

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# Messenger

## PALM SUNDAY

Choose from three very different worship opportunities this Palm Sunday (March 16):

- 8:30 AM in the Sanctuary we will hold a traditional Palm Sunday Service – Pastor Gaetz Preaching.
- 9:00 AM at St. Paul's in Fabius, we will celebrate Palm Sunday with congregational reading of the Passion story according to St. Matthew
- 10:45 AM in the Sanctuary, join us for a dramatic reading of the Passion narrative, lifting up Lenten symbols. This is a story that, despite it taking place centuries ago, still involves and affects us as people of God—so plan on participating in this story as well!



*Palms will be blessed and distributed at all services.*

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES



**MARCH 19: WEDNESDAY**  
6:15pm **Service of Healing and Renewal**

**MARCH 20: MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
10:30am & 7:00pm **Services of the Last Supper**

**MARCH 21: GOOD FRIDAY**  
7:00pm **Tenebrae**  
The ancient and beautiful service of shadows and darkness

**MARCH 22: SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL**  
5:15pm **Easter Vigil Services**  
Lighting of the New Fire, Renewal of Baptism Vows, Baptisms, Confirmations, and Eucharist  
Vicar Richter preaching



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Dear Friends,

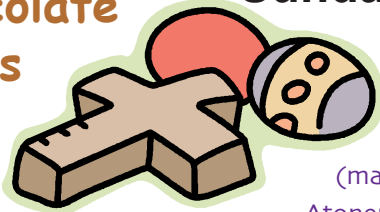
How can I ever say thank you to all the people who did so much to help me and my family through the death of my mother Alice Gaetz: Those who handled the arrangements at church, those who participated in the Funeral Service, those who provided food for the post funeral reception, those who made memorial contributions and so very many of you who sent cards and notes or made calls of condolence. It was heartwarming and ever so helpful. Thank you ever so much!

- Pr. Gaetz and family

## Atonement Lutheran Youth

### Sunday, March 16

Chocolate  
Cross  
Sale



\$1.00 each

(make checks payable to  
Atonement Lutheran Church)



### IT TAKES A LOT OF FOOD!

We have 17 families for whom we will be making Easter food baskets.

Your donations of food and money are vital for this ministry of care.

With the hams we will buy we need donations of:

Boxed potatoes, Canned green beans and corn, Canned fruit and Jell-O, Funfetti Cakes, Funfetti Frosting, Easter Candy, Coffee

We also fill out our baskets with non perishable foods for the days when children are not getting meals at school.

We can use canned meat and meat entrees like chili, stew, "Chunky" soups, tuna, cream soup, elbows or noodles, mayo, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, rahman noodles, pasta and sauce, canned or bottled juice. Your generosity will make the most important of Christian festivals special for families in need.

### EASTER PLANTS

We will be accepting memorial donations for the plants that beautify our sanctuary on Easter and are then distributed to members of our congregation who are not able to join us for services. Easter plant memorials will be collected through Palm Sunday. The entire memorial list will be printed in the Easter Bulletin and the Messenger. Thank you!

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SUNDAY OF THE PALMS

### ISAIAH 50:4-9A

This passage is one of four sections about the "Suffering Servant" image in the book of Isaiah, all of which are later thought to be about Jesus Christ. Here though we have an image of a figure being totally mistreated, insulted, and humiliated. As an example, to cut a man's beard was an act that made that person less of a man, and to pluck it out meant that there was a certain attempt to humiliate this person. Despite being insulted, spit on, humiliated, the Servant is not concerned. The Servant is not humiliated. Rather, this figure relies on the help of God, and accepts the suffering that comes at him ("I have set my face like flint" v. 7)

I am reminded of people like Martin Luther King Jr., Mohandas Gandhi, and Mother Teresa, who faced challenges and adversity, and who are usually treated poorly, humiliated, and insulted, in pursuit of finding something greater. They also share with the Servant in Isaiah 50 having people who stand with them (v. 8), who help lift them up when they feel this humiliation. But we must also think of the One, the Suffering Servant who did not have anyone else, who was abandoned, and who was humiliated. Paradoxically, we must think of what a freedom-giving and loving gift that that one on the cross is, and how that changes our lives.

Let us pray, O Suffering Servant, you stand up to the humiliation and the insults, and bear them with your face set towards us and our sinful lives. Renew and remake us, that we may bear the example of your self-sacrificing love to all who need to hear it. In your name, Amen.

### ASSISTING AT WORSHIP FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES

#### Wednesday (3/19)

Acolyte Dennis Walker  
Altar Care Deacon Karen Douglass

#### HOLY THURSDAY (3/20)

Acolyte Stacie Draper & Austin Draper  
Communion Assistant Missy Wilber  
Reader Deacon Karen Douglass  
Gift Bearers First Communion Class  
Ushers (\*elevator) Steve & Mike\* Strumlok  
Altar Care Deacon Karen Douglass

#### GOOD FRIDAY (3/21)

Acolyte Dennis Walker  
Communion Assistant Jay Berry  
Ushers (\*elevator) David Rodgers\* & Karen Douglass  
Altar Care Deacon Karen Douglass

#### HOLY SATURDAY (3/22)

Acolyte Casey Draper  
Communion Assistant Missy Wilber  
Ushers (\*elevator) David Rodgers\*  
Altar Care Missy Wilber

# PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 16, 2008



|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 8:30 AM  | Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Pastor Gaetz, Preaching                                 |
| 9:00 AM  | Traditional Service of Holy Communion, Scripted reading of the Passion Story from St. Matthew  |
| 10:45 AM | Service of Holy Communion, Dramatic Presentation of the Passion Story according to St. Matthew |

## WEEK'S CALENDAR

### SUNDAY (3/16)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 8:30am  | Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)         |
| 9:00am  | Traditional Service of Holy Communion (St. Paul's Fabius) |
| 9:45am  | Sunday School/Adult Class                                 |
| 10:45am | Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary)                     |
| 12:00pm | Trojan Women Set Strike (Fellowship Hall)                 |

### TUESDAY (3/18)

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 8:00am | Messenger Workers (Coffee Shop)            |
| 7:00pm | Appleseed Steering Committee (Coffee Shop) |

### WEDNESDAY (3/19)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10:00am | Crafty Ladies (Coffee Shop)                                   |
| 11:30am | Mid-week Lenten Service and Lunch<br>(Chapel/Fellowship Hall) |
| 5:30pm  | Church Night Dinner (Fellowship Hall)                         |
| 6:15pm  | Church Night Worship Service of Healing (Sanctuary)           |
| 7:00pm  | Church Night Activities (see box)                             |

### THURSDAY (3/20)

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10:30am | Service of the Last Supper (Sanctuary) |
| 12:00pm | Men in AtonEMENT (Coffee Shop)         |
| 7:00pm  | Service of the Last Supper (Sanctuary) |

### FRIDAY (3/21)

|        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| 7:00pm | Tenebrae Service (Sanctuary) |
|--------|------------------------------|

### SATURDAY (3/22)

|        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| 5:15pm | Easter Vigil Service (Sanctuary) |
|--------|----------------------------------|

**Note: Worship & Music Committee meeting, originally scheduled for Thursday, March 20 at 7pm will be rescheduled.**

## ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

|                            |         |                                |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| ASSISTING MINISTER         | 8:30am  | Vicar Aaron Richter            |
|                            | 10:45am | Vicar Aaron Richter            |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANTS       | 8:30am  | David Rodgers                  |
|                            | 10:45am | Deacon Karen Douglass          |
| USHERS                     | 8:30am  | Steve & Mike* Strumlok         |
| Elevator Op*               | 10:45am | Louise Brown & Karen Douglass* |
| ACOLYTES/<br>ALTAR SERVERS | 8:30am  | Eion Holmes & Abigail Wood     |
|                            | 10:45am | Desi Recore & Casey Draper     |
| ALTAR CARE                 | 8:30am  | Phyllis & David Rodgers        |
|                            | 10:45am | Deacon Karen Douglass          |
| GIFT BEARERS               | 8:30am  | Ross & Chuck Kennedy           |
|                            | 10:45am | Carole Barr & Margaret Kenyon  |
| READERS                    | 8:30am  | Jeanette Greig                 |
|                            | 10:45am | Vicar Aaron Richter            |
| GREETERS                   | 8:30am  | Jeanette Greig                 |
| FLOWER DELIVERY            |         | Yvonne Tucker                  |

## WEDNESDAY CHURCH NIGHT - 3/19

- 5:30 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 Wednesday Night Activities
  - Recreation and games in the gym
  - Adult Class with Vicar Richter

*6:00-7:30 nursery is available for children under 6 years*

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please remember the following members and friends at Atonement in your prayers.

### **Buffalo General Hospital**

Annette Parsons (Beth Arthur's grandmother)

### **At Home or in a nursing home**

Ella Baker (Marty Shay's mother), Terry Colbridge (Sharon Hothem's friend), Betty Jane Farley, Tom Fitzsimmons (Jay Berry's friend), Walter Galaska, Merikay Harper, Mary Hyde, Heather Hill-Yackel, Richard House, Audrey Kent, Tim Kittell (Joanne Claeys' friend), Eleanor McKinney (Merikay Harper's mother), Eleanora Ott, Debbie Pauls, Nancy Scholz (Linda Koslowsky's mother), Jimmy Turner (Sarah Richter's father)

### **Those in the Armed Services**

Mike Breedlove (Pensacola, FL), Jack Fields (Ft. Bliss, TX), Kevin Monds (Ft. Benning, GA), Chris Nillhouse (Korea), Justin Randall (Iraq), Melissa Young (Phoenix, AZ)

Sympathy is extended to Dottie Davison and family on the death of her husband James on February 27.

*Note: People who are not hospitalized are listed only once per request. If you would like a person listed for additional weeks, please call the church office (492-9065) each week by 10am Thursday.*

## BIBLE READINGS

|    |  |
|----|--|
| Th | Psalm 31:9-16<br>1 Samuel 16:11-13<br>Philippians 1:1-11   |
| F  | Psalm 31:9-16<br>Job 13:13-19<br>Philippians 1:21-30   |
| Sa | Psalm 31:9-16<br>Lamentations 3:55-66<br>Mark 10:32-34   |
| Su | Matthew 21:1-11<br>Isaiah 50:4-9a<br>Psalm 31:9-16<br>Philippians 2:5-11<br>Matthew 26:14—27:66<br>or Matthew 27:11-54 |
| M  | Isaiah 42:1-9<br>Psalm 36:5-11<br>Hebrews 9:11-15<br>John 12:1-11  |
| Tu | Isaiah 49:1-7<br>Psalm 71:1-14<br>1 Corinthians 1:18-31<br>John 12:20-36   |
| W  | Isaiah 50:4-9a<br>Psalm 70<br>Hebrews 12:1-3<br>John 13:21-32  |

## BUS/VAN SCHEDULES

### **Sunday (Bus)**

- 9:00am Lodi
- 9:15am Presidential Plaza
- 9:20am Toomey Abbott
- 9:30am Arrive Church
- 9:45am Leave Church
- 9:50am Hoeffler
- 9:55am Lincoln
- 10:10am Thurber
- 10:15am Loretto
- 10:30am Arrive Church

### **Wednesday (Van)**

- 4:45pm Leave Church
- 4:55pm Lincoln
- 5:05pm Sabine
- 5:15pm Hoeffler

### **Wednesday (Bus)**

- 4:30pm Leave Church
- 4:40pm Lodi
- 4:45pm Sedgwick on James
- 4:55pm Presidential Plaza
- 5:15pm Thurber
- 5:20pm Valley Vista