

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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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



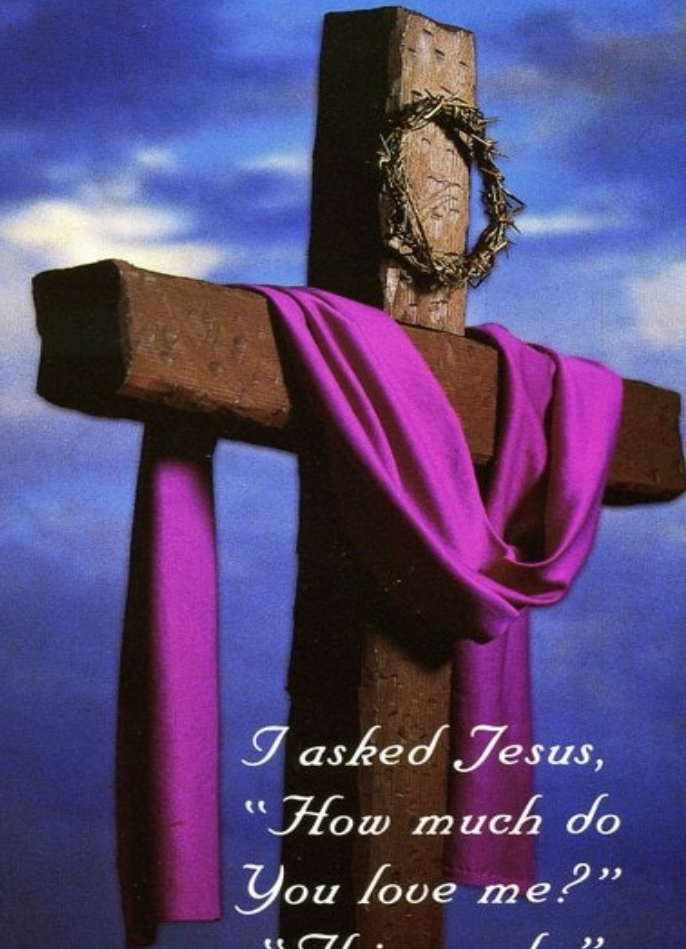
PARISH VISITOR



VOL 54-ISSUE 3

Website: www.firststjohns.org

MARCH 2022



*I asked Jesus,
"How much do
You love me?"
"This much,"
He answered.
Then He stretched
out his arms
and died.*



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 (September through May/June)

Thursday

6:30 PM-Narcotics Anonymous Meeting (Suspended)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.firststjohns.org

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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SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, 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



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

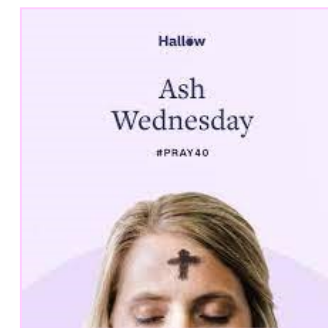


GET IN TOUCH



Ash Wednesday

Christian holy day



Ash Wednesday, in the Christian church, the first day of Lent, occurring six and a half weeks before Easter (between February 4 and March 11, depending on the date of Easter). Ash Wednesday is a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season. It is commonly observed with ashes and fasting.

In the early Christian church, the length of the Lenten celebration varied, but eventually it began 6 weeks (42 days) before Easter. This provided only 36 days of fasting (excluding Sundays). In the 7th century, 4 days were added before the first Sunday in Lent in order to establish 40 fasting days, in imitation of Jesus Christ's fast in the desert.

It was the practice in Rome for penitents and grievous sinners to begin their period of public penance on the first day of Lent in preparation for their restoration to the sacrament of the Eucharist. They were sprinkled with ashes, dressed in sackcloth, and obliged to remain apart until they were reconciled with the Christian community on Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter. When these practices fell into disuse (8th–10th century), the beginning of the penitential season of Lent was symbolized by placing ashes on the heads of the entire congregation.

In the modern Roman Catholic Church, the ashes obtained by burning the palms used on the previous Palm Sunday are applied in the shape of a cross on the forehead of each worshipper on Ash Wednesday. Together with Good Friday (which marks the crucifixion of Jesus before Easter), Ash Wednesday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence, where only one full meal and no meat are to be consumed. Although Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, it is traditionally one of the most heavily attended non-Sunday masses of the liturgical year. Worship services are also held on Ash Wednesday in Anglican, Lutheran, and some other Protestant churches. Eastern Orthodox churches begin Lent on a Monday and therefore do not observe Ash Wednesday.



STEWARDSHIP-MARCH 2022

God's Providential Care



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

Everything we have and everything we are is a gift of God's providential care. We understand that we're not islands unto ourselves, that we could not exist without those who have gone before us and are alongside us. God has given us forefathers in family, country, and faith. We are recipients of what God worked through them. We know that God provides for our well-being through these means. He gives us farmers and ranchers of all sorts so that we can eat. But more than that God created and gave us all the things that those farmers and ranchers cultivate. He gave us the corn, the beans, the wheat, the cows for milking, the steers for grilling. He gave each of those things, properties for our nourishment and sustenance. Without God creating and instilling in those things their taste and their nutritional value, we would not exist.

He gives us doctors, surgeons, nurses, and hospitals. He gives us medicine and medical instruments. Again, he gave us all things that go into making those medicines and medical instruments. He instilled in those things the properties that can be utilized for that purpose. Without God creating and instilling those healing properties into those things, and without God creating the ability within man to find this out and press it into service of our medical needs, we would not enjoy the kind of health we do now.

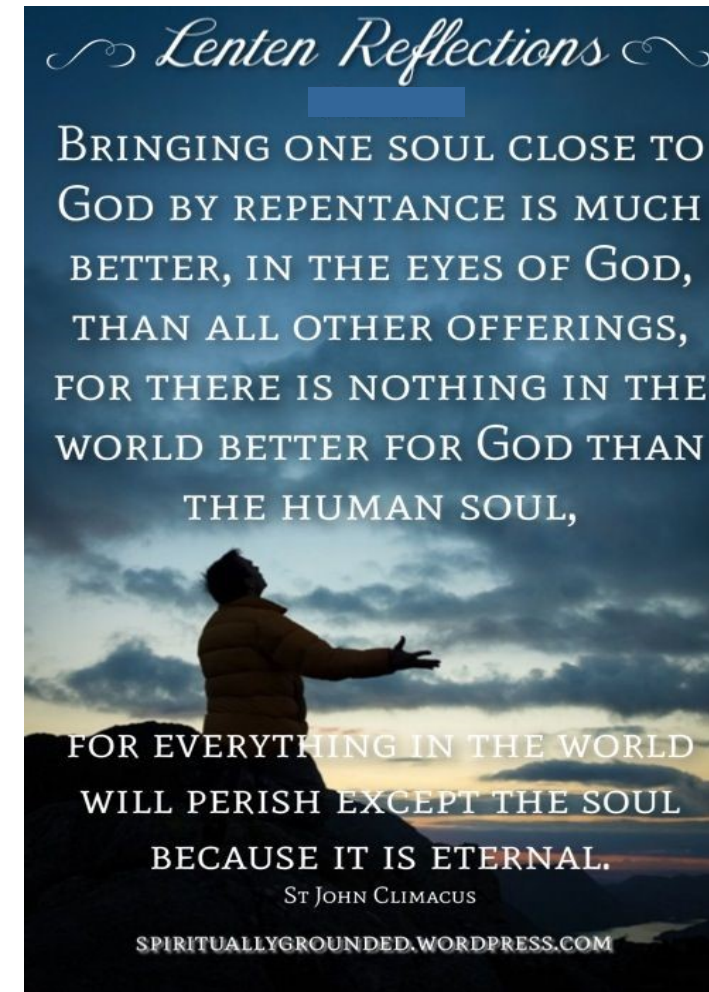
But there's more. He gives us gainful employment through our employers and provides for the necessities of life through the labor of our hands: "Then Moses said to the people of Israel, 'See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan.' " (Exodus 35:30-34)

And one step back from that, He has created and given us hands. And attached to those hands are arms with strength. He created us with minds in order to make those arms and hands move to accomplish the work set before us. And He has given us reason and senses. That mind, because of the reason God has instilled in it, is able to work through difficult problems before we press those arms and hands into labor. It allows us to grapple with concepts and run through scenarios instead of having to experience every situation personally. It allows us to learn from the mistakes as well as the accomplishments of others. This can be done for our entire body, all our skills and talents, everything that makes us ... us. So that everything we have AND everything we are is a gift from Him. This is what we confess in the First Article of the Creed when we say that we believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

But that is just the First Article of the Creed. We confess two more articles that deal with God's provision for our spiritual well-being. That He sent His son to die and be raised on the third day for our justification. That He delivers that justification through the Means of Grace (Baptism, preaching, the Word of God, and the Lord's Supper). And to give you those Means of Grace, He gives pastors and teachers, etc. Again, this could be expanded and expounded upon. So that literally everything that we have and everything that we are – in this life and the next – is an inexpressible gift from God.

And it is for this, all of this, that we give thanks. And that is what stewardship is all about – giving thanks for God's provision for us. To give thanks is more than having an attitude of gratitude, more than just a feeling in our hearts. It is an action. It begins in the heart, but it doesn't stay there. It works its way out through the mouth in praise for God's gifts and in love and charity through the hands to our neighbors in family, country, and church. "For all this is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey him" (Luther's Small Catechism, 16).

So give thanks to God for His inexpressible gift – for everything we have and everything we are. Do this not in word only but also in deed.



Bible Study

9:00 AM

**MARCH 2022
PARISH VISITOR**

APRIL 2022 DEADLINE

[Articles Due](#)

Friday, March 18th

[Send Date](#)

Thursday, March 24th

Newsletter

MEETINGS IN MARCH

**Worship Committee
Church Council**

**Meetings will be announced
8th. Tuesday at 6:00 PM**



UPCOMING MARCH 2022 SERVICES

March 6th, Communion (First Sunday in Lent)

March 13th, Non-Communion (Second Sunday in Lent)

March 20th, Communion (Third Sunday in Lent)

March 27th, Non-Communion (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

March



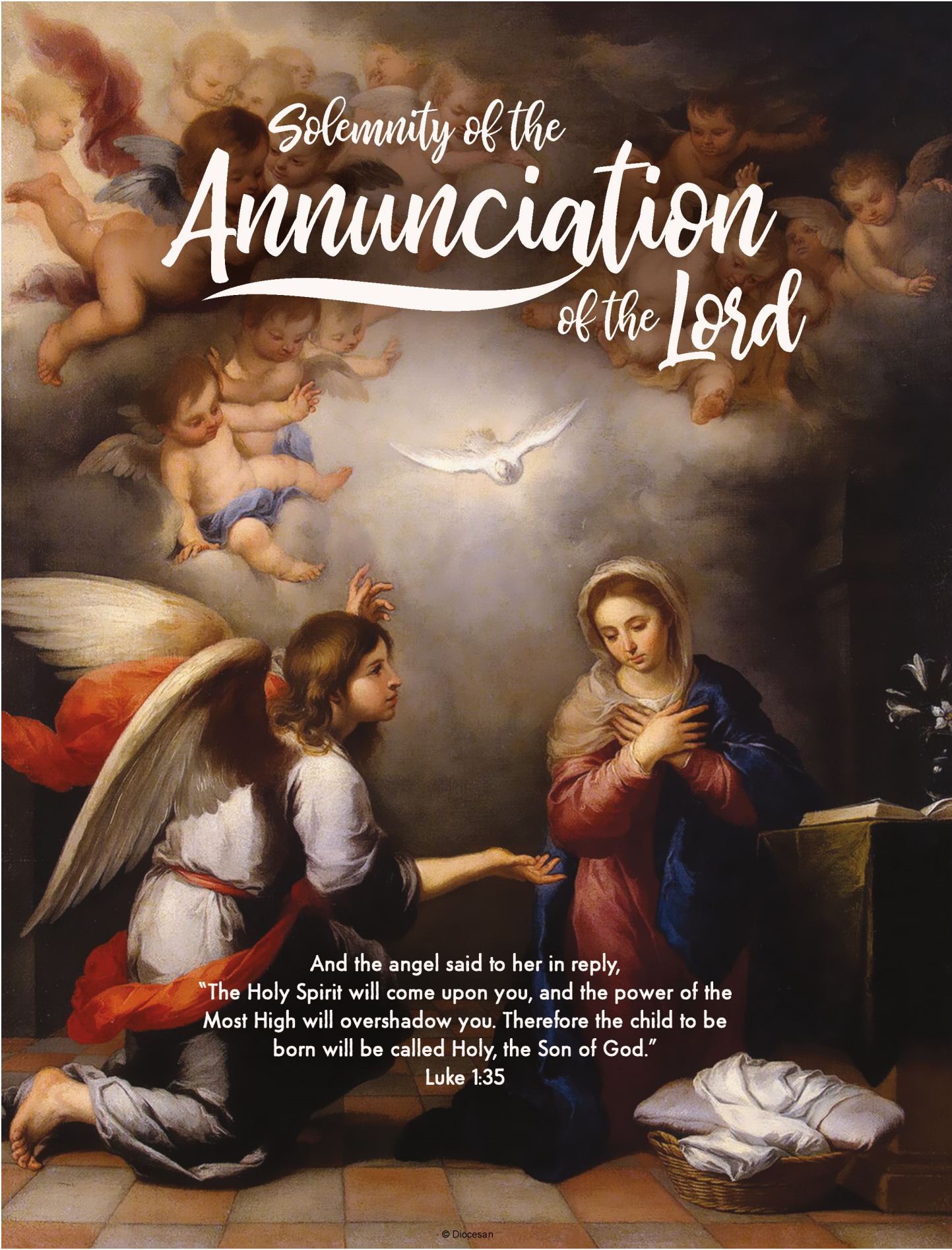
OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS
Bible Study 9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

MARCH 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	3	4	5
6 1st Sunday in Lent C / Purple	7 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am CHURCH COUNCIL 6:00 PM	8	9 Light supper at 6:00 P.M. Lenten Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	10	11	12
13 2nd Sunday in Lent NC / Purple	14 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	15	16 Light supper at 6:00 P.M. Lenten Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	17	18	19
20 3rd Sunday in Lent C / Purple	21 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	22	23 Light supper at 6:00 P.M. Lenten Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	24	25	26
27 4th Sunday in Lent NC / Purple	28 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	29 LAY READER Carla Allison	30 Light supper at 6:00 P.M. Lenten Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	31 ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		



And the angel said to her in reply,
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the
Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be
born will be called Holy, the Son of God.”
Luke 1:35

Joseph, wise ruler of God's earthly household

**Joseph, wise ruler of God's earthly household,
nearest of all men to the heart of Jesus,
be still a father, lovingly providing
for us, His brethren.**

**Saint strong and manly, chosen by the Father,
as trusted guardian of the Son eternal,
guide us as once
you guided Wisdom's footsteps
with sure direction.**

**Husband of Mary,
loving and beloved,
teach us the joy of love
so pure and holy,
warming our hearts with love
for God's own Mother
by your example.**

**Saint of the dying,
blest with Mary's presence,
in death
you rested in the arms of Jesus;
so at our ending,
Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
come to assist us!**



Anastpaul/18

Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive
York, PA 17402

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street
York, PA 17401

Joyce Devan


2408 Lovegren Court
York, PA 17404

Kim Thompson

30 South Beaver Street
York, PA 17401

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.



5 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT St. Patrick

- 1 He wasn't Irish: Patrick was captured by Irish pirates and brought to Ireland from England in the early 5th Century.
- 2 Experienced a (mystical) vision of the Irish asking him to teach them about Christ.
- 3 Having become a Bishop, he was sent back to Ireland. He preached first to the members of the royal family, and soon his audiences grew. He used the druid rituals as evangelizing tools.
- 4 He used a Shamrock to explain the Trinity because the Irish had a love for nature.
- 5 Instituted what is known as the Croagh Patrick Hike, where he prayed that Ireland would always keep her Christian Faith. To this day, young and old hikers follow that famous route in pilgrimage.



HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY!

LENTEN WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings

Come, worship with us and hear about our Savior's ultimate gift of love for us on Sunday mornings at 11:00 A.M.

March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27
April 3



Ash Wednesday

March 2, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday Evenings

Begin by having a light supper at 6:00 P.M. in the fellowship room. Then join in a special series of sermons for Lent at 7:00 P.M.

March 9
March 16
March 23
March 30
April 6



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

There will be three opportunities to worship the "suffering Savior."

Palm / Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 10, 11:00 A.M.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 14, 7:00 P.M.

Good Friday

Friday April 15, 7:00 P.M.

This evening worship will be a choral Tenebrae service. The "Seven Words from the Cross" will be the focus.



he is risen...

EASTER WORSHIP

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 17,
11:00 A.M.

German Easter

Worship

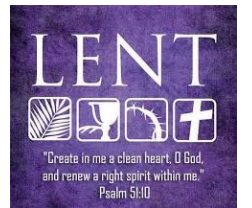
Sunday, April 24,
4:00 P.M.

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.



Lent

Christianity



Lent, in the Christian [church](#), a period of penitential preparation for [Easter](#). In Western churches it begins on [Ash Wednesday](#), six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides for a 40-day [fast](#) (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of [Jesus Christ's fasting](#) in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. In Eastern churches Lent begins on the Monday of the seventh week before Easter and ends on the Friday that is nine days before Easter. This 40-day "Great Lent" includes Saturdays and Sundays as relaxed fast days.

A period of preparation and fasting likely has been observed before the Easter [festival](#) since apostolic times, though the practice was not formalized until the [First Council of Nicaea](#) in 325 CE. It was a time of preparation of candidates for [baptism](#) and a time of [penance](#) for grievous sinners who were excluded from Communion and were preparing for their restoration. As a sign of their penitence, they wore sackcloth and were sprinkled with ashes. This form of public penance began to die out in the 9th century, and it became customary for all the faithful to be reminded of the need for penitence by receiving an imposition of ashes on their foreheads on the first day of Lent—hence the name Ash Wednesday.

In the early centuries, fasting rules were strict, as they still are in Eastern churches. One meal a day was allowed in the evening, and meat, fish, eggs, and butter were forbidden. The Eastern church also restricts the use of wine, oil, and dairy products. In the West these fasting rules have gradually been relaxed. The strict law of fasting among [Roman Catholics](#) was dispensed with during [World War II](#), and only Ash Wednesday and [Good Friday](#) are now kept as Lenten fast days. However, the emphasis on penitential practice and [almsgiving](#) remains, and many Catholics also observe a meatless fast on Fridays during Lent. In addition, Catholics and other Christians often choose to give up specific pleasures, such as sweets, alcohol, or social media, during Lent as a way to foster [simplicity and self-control](#); many use their cravings or desires for these items as a reminder to pray and to refocus on spiritual matters.

In the [Anglican](#) churches *The Book of Common Prayer* prescribes that Lent be observed with fasting. In [Lutheran](#) and many other Protestant churches, Lent is observed with various services and practices, though Lent is not formally observed in many [Evangelical](#) or non-denominational churches.



Music & Worship Notes

The penitential season of Lent begins on March 2 with Ash Wednesday. There is an explanation about Ash Wednesday in an article elsewhere in this newsletter. You will also find an article explaining the season of Lent.

Last month's newsletter had a schedule that listed all the services for lent, both Sunday and mid-week. Also listed were the Easter morning service and the German Language Easter service. Tri-folds of that schedule were made available to those who wish to have them. There are still some at the church should you want one.

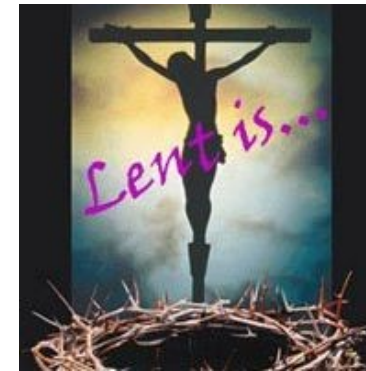
Our mid-week Lenten services will be slightly different in the respect that we are joining with St. John and Redeemer Lutheran churches in a rotation of their pastors and our vicar to deliver the various messages. As stated in the tri-fold, we begin the mid-week Lenten gathering with a meal at 6:00 PM. then the service at 7:00. This will be held in the Bible Study room. Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday worship will be in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM. **No supper** will be available on those days.



THE ADULT CHOIR:

**Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh,
George Card, Beverly Card,
Ding Wang.**

**Ken Sanders,
Minister of Music**



Come and worship this Lenten / Easter season in our beautiful historic church. Learn of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the passion of the Savior of the world. Follow in the steps of the Savior as He goes from trial to crucifixion.

Join in the singing of some of the beloved hymns of the Lenten season.

Then come and rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord the way the disciples did on that first Easter morning



First Saint John's with the original steeple of 1875

FIRST SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 West King Street
York, Pennsylvania
17401



PRAYER

Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
 Joyce Devan-Health issues
 Ruth Strathmeyer-Health issues
 Kim Thompson-Health issues
 Susan vanDyk-Baum
 Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand's brother)-Health issues
 Bruce Blankenstein-Wife's Health issues
 Jeanne Noll-Health issue
 Ed Abendschoen-Health issues
 Nancy Hildebrand-Health Issues
 Benjamin-Grandson of Mary Homsher (Twinning Assoc., Health issues.
 Karl vanDyk-Health issue
 Ed Benedick-Health issue (friend of Ed Abendschoen)
 Jon Van Sliedrecht-Health issue
 Bonnie Abendschoen-Health issues
 David-Health issues (friend of Ed & Bonnie Abendschoen)
 Julia McCourt-Health issues
 Carl Flandermyer-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Karen Hildebrand-Health issues

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen
 Joyce Devan
 Dawn Frey
 Kim Thompson

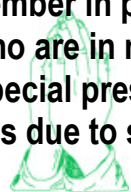
LEADERS

Vicar Geoff Abendschoen, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein, 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
 Geoff and Jane Abendschoen
 Dan, Dave and Lois Stambaugh
 Ken Linebaugh

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



6th - Scott Dennis
7th - Jerry Allison
7th- Dane Smith
13th - Rebecca Lupp
18th - Ken Sanders
20th - Lisa Crabtree
22nd - Kristin Myers
25th - Barbara Klahold
25th - Dave Stambaugh
28th - Orializ Sanabria



Early April Birthdays

11th - Carlos Beck

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

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



MILITARY

Sgt. Tyr Abendschoen U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan



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

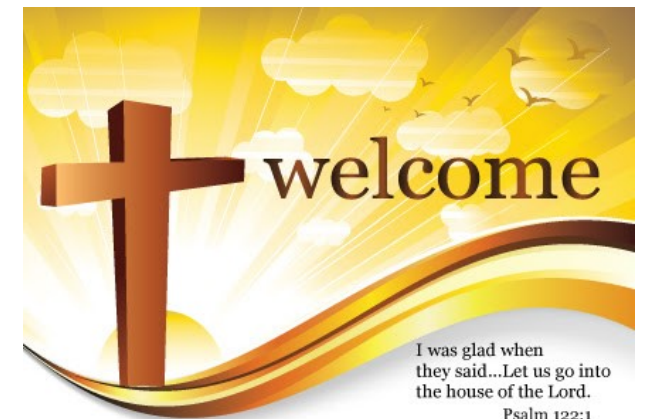
From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM



FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS

WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE YOU.
 ENJOY OUR "LIVE" WORSHIP.



I was glad when
 they said...Let us go into
 the house of the Lord.
 Psalm 122:1

**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

