

OUR GREATEST NEEDS: A gift for the world

LENT 2
March 5, 2023



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. David R. Clark, x303
pastorclark@graceglendale.org

{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmaire Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

Principal Joel D. Walker, x302
jwalker@graceglendale.org
Office Manager, Debbie, x322
officemanager@graceglendale.org
Secretary, Alice, x301
secretary@graceglendale.org

WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
 - *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
 - *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.*
 - *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you are in need of hearing assistance.*
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-

THE SERVICE: p. 188, Setting 3

OPENING HYMN: #613 – The God of Abraham Praise

**The God of Abr’ham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
Ancient of everlasting days and God of love.
Jehovah, great I AM, by earth and heav’n confessed,
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.**

**The God of Abr’ham praise, at whose supreme command
from earth I rise and seek the joys at his right hand.
I all on earth forsake, its wisdom, fame, and pow’r,
and him my only portion make, my shield and tow’r.**

**The God of Abr’ham praise, whose all-sufficient grace
shall guide me all my pilgrim days in all my ways.
He deigns to call me friend; he calls himself my God.
And he shall save me to the end through Jesus’ blood.**

**He by himself has sworn; I on his oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heav’n ascend.
I shall behold his face; I shall his pow’r adore
and sing the wonders of his grace forevermore.**

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Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit
Amen.

CONFESSION: p. 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY:

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: God gifted Abram promises of land and a special offspring. Genesis 12:1-8 ¹The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ²“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” ⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. ⁶Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

MEN’S CHORUS: (8:00)..... Amazing Grace
ADULT CHOIR: (10:30)..... We Walk by Faith

SECOND READING: Abraham received the promise of God as a gift. Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 ¹What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? ²If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. ³What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. ⁵However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness....¹³It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.¹⁷As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 3:16



Refrain

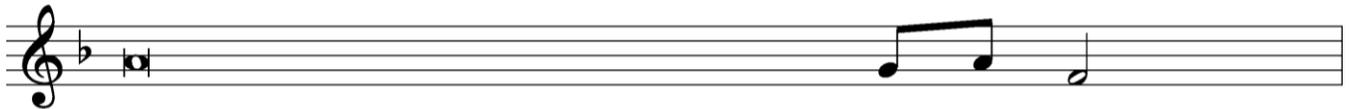


Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.



Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Tone



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and on - ly Son,



that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have e - ter - nal life.

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GOSPEL: God sent our salvation in Jesus as a gift. John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” ³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” ⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” ⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. ¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have

seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #570 – God Loved the World so that He Gave

**God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ is the solid rock of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**God would not have the sinner die;
his Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word declares
that we in Christ are heaven’s heirs.**

**Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son
forgives the sins that you have done.
You’re justified by Jesus’ blood;
baptized, you are a child of God.**

**If you are sick, if death is near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;
this is the anchor of my faith!**

**Glory to God the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!**

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SERMON: John 3:1-17

HOW CAN THIS BE?

1. How can I see the kingdom of God?
2. How can I be saved?

Please stand.

NICENE CREED: p. 196

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

*Please fill out the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time!
Remember to mark if you are communion.*

Please stand.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

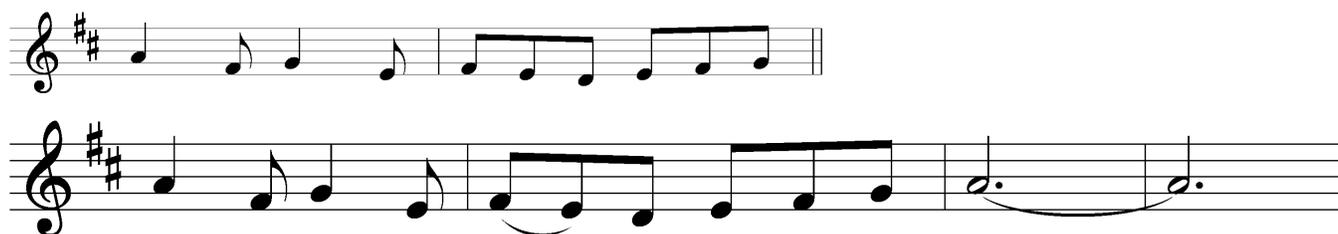
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: p. 200



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,

heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: p. 201

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER:..... p. 201

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:..... p. 202

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD:..... p. 202



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



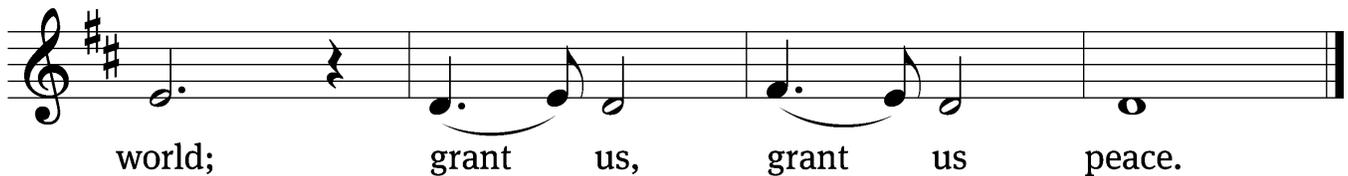
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



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Please be seated.

In **Holy Communion** we receive the assurance of forgiveness through the body and blood of our Savior. By sharing in this Sacrament, we also express our complete agreement with one another according to the teachings of the Bible. If you have not joined our fellowship (**Wisconsin Synod**), please permit us to tell you about our Lutheran Christian faith before you partake of this Holy Supper so that you can judge for yourself whether there is complete agreement between us.

*For **COMMUNION**, please come at the direction of the ushers.
Please receive the wafer in the palm of your hand.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: #523 – How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

**How deep the Father’s love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns his face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything:
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
his wounds have paid my ransom.**

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Please stand.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING:..... p. 203

Amen.

Please be seated.

CLOSING HYMN: #627 – To God Be the Glory

**To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer and higher and greater will be
our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!**

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TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Jeff Wegner in memory of his father, whose 85th birthday was on March 3rd.



Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 123; 10:30 AM – 290
Sunday School attendance: Adults: Hall – 79 & Room 1 – 25;
Children – 11

Tuesday *The Chosen* Class: 14

Midweek 2 attendance: 4:00 PM – 199; 7:00 PM – 48

Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Jon Floerke & Nicholas Lincoln

10:30 AM: Dean Rovey & Scott Gillespie

Organist: Jeff Wegner

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Adrienne Siffring (Fairmont Village)
Mary Rademacher (Home)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - COMMUNION **Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM**; Bible class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Campus Ministry First Sunday Meal & Study, noon
MON - Handbell Practice, 6:15 PM; Choir Practice, 7:00 PM; Boy Pioneers, 6:30 PM
TUE - *The Chosen* Bible class, 2:00 PM; Ladies Aid, 7:00 PM
WED - **Midweek Lent Worship, 4:00 & 7:00 PM**; Lenten Supper, 5:00-6:30 PM; Public School Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM
FRI - School Early Release, 11:30 AM; Teacher Collaboration; Boy Pioneer Campout
SAT - Boy Pioneer Campout

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and March Bible-reading & activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.
2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for March 11th will be captained by Konrad & Ruth Lincoln with Michael & Justine Cherney; Christie Hutchinson; Nicholas Lincoln; and Mike & Christine Natale.



DIVINE CALL EXTENDED...Mr. Kulhanek is currently teaching 5th & 6th grades at Bay Pines Lutheran School in Seminole, FL. He is married and has two children. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he decides where he can best serve God.



SCRIPTURAL CONFIRMATION, EASTER, & GREETING CARDS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall before Bible class this morning.



CAMPUS MINISTRY...College Students are invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall for First Sunday Feasts at noon **TODAY**, March 5th

for Pizza & a Prophet and again on Sunday, April 2nd for Sandwiches & a Psalm (Palm Sunday).



ABC @ BROTHER'S RESTAURANT, 8466 W Peoria Avenue, 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 15th. You may sign up for breakfast with ABC by using the contact information below or by using the registration sheets found on the table in the narthex. For more information contact Pat Walker at patwalker1950@gmail.com or 480-717-0131 (cell).



ALA 2023 GALA...Please consider how you might support ALA's students by contributing to Arizona Lutheran Academy's 2023 Gala and auction. Join with friends in your Bible Study to assemble a themed basket. Are you a woodworker or crafter? A hand-crafted item would be welcome! Do you own a cabin up north? Could you donate a few days at your vacation home? Do you own a boat and would enjoy taking a group out on the lake for a day? Your gift of any new item or "experience" between now and **March 10** will support the students at Arizona Lutheran Academy. Would you prefer to give a cash gift directly to campus improvements? Visit ALAcoyotes.org/gala to donate, attend, or learn more.



MIDWEEK 3 WORSHIP SERVICE...Wednesday, March 8th, 4:00 & 7:00 PM – "His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree" – *Mark 11:12-14; 20-25.* Lenten Supper @ 5:00 – 6:30 PM



2023 COOKIE SERVERS...We need cookie servers for our Sunday morning Fellowship Time. If you're interested, sign the sheet located where the cookies are served.



ALA GALA DONATIONS...Grace Ladies Aid is collecting gift cards to include in the basket that will be donated to the ALA Gala auction. If you would like to donate gift cards, please **give them to Shawna Tech no later than TODAY.**



LWMS GRAND CANYON – WEST SPRING RALLY will be held at Deer Valley Lutheran Church, 220 W Union Hills Drive, Phoenix, on

Saturday, April 15th. Check-in begins at 8:15 AM. The registration fee is \$20, and the registration deadline is March 30th. Registration forms are in the narthex or register online at www.gcwlwms.org



WELS YOUTH NIGHT for high schoolers, grades 9-12, will be **Saturday, March 18th**, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 3257 E. University Drive Mesa, AZ 85213. Doors open at 5:15 PM. We hope you can join us. Pick up a flier in the narthex for more information and the registration code.



HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONS...To assist you in your Holy Week observance, you can find free WELS devotions online at <https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/>



JOB OPPORTUNITY...Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a full-time **Custodian**. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.



DONATE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE! Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or need help with setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the "Click Here to Donate Online" button. A phone app is also available for donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. *Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.*



FINANCIAL UPDATE: Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$947,507.00** by **6/30/2023**.

Week ending 2/26/2023: **YTD 7/1/2022 through 2/26/2023:**

Weekly Need:	19,200.00	YTD Need:	630,600.00
Weekly Actual:	13,690.55	YTD Actual:	575,537.03
Weekly +/-:	-5,509.45	YTD +/-:	-55,062.97

SPECIAL LENTEN

& EASTER SERVICES

“**HIS FINAL STEPS**” is the theme of our 2023 Lenten Season. The series explores Jesus’ final days before, during, and after his crucifixion using different locations as themes for each Lenten and Holy Week service.

Midweek 3: “His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree”
March 8, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Mark 11:12-14, 20-25*

Midweek 4: “His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks”
March 15, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *John 12:20-33*

Midweek 5: “His Final Steps Led to His Enemies”
March 22, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Luke 20:9-19*

Midweek 6: “His Final Steps Led to a Tomb”
March 29, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *John 11 (selected verses)*

Palm Sunday:..... “His Final Steps Led to a Donkey”
April 2, 2023 - 8:00 & 10:30 AM *Matthew 21:1-11*

Holy Thursday: “His Final Steps Led to the Upper Room”
April 6, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Mark 14:12-17*

Good Friday: “His Final Steps Led to the Place of the Skull”
April 7, 2023 – 11:00 AM *Luke 23:26-33*

Tenebrae: “Shadows of the Cross”
April 7, 2023 – 7:00 PM

Easter Sunrise:
April 9, 2023 – 6:00 AM

Easter Sunday: “His First Steps Led Outside His Tomb”
April 9, 2023 – 8:00 & 10:30 AM