

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

PARISH VISITOR

VOL 54-ISSUE 4

Website: www.firststjohns.org

APRIL 2022

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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

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



Prayer Honoring Saint Mark Evangelist

(Feast Day April 25th)

Saint Mark was the author of the second Gospel. Tradition asserts that Mark was associated with Saints Paul and Barnabas, and later, with Saint Peter in Rome. He founded the Church in Alexandria.

Prayer

Almighty God, we thank You that by the hand of Mark the Evangelist You have given Your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ Your Son. May we be firmly grounded in its truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

800-582-0

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

© 2017
Thank you to...

A humble man who lives a spiritual life, when he reads the Holy Scriptures, while relate all things to himself and not to others.

Mark the Evangelist

quoteagency

STEWARDSHIP-APRIL 2022



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

Blessed Shall You Be

"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." (Deuteronomy 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, 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 and fulfilled the law for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ died for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ 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, 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, and 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 it thereby 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 the blessings but because in Christ we already have. With this in mind, 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).



Day 1: Psalm 37:7-9	Day 16: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
Day 2: Jeremiah 29:11-14	Day 17: James 1:19-20
Day 3: Romans 12:12-13	Day 18: Romans 5:2-5
Day 4: Philippians 4:5-7	Day 19: 2 Timothy 2:24-26
Day 5: Isaiah 40:30-31	Day 20: James 1:2-4
Day 6: Ecclesiastes 7:8-9	Day 21: Colossians 1:11-12
Day 7: James 5:7-8	Day 22: Hebrews 10:35-36
Day 8: 1 Timothy 1:15-16	Day 23: Proverbs 16:32
Day 9: Romans 5:3-5	Day 24: Luke 21:17-19
Day 10: 1 Thessalonians 5:14	Day 25: Psalm 130:3-6
Day 11: Ephesians 4:1-3	Day 26: Luke 8:15
Day 12: Psalm 37:7-8	Day 27: Colossians 3:12-14
Day 13: 2 Corinthians 6:4-6	Day 28: Proverbs 25:15
Day 14: Galatians 6:9-10	Day 29: Hebrews 6:10-12
Day 15: Romans 8:24-25	Day 30: Romans 2:6-8

*Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.*



Spiritual Fruit of the Month Club The Ruffled Mango



Bible Study

9:00 AM

**APRIL 2022
PARISH VISITOR**

MAY 2022 DEADLINE

Articles Due

Friday, April 22nd

Send Date

Thursday, April 28th

Newsletter

MEETINGS IN APRIL

Worship Committee

Meetings will be announced

Church Council

NO Church Council Meeting in April



UPCOMING APRIL 2022 SERVICES

April 3rd, Communion (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

April 10th, Non-Communion (Palm Sunday)

April 17th, Communion (The Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day)

April 24th, Non-Communion (Second Sunday of Easter)



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

APRIL 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING IN APRIL					1	2
3 5th Sunday in Lent C / Purple	4 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	5	6 Light supper at 6:00 P.M. Lenten Service at 7:00 P.M. Adult Choir after Evening Service	7	8	9
10 Palm Sunday in Lent NC / Purple	11 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	12	13	14 MAUNDY THURSDAY	15 GOOD FRIDAY	16
17 Easter / Resurrection Day C / White	18 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	19	20	21	22	23
24 2nd Sunday of Easter German Easter Service 4:00 pm NC / White	25 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	26	27	28	29	30
		LAY READER Dick Sindlinger	USHER Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Lois Stambaugh		

Good Friday

Good Friday

When we consider Good Friday, we have a vision of our Lord hanging on a cross, suffering and in agony. We hear Him utter those famous seven last statements (words) before He hangs His head and dies.

I want you to think for a moment, if there were a newspaper then with an obituary column, how Jesus’ obituary might read.

Thinking outside the box, I offer you this that I found on line as a possibility.

Jesus OBITUARIES 33 AD

Calvary

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendent of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was a son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples, and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of His adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that He healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father’s Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in front of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

Postscript by R.C.

John 20:1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

Mark 16:19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

9 Ways to Celebrate Easter Like a German

German Easter traditions

The Easter season starts in earnest on Thursday with Maundy Thursday marking the last meal Jesus had with his disciples.

Easter traditions follow the religious calendar with Friday a day of mourning (the crucifixion of Christ) before celebrating on Monday to mark his resurrection.

From rolling wheels filled with burning hay down a hill, to waiting for a fox to bring eggs, here are the nine best German Easter traditions.

Make a fire: On the night before Easter Sunday, thousands of Germans gather around huge bonfires. Traditionally the wood of old Christmas trees is used. It marks the end of winter and the coming of spring. It also drives away the evil winter spirits.

Make a wheely big fire: Not content with a standard fire, some regions stuff hay into a large wooden wheel, set it on fire and roll it down a hill at night. It is supposed to bring a good harvest if it makes it all the way down the hill intact. Lügde in Lower Saxony is particularly famous for its burning wheel rolling.

An Easter fox?: The Easter bunny bringing eggs to children can be traced back to Germany. German and Dutch settlers brought the tradition to the US in the 18th Century. But in some parts of the country children used to wait for the Easter fox or a stork instead to bring them their gifts. The bunny has now taken over, however.

Eat a lamb: The lamb is also a symbol of spring and fertility and is traditionally eaten at Easter. Germans also bake a cake in the form of a lamb.

Paint some eggs: [Painting Easter eggs](#) is a tradition now done in many countries but it is particularly strong in Germany. Painting the eggs was seen as a form of blessing them before they were eaten to mark the end of the Easter fasting period.

Get a tree: The painted eggs are often hung on Easter trees and this German tradition has spread to other countries. One of the most famous examples is this tree in Thuringia.

Laughing priests: To celebrate Jesus's resurrection on Easter Monday, three days after his death, Germans are supposed to laugh. The priest should also traditionally give a funny service.

Eat your fish and be quiet: On Good Friday, "Karfreitag" in German, no church bells ring, no songs are sung and no music should be played as this is the day Jesus was crucified. The word "kar" comes from old German "kara" meaning lamentation. It is a day of fasting where the only meal eaten should be [fish](#).

Eat something green: "Gründonnerstag" – Maundy Thursday in English – is the last time Jesus ate with his disciples before he was crucified. The word "grün" in Germany does not in this case come from the colour green but from the old German word "grönan" which means crying. But some people still eat just green food on this day, like these amazing [eggs in green Frankfurter sauce](#).



Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive
York, PA 17402

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street
York, PA 17401

Joyce Devan

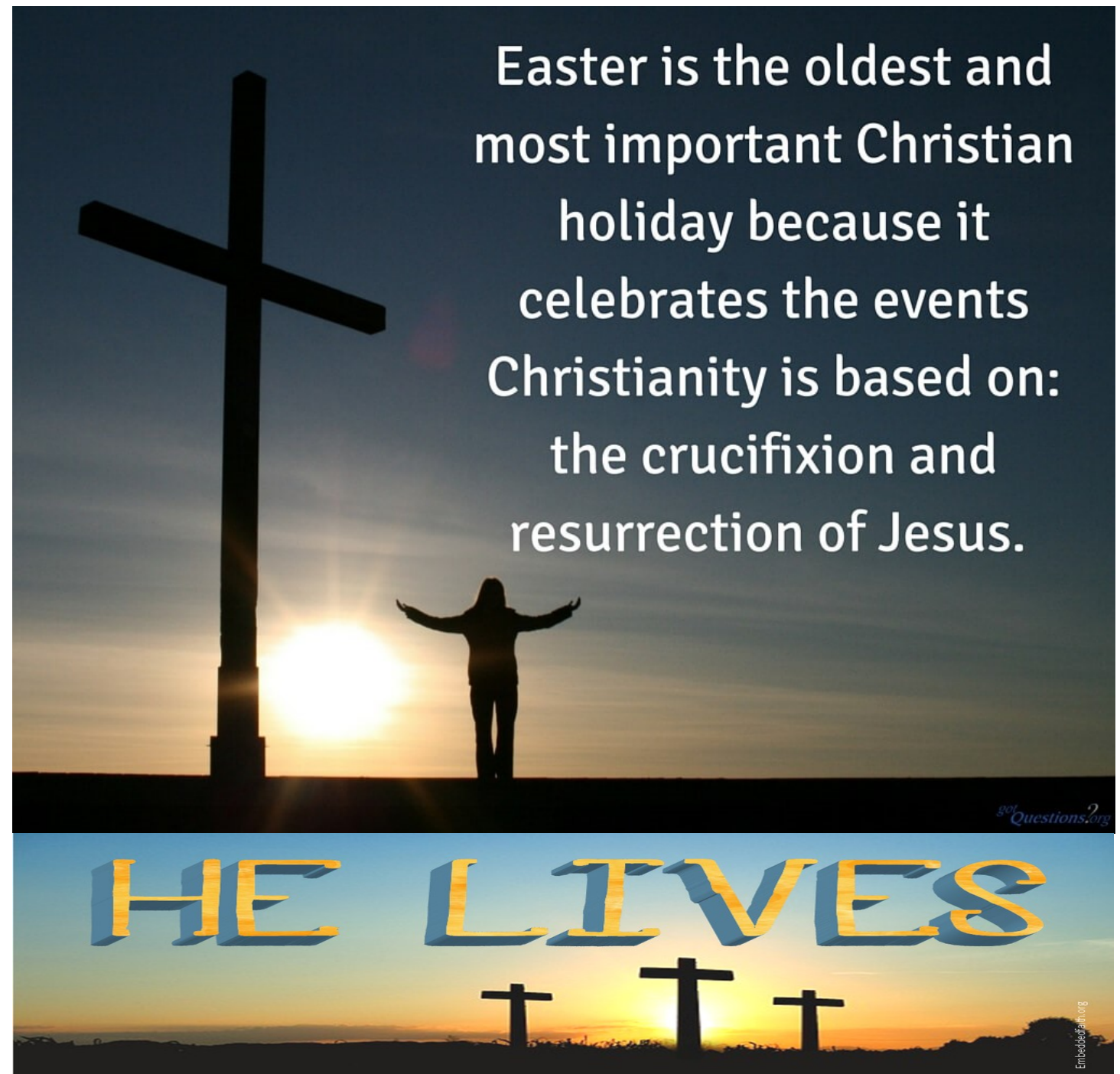
2408 Lovegren Court
York, PA 17404

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.



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.

April 3



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.

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.



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.



The Beautiful Routine of the Liturgy

A day or two before Ash Wednesday, I remarked to my husband, "I can't wait for Lent." In a dreary year of isolation, anxiety, moral quandaries, political polarization, disease, and death, compounded all the more by the last few months of gloomy, wintry skies and cold weather, I am ready for spring. Lent means that spring is coming and that Easter is drawing ever nearer. It is a yearly routine that remains unchanging even in the face of a pandemic and societal disruption.

Routine and the "Merely Inconvenienced"

Among all the intense suffering we've witnessed recently, I might categorize a different group that my husband and I fall into as the "merely inconvenienced." We give thanks that we haven't lost jobs or loved ones to the pandemic, our mental health is generally intact, we don't have a family of little ones to guide through online learning, and we have a wonderful church community to offer mutual support and encouragement. I remember early on in 2020 people criticizing another group of the "merely inconvenienced": high school athletes who mourned the loss of their sports seasons. The sentiment of the criticisms was that these athletes shouldn't complain because the loss of a sports season is inconsequential compared to all the other suffering happening around them.

These naysayers miss the point of all of the "merely inconvenienced." Although, of course, we should be thankful for our blessings of health and an income, there is a very real suffering in the loss of those things we love that mark the seasons of our years. The loss of our routines is something to be mourned. Routine, and its partner, repetition, are vital aspects of humanity, and when we lose them, we lose the things that give us comfort and a purpose.

Routine and Repetition in the Church

Thus, God gives us the gift of routine and repetition in the Church Year and in the Divine Service. The Church Year grants us a great and glorious routine year after year, and it carries with it the liturgy, which gives our days and even our hours meaning and routine. At every Divine Service, we follow the same routine that guides us from confessing our sins, to hearing God's Word, to receiving His salvation in the Eucharist. Although our hymnal presents us with various settings of the Divine Service, the components never vary.

The sameness of the liturgy, far from being dull and full of empty words, trains us, much like an athlete trains for his sport or a musician on her instrument. The athlete and musician are never criticized for repetition because it is well known that repetition sharpens skills and increases strength and stamina. The liturgy is our "training" for the life of a Christian. The text of the liturgy, taken from the Word, gives us the proper language to use to respond to God's gift of salvation. We do not have to worry about coming up with something new and novel every day or about providing adequate language ourselves. Instead, God gives us the words. We then repeat these words week after week until we have them memorized, ingrain them in our minds and hearts.

A Routine for Our Salvation

All this routine and repetition is for our salvation. At the Divine Service each week, Christ offers His own body and blood to us in, with, and under the bread and wine. This Sacrament gives us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, and it is not up to us to procure it. When what we do is limited, when our routines are disrupted, Christ comes to us in the Holy Supper, never changing, always repeating. He never tires of the sameness of the service. It is His gift to us that we do not have to figure it out on our own but rather can rely on His Word and His Sacraments. The liturgy is our routine that brings us to this Supper. Even when the routines of the world are disrupted and mourned, the routine of the liturgy is ever-present, with us for thousands of years and continuing into eternity.

The routine of the liturgy continues to draw us into the story of salvation and leads us to that which grants us salvation: Christ and His body and blood shed for us. Continue your training. Continue your salvific routine even amid the turmoil of the world. Spring is coming. Easter is coming. Christ's resurrection is near.





Music & Worship Notes



This April is a month that has a duo focus. First, we continue with the Lenten worship. We see Jesus enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to shouts of "Hosanna." The next scene shows our Savior sharing the Passover meal with his disciples and His institution of what we now call, "Holy Communion." We remember that meal on Maundy Thursday. After eating, Jesus and a few disciples go to the Mount of Olive to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prays. It is also where He is arrested. We hear how the big, burly, Peter denies Jesus afraid of what might happen to him. The scene then focuses on Jesus' trial and scourging. Then we are there at Golgotha and the crucifixion of our Lord. All seems to be lost. We are sad and distressed along with the disciples at our Saviors death. That is the first half of the month.

Not all is lost! The resurrection of our Lord takes place on Easter Sunday. Alleluias are said and sung. Salvation has been won! We end the month of April with great joy. The Easter season goes until the Ascension of Jesus.

The choir will be helping to lead a Choral Tenebrae service on Good Friday evening. Then they will be sharing joyful music on Easter Sunday along with the trumpeter.

The Sunday after Easter, we will celebrate the Resurrection again in the German Language worship service at 4:00 PM.



**Ken Sanders,
Minister of Music**



THE ADULT CHOIR:

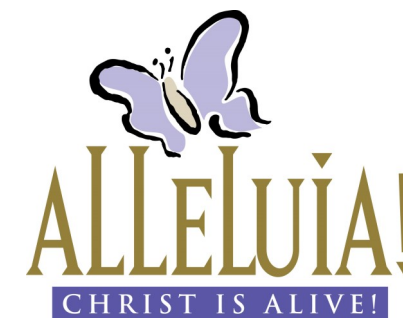
**Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh,
George Card, Beverly Card,
Ding Wang.**



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)
 Carl Flandermyer-Health issues
 Karen Hildebrand-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Fran Shoff-Health issues

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen
 Joyce Devan
 Dawn Frey
 Kim Thompson

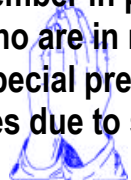
LEADERS

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

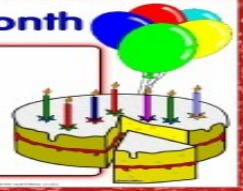
For all of God's Gifts
 Geoff and Jane Abendschoen
 Dan, Dave and Lois Stambaugh
 Ken Linebaugh

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



Birthdays this month

APRIL



11th - Carlos Beck

16th - Summer Myers

18th - Elaine Montalvo

21st - Dawn Frey

27th - Amy Stambaugh



Early May Birthdays

1st - Daniel Stambaugh

10th - Rodney Billet

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

