising again I bless your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down you pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name

Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is your name

Stand

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the apostles, standing on the mountain high;

People: Christ is shining; in this glory let us stay.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the Savior, "Christ means suffering;"

People: Down the mount the Lord must go and meet the death that awaits Him in the valley below.

Pastor: "Alleluia," bids the Savior, "follow Me and be not afraid;"

People: Christ reveals greater glory hidden in the cross and grave; there we find salvation's story and there we find the hope that saves.

GATHERING FOR DISMISSAL

The Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you in His fulfilled promises. The Lord make His face shine on you and graciously give you Christ's own righteousness. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Silent Prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final Praise Song:

I Will Follow (Chris Tomlin)

Where you go, I'll go
Where you stay, I'll stay
When you move, I'll move
I will follow

All your ways are good
All your ways are sure
I will trust in you alone
Higher than my side
High above my life
I will trust in you alone

Where you go, I'll go
Where you stay, I'll stay

When you move, I'll move
I will follow you
Who you love, I'll love
How you serve I'll serve
If this life I lose, I will follow you
I will follow you

Light unto the world
Light unto my life
I will live for You alone
You're the one I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone, in You alone

Where you go, I'll go
Where you stay, I'll stay
When you move, I'll move
I will follow you
Who you love, I'll love
How you serve I'll serve
If this life I lose, I will follow you
I will follow you

In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul

In You there's joy, unending joy
And I will follow

Where you go, I'll go
Where you stay, I'll stay
When you move, I'll move
I will follow you
Who you love, I'll love
How you serve I'll serve
If this life I lose, I will follow you
I will follow you

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

May We Help You? Anyone who desires special private prayer with the Pastor may do so by remaining in the sanctuary until all worshippers have departed. At that time, come forward and speak with the Pastor.

****All the Contemporary Songs used in this Praise and Worship Service are projected on the screen (CCLI # 663075)***

WHERE WE SERVE

Preacher

Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

Music Director

Jesse Torres-Palasiague

Elder

Tom Norton

Family Life Director

Jeanette Koch

Reader

Ushers

Chuck Hempel

Patrick Baker

Nursery

Cathy Lesh

Altar Society

*Nancy Berg
Dottie Siefker*

Marlene Shoebridge

Tech Team

Greeter

Hoffmeier Family

Acolyte

Miriam Ruth

Counters

Jan Paver

Marlene Shoebridge

Welcome Center

Barbara Hoffmeier

31	MAR, SUN	● 8:30am – 12:30pm	NO RENTALS ON CAMPUS
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Bible study and Sunday School Classrooms 2,3,4 & 5 gym
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Confirmation Class Room #3 school
		● 6 – 8pm	Sunday Night AA Big Book
1	APR, MON	● All day	No School - Spring Break
		● 2 – 3pm	Staff Meeting School Office
		● 6 – 7pm	Board of Trustees room #5
		● 7 – 8pm	Bd. of Christian Ed. church office
		● 7 – 8pm	Board of Social Ministry parish hall
2	APR, TUE	● All day	No School - Spring Break
		● 6 – 7pm	Board of Elders Parish Hall
3	APR, WED	● All day	No School - Spring Break
		● 9:30 – 11am	Ladies Bible Study Church Parish Hall
		● 5:30 – 6:30pm	Lenten Dinner Church Parish Hall
		● 7 – 8pm	Lenten Worship Service Church
		● 8 – 9pm	Choir Church
4	APR, THU	● All day	No School - Spring Break
		● 5 – 8pm	Family of God Ladies Dinner and Bible Study
		● 6:15 – 7:15pm	Handbells
		● 7 – 8:30pm	Scouts Rooms #4 & #5
5	APR, FRI	● All day	No School - Spring Break
		● 8am – 5:30pm	Lifeline Screening Gym
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA MTG Church Parish Hall

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APR, SAT

● 9:30 – 10:30am

Men's Bible Study church parish hall

Audio recording of the sermons and bulletins (church and school calendars) are now posted online every week @stpaulnorthville.org

Attendance Last week :

Sunday 3.24.2019

8:30am - 120

11:00am - 60 = 180

Lent Worship 3.27.2019 - 32

Men's Bible Study 3/23/2019 - 7

Sunday 3.24.2019 Bible Study - 25

Ladies Bible Study 3.27.2019 - 10

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities –

SUNDAYS: - Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.

WEDNESDAYS – Ladies bible study- “ Life of Jesus” study - Church Parish Hall @ 9:30am

SATURDAYS Men's Bible Study – Every second and fourth Saturday @ 9:30am – Parish Hall.

Donations needed each week for Church and School – \$9,808

Received week of 3/24/19 for Church and School (Envelopes plus loose plate) \$9,537

School Income - \$ 350

Remember Our Shut-ins

LORRAINE KEGLER

24500 Meadowbrook Rd.

Novi, MI 48375

Today's flowers are:

One vase in memory of loved ones from Janet Wisner.

One vase in memory of Virginia Kleiner from her husband Norman and Family.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11am Sunday Service.

Lenten Dinners are here! Dinners are held in the church parish hall and begin at 5:30pm and end at 6:45pm before 7pm worship.

04/03/19 - Board of Evangelism

04/10/19 – Seder Meal / Passover Banquet – **6pm – School GYM**

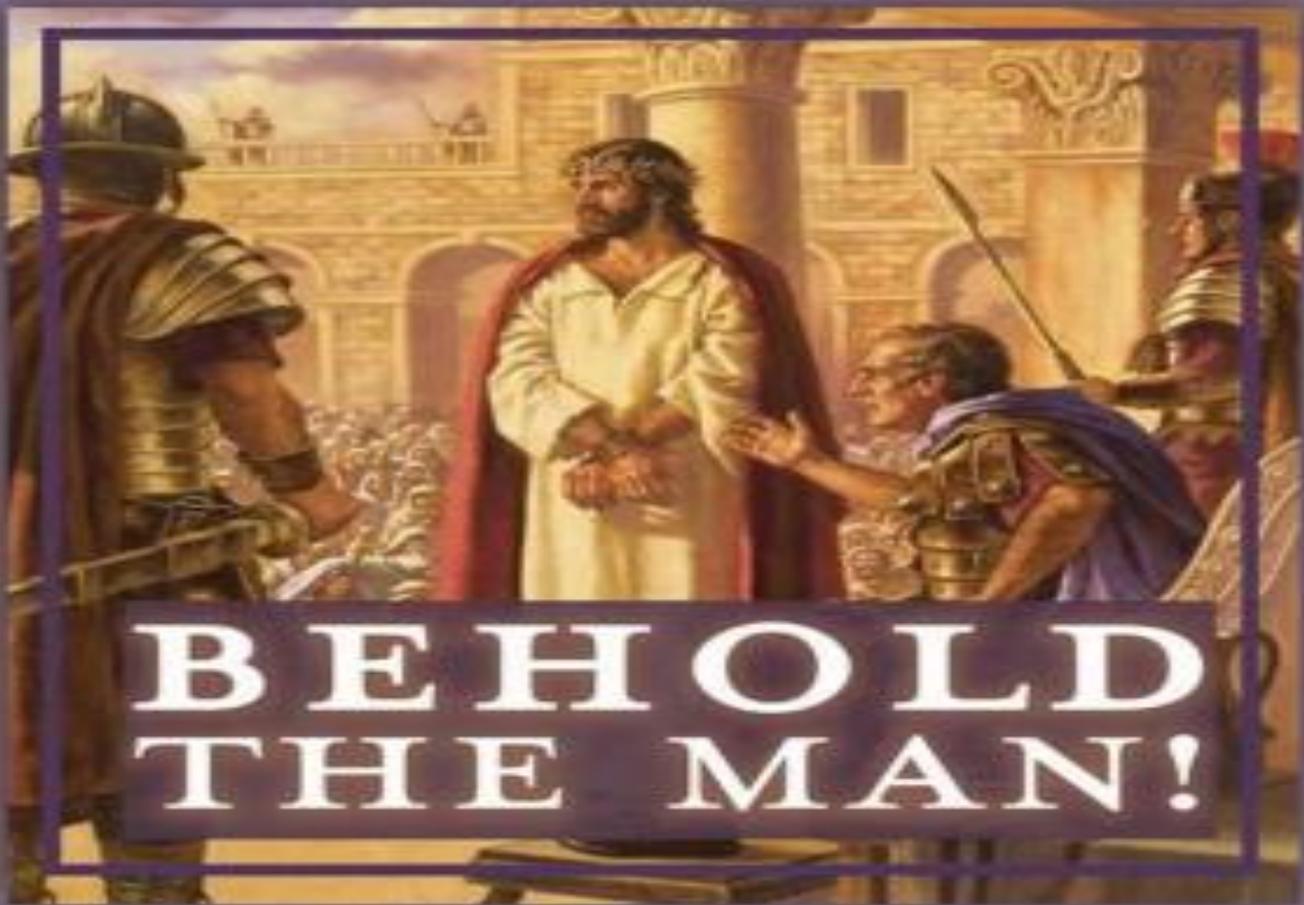
INVITE A FRIEND and Join Us for our Seder Meal on:



April 10th
6 pm in Gym

For many years Chosen People Ministries has used the **Passover Seder** as a tool to tell Jewish people about the Messiah Jesus Christ.

ALL are WELCOME!



BEHOLD THE MAN!

MIDWEEK MIDDAY LENTEN WORSHIP

Beginning **ASH WEDNESDAY**, March 6, **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** in Dearborn Heights will host *Lutherans at Lunch* (midday Lenten Worship & luncheon!) Join together Wednesday afternoons at 12:00pm for worship followed by a light lunch with brothers and sisters from area LCMS congregations! Worship and lunch all in an hour. Come during the daylight hours for worship and hear a local pastor preach! The church is located at: 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127 (east of Inkster Road).



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 14th – Palm Sunday – 10am

***Palm Sunday Breakfast 9:00am**

April 18th – Maundy Thursday – 7pm

April 19th – Good Friday – 1pm - with Holy Communion

April 19th – Good Friday – 7pm

April 21st – Easter Sunday – 8:30am

April 21st – Easter Sunday – 11:00am



SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER



Last week in Sunday School, we learned how “John Prepares the Way.” As John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God, so our pastors point us to this same Jesus, who grants us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Ask your children, “What did you learn about John, what he ate, and how he dressed?”

“The Baptism of Jesus” is the Bible story taught in Sunday School today. God sent the Holy Spirit at Jesus’ Baptism, announcing that Jesus was God’s Son. At our Baptism, God makes us His children through the work of the Holy Spirit. Let your children tell you the dramatic events of this story.

Easter Fair 2019 coming soon! The Board of Evangelism needs your help to bring the 2019 Easter Fair to St. Paul. The day is Saturday, April 13, from 12:00pm - 2:00p. We are serving a free lunch, providing a few games, story time, egg hunt, prizes, raffle baskets, jelly bean guess and face painting. There are lots of opportunities to help. We sent out a sign up genius volunteer form electronically but if you don't get email or we don't have your email address we may miss out on your help. Along with all the volunteers needed, we need lots of wrapped candy to fill our Easter eggs and empty egg cartons that will be used for the egg hunt. Please let us know how you may be able to help. You can call Sue Poole if you have questions, 249.904.9080.

The FAMILY OF GOD MEALS continue the first Thursday's and the third Wednesday's of the month. For the Wednesday meals the meat is prepared on Tuesdays and then a group cooks in the school kitchen on Wednesday from 2:00 to 4:00. The servers come at 5:00 to take the meal down to southwest Detroit and return around 7:30, if they don't stay for the worship service at the mission. *Many thanks to Janet Wisner, our shopper, who always looks for the best buys to keep our budget to \$160 a month.* In February we served Taco Lasagna, Salad, Brownies, and a Beverage to about 50 people. Our cooks were: Nancy Berg, Dawn Englert, Barbara Hoffmeier, Kim Johnson, Kathy Lesserman, Doris Oltersdorf and Janet Wisner. The servers were: Dawn Englert, Wayne Grey, Barbara & Will Hoffmeier, and Steven Leudeman. Brownie bakers were: Bernice Baggett, Anne Burgess, Ruth Fisher, Kathy Hoener and Carol Kandah. In March we served Chicken a la King with peas over biscuits, jello with fruit, brownies and a beverage to about 50 people again. The cooks were: Nancy Berg, Kim Johnson, Barbara Hoffmeier, Doris Oltersdorf and Janet Wisner. The servers were: Beth Hemple, Chris Henning and her sister Debby Pichan, Pat Melton, Steven Leudeman and Will Hoffmeier. We purchased brownies for a change this month. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE! If you'd like to help with the next meal on April 17th please contact Barbara at #248.756.3035 or bhoffmeier3@gmail.com. To help with the Thursday meals contact Sue Poole smvpoole@comcast.net

A warming oven was purchased for the Family of God kitchen that they will use to serve meals at the mission. Thanks to the generosity of the St Paul Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study group they collected money instead of doing a gift exchange at Christmas. It is greatly appreciated