

FIRST ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street
York, PA 17401-1307
Phone: 717-843-8597



Website: www.firststjohns.com

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DATED MATERIAL

THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



PARISH VISITOR



FIRST ST JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH-WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH
Be together at First St. John’s - Your Community Church and Your Family in JESUS



VOLUME 51 ISSUE 4 Website: www.firststjohns.com APRIL 2019

WHAT DOES E.A.S.T.E.R. STAND FOR?

Was the resurrection of Jesus fact or fiction? Something happened Easter Sunday 2000 years ago that changed the course of history and the hearts of man forever. Here are just some of the events that took place that support the belief in a Risen Christ.

E is for empty tomb. Where did the body go? People began preaching about [the resurrection](#) in the same city where people had seen him die. No one would have believed them if the body was still in the tomb. Even more, Jesus’s enemies would have done anything to produce the body, but they couldn’t. There are many theories that attack the empty tomb, but all of them [can be refuted](#).

A is for appearances. Many people saw Jesus after his resurrection. They were either lying or all hallucinated. Both of these suggestions are [highly unlikely](#).

S is for skeptics converted. [Paul](#), [Constantine](#), and [Dr. Simon Greenleaf](#) are just a few famous converts to Christianity.

T is for transformed apostles. From publicly denying Jesus to boldly preaching to thousands in Jerusalem, the disciples were changed forever. They preformed miracles in the name of Jesus and continued to preach about the resurrection until all but one were brutally killed for it.

E is for the existence of the church. No one can explain the existence of the millions of Christians without the resurrection. Christianity was a totally new and radical idea not influenced by anything other than the resurrection of Jesus.

R is for the rite of baptism. Before the resurrection this act was not used as a means of salvation or the forgiveness of sins. This is a totally new concept that did not begin until Jesus commanded it in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Peter also gave the condition, “Peter said to them, “Repent, each of you and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”” Acts 2:38.

These facts are important because a belief in the resurrection is essential to the Christian faith. “But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain” 1 Corinthians 15:13-14.





SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

Sunday -	9:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Sunday Worship
Monday -	PANERA BREAD DISTRIBUTION 9:00-11:00 AM
Wednesday	6:30 PM - Adult Choir
Thursday	6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.firststjohns.com

WELCOME

Our calling is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: firststjohns@verizon.net

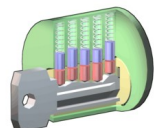
First St. Johns Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

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NEW HIGH SECURITY KEY-LOCKS WERE INSTALLED ON THE FRONT AND BACK ENTRANCE DOORS OF THE CHURCH.

THE NEW KEY FITS BOTH LOCKS.

IF YOU HAVE THE OLD ENTRANCE KEYS PLEASE DISCARD THEM.



SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597

COME
WORSHIP
with us!



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to firststjohns@verizon.net.



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: firststjohns@verizon.net



GET IN TOUCH

LENTEN AND EASTER SERVICES 2019

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES

Begin by having a light supper at 6:00 PM in the Kitchenette/

Bible study room. Then join us there in a special series of sermons for

Lent at 7:00 PM.

April 3rd, 10th

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, April 14th.

11:00 AM Morning Service



MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE

Thursday, April 18th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Columbia, PA

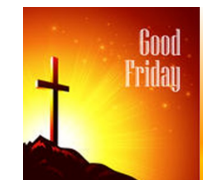
7:00 PM



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 19th at First St. John's Lutheran Church

7:00 PM



EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday, April 21st

NO SUNRISE SERVICE

A light breakfast will follow the early service

11:00 AM Morning Service



GERMAN EASTER SERVICE

Sunday, April 28th

4:00 PM Afternoon Service

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.



Ostergottesdienst



Music & Worship Notes



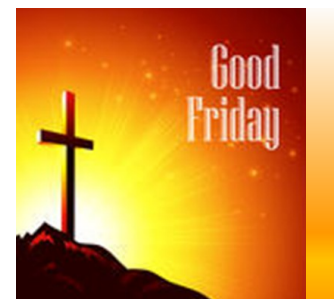
Thursday in Holy Week, as most Lutheran service books call it, or Maundy Thursday, as it is known elsewhere in the Christian church, is the anniversary of the institution of the Lord's Supper. The name Maundy Thursday is derived from the foot-washing ceremony, performed in imitation of our Lord's action at supper and of His subsequent *mandatum* (new commandment), from which the word "Maundy" is coined.

In the Catholic Church, as part of the later communion service, a special host (bread) was blessed and consecrated for use on Good Friday as the Mass of the Pre-sanctified. This host was then escorted in procession to a side altar known as the Altar of Repose. And following the communion service, the altars were stripped and washed in preparation for the austere services of Good Friday.

When Good Friday emerged as a separate day commemorative of the crucifixion and death of Jesus, it became at once the church's great day of mourning and therefore of fasting. Since then, in all lands and in all periods of Christian history, there has been agreement on the nature of Good Friday as on almost no other day in the calendar. In liturgical churches, the color of the day has been black.

The ancient title for the day was *Parasceve* (Preparation). The name Good Friday is of English origin and is possibly derived from "God's Friday" just as "good-bye" is derived from "God be with you."

Ken Sanders,
Minister of Music



THE ADULT CHOIR: Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Quitao Zhang, Ding Wang,
Maria Stankiewicz, Brian Stankiewicz



The special offering for the month of

APRIL

LCMS World Relief/Human Care



APRIL 2019 PARISH VISITOR

MAY 2019 DEADLINE

Articles Due April 19th-Friday

Mail Date April 25th-Thursday

Newsletter



Bible Study



9:00 AM

MEETINGS IN APRIL

Worship Committee

Church Council

Future Committee

To be announced

11th-Thursday-5:30 pm

Wednesday-9:00 am-(Fridays as needed)

UPCOMING APRIL SERVICES

April 7th, Non-Communion (4th Sunday in Lent)

Proclaimer-Pastor Stephen B. Schafer

April 14th, Communion (Palm Sunday)

Proclaimer-Pastor Stephen B. Schafer

April 21st, Communion (Easter)

Proclaimer-Pastor Stephen B. Schafer

April 28th, Non-Communion (2nd Sunday of Easter)

Proclaimer-Pastor Stephen B. Schafer

APRIL

Sunday⁺
Services

OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS
Bible Study 9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597
For updates refer to Website calendar at
APRIL 2019

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Bible Study-9:00 am. Morning Worship-11:00 am. The fifth Sunday of the month (months with five Sundays), will be a Prayer and Preaching Service.	1 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	2	3 Lenten Service 6:00 PM-Dinner 7:00 PM-Service Adult Choir- after service	4	5	6
7 4th Sunday in Lent NC/Purple	8 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	9	10 Lenten Service 6:00 PM-Dinner 7:00 PM-Service Adult Choir- after service	11 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 5:30 PM N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	12	13
14 Palm Sunday C/ Red	15 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	16	17 Adult Choir- 6:30 pm	18 Maundy Thursday At St. Paul's N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	19 Good Friday Service First St. John's 7:00 PM	20
21 Easter/Resurrection Day Breakfast before morning service 11:00 am Service C/ White	22 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	23	24 Adult Choir- 6:30 pm	25 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	26	27
28 2nd Sunday of Easter GERMAN EASTER SERVICE 4:00 PM -Light Refreshments after service NC/ White	29 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	30				
		LAY READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD Wally and Beth Smith		SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS April LCMS World Relief / Human Care

BEHOLD THE MAN!

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. . . . The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

—John 1:1–3, 14

“Behold the man!” proclaimed the unwitting preacher Pontius Pilate in one of the shortest, yet most profound, sermons ever recorded. This will be our endeavor this Lententide and Easter Sunday. Behold the man, God in human flesh, Jesus. His incarnation will provide the basis for our meditation and proclamation on His Passion. And His real, bodily suffering and death will provide the basis for our full-throated proclamation on Easter morning of a bodily resurrection, not just of Jesus but also for His saints. Real bodies that have suffered, wept, bled, prayed, eaten, hoped, and more will be those raised incorruptible from their graves on the day of Jesus’ return.

We will fix our eyes and our preaching on the man Jesus, contemplating the inescapable fact—indeed the most important fact in the course of human history—that God became man. The Second Person of the eternal, triune God, who we confess in the Nicene Creed as “God of God, Light of light, very God of very God . . . of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made,” became a living, breathing, flesh-and-blood human being, a man.

In some ways, you can understand that the first heresy the Christian Church had to contend with was that of Gnosticism, the hyperspiritual religion that held that because no man could be God, the Christ could not be God. Gnosticism is alluring because it tidies everything up, gives Christianity a more attractive, spiritual veneer, and pulls its adherents out of the mire of this world and gives them something other-worldly to strive for.

Considered correctly, it becomes pretty hard to spiritualize Christianity—a religion that bases its existence on the enfleshment, the incarnation, of her God—into the mess of disembodied, matter-rejecting, hyperspiritual Gnosticism. When God has flesh and blood, skin and teeth, cells and nuclei, DNA and RNA, it’s difficult to contend for the disembodied spiritual against the material. If God has a body, bodies must matter.

In case you aren’t convinced of the pervasiveness of the second-century heresy of Gnosticism, even in our twenty-first-century context, attend a funeral. If you hear talk only of heaven with nary a word of a bodily resurrection, you’ve witnessed firsthand modern-day Gnosticism. If the preacher doesn’t deal with the body in the casket as the real person whose death has assembled the mass of grieving relatives and friends, if he talks only about the bodyless soul in heaven, he hasn’t preached a genuinely Christian funeral. In other words, if he gives preference to the spiritual over the material, he succumbs to the Gnostic heresy the earliest generations of the Church sought to guard against by preaching the incarnation and resurrection of Jesus.


This Lent, we will consider what it means that God became man. In preparation for the celebration of a real, bodily, flesh-and-blood, bone-and-sinew resurrection, the resurrection without which our faith and our preaching are all in vain, consider the body of Jesus that exists in order to be nailed to a cross. The spiritual, bodyless Son of God became the embodied, enfleshed, incarnate Son of Mary. In Jesus, God has human flesh, a body, just like you. What could be more profound?

Each week, we’ll consider a different aspect of the body of Jesus Christ. What does it mean that, in Jesus, God has hands, feet, lungs, lips, eyes, and ears?

Behold the man! In sermon, in study, in devotion, behold the man!



EASTER AND HOLY WEEK



Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, the victorious and triumphal entrance of Christ into Jerusalem. Zechariah 9:9 makes this prophesy, "Behold, your King is coming to you." The Church sees this prophecy fulfilled as Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey. These events precede the Last Supper in the upper room, Maundy Thursday (*purple*) and the institution of the Lord's Supper. Jesus gives His body and His blood as a means of forgiveness and salvation. The celebration of Good Friday (*black*) occurs and the culmination of the penitential season of Lent hits its crescendo. Easter Sunday (*white*) finishes off a six-week period of anticipation and preparation for the Christian in the resurrection of the Savior of the world.

Evidence for the Resurrection

E mpty Tomb
A ppearances
S keptics Converted
T ransformed Apostles
E xistence of the Church
R ite of Baptism

True Aim
THE BLUE MANOR BLOG

Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive
 York, PA 17402
Birthday--September 30th

Joyce Devan

2408 Lovegren Court
 York, PA 17404
Birthday--February 20th

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street
 York, PA 17401
Birthday--April 21st

Williard Starner, Sr.

820 Gunnison Road
 York, PA 17404
Birthday--June 4, 1938



Bill Hildebrand

3530 Fox Run Road
 Dover, PA 17315
Birthday--September 17th

Gloria Whitekettle

2361 Log Cabin Road
 York, PA 17408
Birthday--November 23rd

Ruth Hermann

Lutheran Home Skilled Care
 Room 404A
 1801 Gladfelter Circle
 York, PA 17404
Birthday--Feb 11th

If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

STEWARDSHIP: APRIL 2019

"Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out" (Deut 28:3-6).

This is God's promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises blessing to His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their fruit of their work to prosper, whether from the ground or their wombs, their flocks or their herds. He will make them to prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there's a catch. He would do this for Israel only "if you obey the voice of the Lord your God" (Deut 28:2b). If they did that, He would cause that "all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you" (Deut 28:2a).

If they didn't obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn't keep the commandments of the Lord and walk in His ways (Deut 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh, fulfilled the law for us – in in our place and for our benefit; died for us – in our place and for our benefit; and is risen from the dead for us – in our place and for our benefit.

By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God is promised to us in Christ Jesus. It depends upon His work and not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and thereby it becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbor.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is not in order to receive blessings but because in Christ we already have.

It is with this in mind that we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (1 Cor. 16:2).

 **stewardship**



PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle
 Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
 Becky Lupp-illness
 Angie Linebaugh-Illness
 Susan Null-Cancer
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
 Marianne DeModena-Cancer
 Patti Tripp-COPD
 Christine Neal (Bonnie Abendschoen's cousin)-Flu.
 Brenton Allen-Needs new kidney and pancreas
 Olivia Stankiewicz-Healing (Grand-daughter of Brian and Maria Stankiewicz)
 Beth Smith
 Gary
 Anna vanDyk
 Bill Hildebrand-Surgery
 Julia
 Pastor Jay Mazikas (nephew of Sylvia Barclay)- Severe Headaches
 Susan Perergoy-Problems with knee surgery
 Nancy Hildebrand

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Teri Storms from Valpak-Surgery on March 4th.

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen Dawn Frey Joyce Devan Gloria Whitekettle
 Bill Hildebrand Ruth Hermann Williard Starner, Sr.

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts
 Norma Null

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord
 For our "action" committees/task forces
 Our Community and Families

We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their lives due to special needs:



11th - Carlos Beck
16th - Summer Myers
18th - Elaine Montalvo
21st - Dawn Frey
27th - Amy Stambaugh



Please Note - On the 1st Sunday service of the month the birthdays for the month will be read. The Birthdays for the current month will be posted on the bulletin board

Early May Birthdays

1st - Daniel Stambaugh
10th - Rodney Billet

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

MILITARY

Kevin Kuhn	U.S.C.G.
Lindsay Wood	U.S.A.F.
Dakota Kaufman	U. S. Army in Kuwait
Matthew Holland	U. S. Army
Chuck Barrows	U. S. Army
Megan Messersmith	U.S.A.F.
Krista McKenzie	U.S.A.F.
Jonathan Cosgrove	U.S.M.C.
James Bova	U. S. Navy
Dylan Moynihan	U. S. Navy
Tyr Abendschoen	U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan
 Jason Berger



FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS



DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

to First St. John's Lutheran Church

140 W. King St., York, PA 17401

EVERY MONDAY

From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM



COFFEE CUPS / DEER TRACKS are for sale. The cups have our church name on them and the deer tracks are a painted wooden cutout of the church. Call or leave a message on the church phone-(717) 843-8597.

Coffee cups are \$6.00

Deer tracks are \$12.00.



ALTAR FLOWERS: \$35 per Sunday (Share a Sunday-1 vase \$ 18).

There are many dates open for 2019. *Palm Sunday, March 25th, is already taken.*

Please contact Nancy Hildebrand at (717) 292-4113 for the dates that are available and to schedule a date/s.



Altar Flowers

Women's Care Center
Pregnant?

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285

