

Living Word Lutheran Church

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 2, 2017



When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” *John 11:43*

The Rev. Eric Hullstrom

Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9 am at the Meridian Habitat & Community Center
(Children’s Sunday School and Adult Bible Study available during the school year)

14422 Meridian East Puyallup, WA 98374

LWLC Office: 11707 101st Ave E, Bldg B 253-445-4292 Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm, M-F

Mailing address: PO Box 732005 Puyallup, WA 98373

www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com

Mission Statement: “We, God’s people of Living Word Lutheran Church, grounded in Holy Scripture, are called to follow and share the inspired Word of God in Christ, to live as faithful and obedient servants, reaching out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ.”

Motto: “Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone.”

Affiliated with LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

ANNOUNCEMENTS/April 3-8, 2017

This week's activities:

Sunday	9:00 am 10:15 am 10:30 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour Adult Sunday School Children's Sunday School
Tuesday	10:00 am 6:15 pm 7:00 pm	Worship & Music meeting at the LWLC Office Lenten Soup Supper -Sunrise Baptist Church, Small Fellowship Hall hosted by the Christian Education Committee and the Men's Ministry Lenten Service at Sunrise Baptist Church Sanctuary
Wednesday	8:00 am 9:30 am 6:45 pm	LWLC Prayer for Guidance meet at the LWLC Office Living Way Bible Study at the Krumwiede's Home Adult Bible Study meet at the LWLC Office
Thursday	10:30 am 5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Midweek Bible Study at the LWLC Office Living Last Supper disciples rehearsal at Sunrise Baptist Church Gym Choir Practice at the LWLC Office
Saturday	9:45 am	Living Last Supper disciples/Choir DRESS Rehearsal at the Meridian Habitat

Today's Worship Assistants

Set up/Tear Down (Team 1)- Bill Zavadil, Rick Fields, Gary Heintz, Skip Whelan, Wayne Flood;
Ushers-Bonnie Socey, Jim & Sue Gronhovd, Hayden Williams; **Acolyte**-Bill Zavadil; **Lector**-Cynthia Faul;
Communion Set-up/takedown- Barbara Gjerstad, Kay Hutson; **Communion Assistants**-Gary & Barbara Gjerstad, Mary Vollmer;
Comm. Bread-Lonna Groce; **Sound System**-Bill Zavadil; **Tellers** -Gaye Anderson, Al Auge;
Coffee Hour- Carol Richey, Mary Vollmer; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Sue Fields, Judy Williams;
Parking Lot Duty-Owen Loshbough

LWLC FINANCIAL REPORT

Lenten Offering:
Lenten Attendance:
Last Sunday's Offering:
Last Sunday's Attendance:

Next week's Scriptures:

Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 21:1-11



LIVING LAST SUPPER DISCIPLES
REHEARSAL Thursday, 5:30 pm at the
Sunrise Baptist Gym
and
Dress Rehearsal, Saturday, 9:45 at the
Meridian Habitat.

Next Sunday, we will be celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry in Jerusalem. As the week unfolds, we will remember the Passover and hear each of the disciples wondering if he will betray his Lord. Jesus presents His body and blood to

His disciples in the Words of Institution. **This reenactment of the Last Supper will be on Maundy Thursday, April 13th at 7 pm.**

After His betrayal, we follow Jesus to the cross on **Good Friday with a Tenebrae Worship Service, April 14th at 7 pm.** We hear the last words of Christ in His final hours and witness the growing darkness of His crucifixion as the passion narrative is read.

For only when we acknowledge the darkness through which Christ traveled the glory of Easter morning and the resurrection speak to us and bring real hope into our lives.

We celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, April 16th, 9 am.

Please silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, upon entering the sanctuary.

Living Word Lutheran Church
Order for Worship

When you hear the bell, please be seated for the announcements.

Announcements

Please sign the attendance register and pass it down the row.

"Our worship begins with the prelude.

You are invited to quietly prepare your hearts and offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe."

Prelude

Opening Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LBW #315

We Worship with Confession

Pastor: Remembering the covenant God has established with us through our baptism into Christ Jesus, we gather as we are to live, in the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may more fully love You and more worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Congregation: Amen.**

P: (invites worshippers to confess their sins): The First letter of John (1:8) reminds us that, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for personal reflection and self-examination

P: (facing altar which symbolizes God's presence): *Most Merciful God...*

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P: (facing the congregation, declares God's forgiveness): In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for Jesus' sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by Jesus' authority I declare to you, *being penitent*, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

We are called to make disciples of all nations; we begin by sharing the peace of God with one another.

P: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Cantors: *In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

C: Amen..

This Is The Feast of Victory for Our God!

Refrain: *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!*

1. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing, and glory are His. R:**

2. Women: *Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:*
Men: *Blessing and honor and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

3. *This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. Alleluia!*

P: *The LORD be with you.*

C: *And also with you.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY (All pray):

Creator God, with a word you created life. With a word, You created all that we can see and not see. And with the Word You gave us hope for eternal life. May we cling to this hope in the midst of life's trials as we rejoice in our Savior; for in him, there is no cause for weeping. All praise be unto You, Father God, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Worship by Reading God's Word

This reading is from Paul's letter to the Romans, the 8th chapter (ESV)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the

mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

(Here ends this reading)

This reading is from the Book of Psalms, the 130th Psalm (ESV)

(to be read responsively)

Reader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Congregation: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

R: ³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

C: O Lord, who could stand?

R: ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,

C: that you may be feared.

R: ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C: and in his word I hope;

R: ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord

C: more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

R: ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!

C: For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

R: ⁸ And he will redeem Israel

C: from all his iniquities.

The congregation stands and sings: (LBW p.83)

Alleluia. LORD to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! (John 6:68)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th chapter (ESV) **C: Glory to You, O LORD.**

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to

him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

(The Gospel of our LORD.)

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

We Worship by Confessing Our Faith

WE BELIEVE in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

WE BELIEVE in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one Holy Christian and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

Sermon

Eric D. Hullstrom, Pastor

We Worship In Thanksgiving By Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

The offering is received.

As the congregation stands, the ushers bring the offering forward:

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Let us pray together the offering prayer:

Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the universe. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

(Each petition concludes with "LORD, in your mercy", to which the congregation responds: "hear our prayer".)

We Worship by Receiving Our LORD in His Holy Meal

The Great Thanksgiving (Spoken):

P: *The LORD be with you.*

C: And also with you.

P: *Lift up your hearts.*

C: We lift them to the LORD.

P: *Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.*

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

P: *It is indeed right and salutary . . . (Here the minister continues with the preface :)*

**C: Holy, holy, holy LORD, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Words of Institution and 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. Amen.**

Holy Communion: Lutherans believe the LORD's Supper is a holy sacrament in which Christ comes to us with His grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness. The crucified and risen Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine – He promises: "This is my body... This is my blood". Therefore the Apostle Paul says we should examine ourselves lest we eat or drink in an unworthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27ff.). Martin Luther wrote, "Anyone who does not believe these words ('this is My body given for you this is My blood shed for you.'). is neither prepared nor worthy; for the words, 'FOR YOU' requires simply a believing heart." Therefore, all (including children who have received instruction) who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and LORD and who see His presence in the sacrament are welcome to commune with us.

As you come forward for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers in the water of the baptismal font and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead as a reminder of Christ's claim upon you through your baptism.
(For those with gluten allergies, we now have gluten-free wafers available for Communion on the Baptismal Font.)

The congregation sings: **"Lamb of God"**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Reprinted from With One Voice, © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-717731

Communion Hymns:

"Rise, Shine, You People" LBW #393

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" LBW #423

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LBW #456

Post-Communion Prayer and Canticle

Thank the LORD and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the LORD rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Benediction (Pastor)

The congregation sings 3-fold **"Amen"**

On Our Way Rejoicing!

Closing Hymn:

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

LBW #261

We Worship By How We Live During the Week

P: Go in Peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Musician: Mary Kaye Owen

Choir Director: Dan Owen

Liturgical portions of this service reprinted from Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-717731

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

If you are a visitor, please sign the Guest Book. We encourage you to pick up a 'Welcome' packet at the Ushers table to introduce you to our church. Coffee hour will follow the worship service. Please join us.

EASTER LILIES

Would you like to make a \$10.00 donation towards the purchase of an Easter lily in memory or in honor of a loved one? Please sign the sheet at the Visitor's Table with your donation. The deadline date for sign up is TODAY. The lilies will decorate our cross and altar area on Easter Sunday (April 16th). After the service, please take the lily home to enjoy. Your donation is very much appreciated. THANK YOU.

Prayers for those who are serving our country (military, firefighters & police) and their families and keep them safe: Josh Jepsen, Chase, Seth Hearld, Powell, Evan Gregory Blodgett, Ken Solbrack, Michael Elliott, Chris Berentson, Cole Lufkin (Gjerstad's grandson), Brady Woodman (Relma Burmeister's grandson), Devlin Durkin, Curtis & Riley McKenzie, Brandon Bules (Carole Williams cousin), the 2/75th Ranger Battalion and the 5th Air Support Operations Squadron. Jacob Ramsey (Fenimore's grandson) serving in Iraq Jan/Feb 2017, pray for safety and draw close to God. *Our prayers for all those in harm's way are urgently needed during this time of turmoil and strife in this country.*

Prayers for those who have recently lost a loved one: Prayers for **Laurie Wales and family** (Carole Williams' daughter) on the loss of her niece, **Kristen** and young grandnephew **Anthony** in a car accident and pray for recovery, healing and strength for the survivors, her nephew, **Anthony** in critical condition and baby grandniece **Emma** (uninjured). Prayers for **Dave and Pastor Sue Gunderson** and family on the loss of Sue's mother.



Prayers for those with cancer or long term illness: *Chris Hoppes, Chris Shook, Daniel Wills, Dick Swartout, Don Linde, Elsie Patrow, Jan Roohan, Jo Ann Albers, Leona, Marleen, Marthea, Pastor Chris Davis, Richard Musacchio, Robert Mosolf, Ron Gronthal, Terry Kaplan, Walter Kuehlthaw, Olivia Denning, Alice Kanzler, Mary Katherine Nicholson, Tim, Darrin Parker, Karen Krueger, Susie, Shelia Schutz, Sophie, Ricky Smith, Vickey Clayton, Taylor Desmet, Marv McDonald, Colleen, Mary Ellen Jensen, Karen (Jim & Debbie Wardlow); Elenor Haas, Liz Husted and her husband, Chad; Berny (Morgan & Yvonne Olson's sister); Triston (Jeff & Sarah DeBord); Niece Sheri (Sharlene Parker); Ken Hogan (Larry Vollmer), John Paul Webber (Heidi Sturdivant); Ron Holmes (Heidi Sturdivant), Ken & family (Virginia Steves' cousin), Herman Harder (Heidi Sturdivant), Barbara Cashman, Brother Gary (Carole Williams), Crissy Heintz (Gary Heintz's daughter-in-law), Jenni Groce (Lonna & Tom Groce's daughter-in-law), Prayers for Ed (Ruth Anderson's brother) whose cancer is advancing.*

Prayers for healing and strength for those with health concerns and those facing or recovering from surgery. Prayers for healing and recovery for **Chris Steinhilb** (Carol Richey's sister) pray that her numbers continue to improve. **Lynnette Hynden** (Carole Williams-Wood) diagnosed with immune system blood disorder and in constant pain, pray for doctor's discernment in her treatment. Prayers for **Lonna Groce** for continued recovery. **Lee Brown** for healing, strength, comfort and peace. Prayers for a successful surgery and quick recovery for **Gaye Anderson**. Pray for healing for **Zoe Faul** following her car accident and praise God for protecting her.

Prayers for: God to watch over and protect Christians who are being killed for their faith, peace in war torn places around the globe, comfort for those grieving loss of loved ones. Prayers for safe travels for all who will be traveling for business or pleasure. Prayers for **son Casey and his wife Crissy** (Gary Heintz) in Texas for additional cancer treatment for Crissy. **Dave, Cathy, Hannah and Esther Grosz** need God's help in selling their home in AK. Their prayer is for clear direction on where to resettle in Washington. Prayers for **Mike Fenimore's mother** as she makes the transition to her new care facility. **Prayers for Peru** for the many disasters caused by the terrible flooding, pray that the basic water, food and shelter be provided to the people and strength to rebuild and recover. Prayers for **Phil and Virginia Steves** as they return to Puyallup.

Prayers for faith, strength and guidance. God's continued guidance and blessings in our search for a new church home. God's guidance and peace between nations of the earth. God's love to overcome hate and fear in hearts around the world.

**if there are any changes in the prayer list please call or advise the church office at 445-4292.*

Thank
you

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ, God bless you all and thank you for helping us to provide this refuge and hiding place that many pass through so they can begin positive new lives. "The Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble." *Psalm 9:9* Sincerely, Keith Galbraith, Executive Director, Family Renewal Shelter

Worship Assistants for HOLY WEEK, April 9th, April 13th, April 14th and April 16th

Palm Sunday (April 9) Worship Assistants

Set up/tear down-(Team 2)-Al Auge, Jim Gronhovd, Ron Johnson, Larry Vollmer, Joey Ramos, Dennis Krumwiede;
Ushers-Bill & Debbi Zavadil, Bob Martin, Tom Groce; **Acolyte**-Barbara Gjerstad; **Lector**-Skip Whelan; **Tellers**-Ardene Bartness, Judy Krumwiede; **Coffee Hour**-Clarice Liemohn, Ruth Anderson; **Altar Set up/takedown**-Barbara Gjerstad, Carol Brennan;
Sound System-Andy Anderson; **Parking Lot**-Tony Deas

Maundy Thursday (April 13th) Worship Assistants

Set up-6:00 pm –Volunteers Needed Please; **Ushers**-Ron & Chalio Heilman, Lorraine Stargel, Mary Vollmer; **Communion**
Setup-Ardis Kilber, Nancy Martin; **Communion Assistants**-‘The Disciples’;
Altar Set up-Worship & Music; **Sound System**-Joe Burdick; **Tellers**-Don Brennan, Al Auge

Good Friday (April 14th) Worship Assistants

Set up-6:00 pm - Volunteers Needed Please, set up minimal; (Tear down-store behind stage); **Ushers**-Morgan & Yvonne Olson, Daryl & Deena Olson; **Acolyte**-Lydia Auge; **Sound System**-Ron Heilman;
Altar Setup/Take Down- Barbara Gjerstad, Yvonne Olson

Easter Sunday (April 16th) Worship Assistants

Set up/Tear Down(Team 3)-Joe Burdick, Andy Anderson, Alex Burdick, Ron Heilman, Daryl Olson, Dick Schmidt; **Ushers**-Phil & Kay Hutson, Al & Lydia Auge; **Acolyte**-Kailan Burdick; **Lector**-Barbara Gjerstad; **Communion Assistants**-‘The Disciples’; **Communion**
Setup/Clean Up-Ardis Kilber, Nancy Martin; **Communion Bread**-Lonna Groce; **Sound System**-Andy Anderson; **Tellers**-Lee Brown, Al Auge; **Coffee Hour**-Men’s Ministry; **Altar Setup/Take Down**-Kitty Jepsen, Kay Hutson; **Parking Lot**- Al Auge

Prayer at the Kansas Senate

Thought you might enjoy this interesting prayer given in Kansas at the opening session of their Senate, January 23, 1996. It seems prayer still upsets some people. When Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

“Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, ‘Woe to those who call evil good,’ but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We confess that:

We have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it Pluralism.

We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery.

We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare.

We have killed our unborn and called it choice.

We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable.

We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem.

We have abused power and called it politics.

We have coveted our neighbor’s possessions and called it ambition.

We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression.

We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Guide and bless these men and women who have been sent to direct us to the center of Your will and to openly ask these things in the name of your Son, the living Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen!”

The response was immediate. A number of legislators walked out during the prayer in protest. In six short weeks, Central Christian Church, where Rev. Wright is pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 of those calls responding negatively. The church received international requests for copies of this prayer from India, Africa and Korea. With the Lord’s help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and wholeheartedly become our desire so that we again can be called
 ‘one nation under God.’

Submitted by Andy Anderson

MOVIE MATINEE

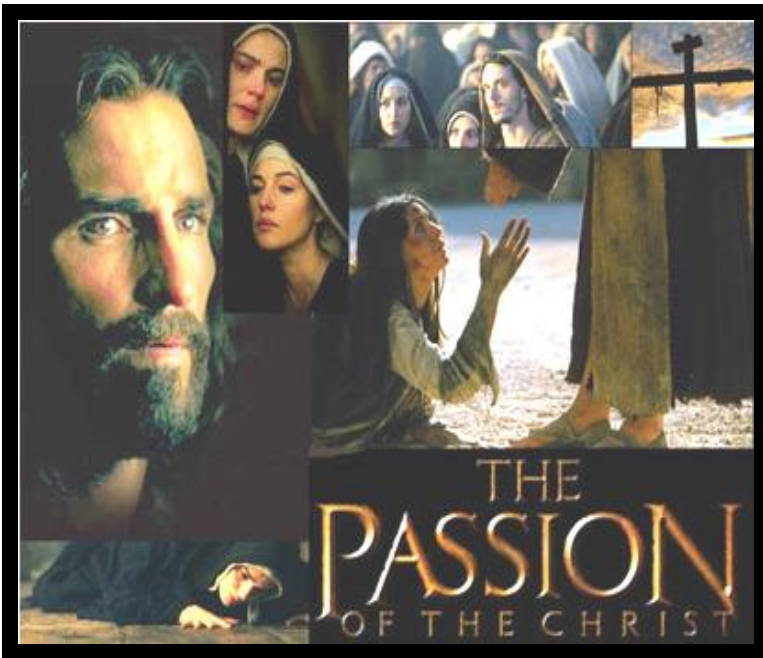
What: The Passion of the Christ

The Passion of the Christ (also known simply as *The Passion*) is a American biblical epic drama film directed by Mel Gibson and starring Jim Caviezel as Jesus Christ. It depicts the Passion of Jesus largely according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The film primarily covers the final twelve hours of Jesus' life, beginning with the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, the insomnia and grievance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and ending with a brief depiction of his resurrection.

When: April 9th at 1200 pm

Where: LWLC Church Office

Pizza and soda provided. Invite a friend or neighbor.



FORSAKEN FOR US

Church reformer Martin Luther considered Jesus' cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) as "the greatest words in all of Scripture," writes Timothy Keller. In *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering* (Penguin Books), Keller notes, "Luther knew personally about what he called *Anfechtungen*, a word that means the 'assaults' that the world, the flesh and the devil make on human beings through the evils and suffering of life."

Jesus suffered *Anfechtungen* "in infinite degrees, beyond anything any other human being will ever experience," Keller writes. And he did it all for us. As Luther said, "In Christ, the God-forsaken sinner has a Savior who has taken on himself the full depths of human estrangement from God — and overcome it."

Foster Family Gift Cards

Lent is a time to reflect on what Jesus has done for us. He gave up his life so that we could live for eternity with Him. As we reflect on this we think of what we can give up. What if we decided to not just give "up" but to give "of" ourselves. There are so many ways to give and as a church we are doing a wonderful job of that.

One specific way we can give is to think of the foster families in our area. Our daughter and family are only one of many that have taken into their home a child that was the last of 8 children born to a drug addicted mother. **These foster families are the Giving Ministry I am asking our church to target during Lent. Working with Wishing Well Foundation in Tacoma we suggested the giving of gift cards to the families that house these children.** They were very excited about this. The cards can be in any amount thinking about the families of the foster children, so cards for eating out, coffee and movies are just a few suggestions. Larger amounts can be broken down into several cards although there is no restriction on amount or the card itself. There will be a basket on the visitor's table beginning next Sunday for any donations during Lent and **end April 9, Palm Sunday**. The gift cards will be given to the Foundation to distribute to the families along with a card from our church. **Our LWLC board fully supports this opportunity for our church to give back to the community.**



Thank you in advance, Gayla Fenimore