

An Ancient Faith for a Modern World

April 2023

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

The holiest and most important feast day of the Christian year is quickly approaching.

The church can go without celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas; the church can go without celebrating the Wise Men worshipping Jesus as God in human form at Epiphany. The church can go without celebrating the Holy Spirit falling on the believers at Pentecost; the church can go without celebrating actually any holy day except one; it cannot go without Easter.

Easter is the foundation day of our faith and lays the foundation for the church. As the Apostle Paul once wrote, "If Christ has not been raised from the dead then our faith is in vain." In other words, if Jesus did not rise from the dead Easter morning, then all that we do and all that we believe is futile. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then our hope for any life after we die is foolish. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then trying to be good and denying ourselves any pleasures during our life-time is short-sighted. If this life is all there is, if there is no such thing as life after we die, then we should have the life philosophy of, "Let's eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die."

But the fact is, Jesus WAS RAISED from the dead. In fact, as has been noted, we know more about the details of the hours immediately before and the actual death of Jesus, in and near Jerusalem, than we know about the death of any other one man in all the ancient world. That Jesus from Nazareth was dead is an historical fact. And it is also an historical fact that he rose from the dead. He was dead and then he came back to life. It is not a myth. It is not simply wishful thinking. It is not because we like Hollywood endings to our stories. God did raise Jesus from the dead. We have eye witnesses to the fact of his resurrection. And when God raised Jesus from the dead He validated everything Jesus ever said and did.

And that is the point of Easter, isn't it? Jesus rose from the dead. And because he rose now we know and believe that all he said and promised is true. Because he rose from the dead, our sins can indeed be forgiven. Because he rose from the dead, we can be reborn spiritually, have new life in God, and know God's great love for us. Because he rose from the dead, we can be reconciled with God and are able to have his Holy Spirit live within us. Because he rose from the dead, we know that those who have died before us who had faith in Christ are



now with Jesus where he is in heaven. Because he rose from the dead, we know that we too who believe in Jesus, will have life even after our bodies stop living and we will be given new resurrection bodies.

I have not mentioned all of the benefits of the resurrection but you get the point. The most important and holiest day of the year is quickly approaching. It should be with great joy and awe that we celebrate the fact of our Lord Jesus' death and resurrection. Very soon I will say "The Lord is risen!" and you will respond with "The Lord is risen indeed!"

I hope you will make plans to participate in as many services as you are able during Holy Week. Each service is meant to affect us and affect our spirit. The week starts with Palm Sunday and the waving of the palms; this is a joyous service. On Holy Wednesday there is a 10 AM Rite 1 service; this service is quiet and thought provoking. On Maundy Thursday we will have a soup supper at 6 PM followed at 7 PM with the foot washing service as we consider what our place is in Christ's kingdom. The Thursday service concludes with the stripping of the altar, a sober foreshadowing of the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers at his crucifixion, and as the candles are extinguished and lights are turned off we are reminded that at the death of Jesus all of humanity's hope is obliterated. We will observe the solemn liturgy of Good Friday at noon followed by Stations of the Cross. Here we remember Jesus as He approached and suffered on the cross. On Holy Saturday there is the Memorial Garden service at 4 PM followed by the flowering of the Cross. In the service in the Garden we think about what Jesus was doing on Saturday after his burial and we remember those who we love who have died. And then later at 8:30 PM we have our candlelight Easter Vigil service. We begin outside in the dark and then we are led back into the church by the lit majestic Pascal Candle. After the reading of the scriptures and the renewal of our baptismal covenant we Ring the Bells! We hear the joyous Vigil homily of St. John Chrysostom and say together the "Hell was in an uproar" refrain! It is a gloriously triumphant service! And then, to cap Holy Week off, we will have wonderfully joyful Easter morning services at 8 AM and 10:30

AM. I am smiling in anticipation as I write these words. I am looking forward to wishing you a blessed Easter.

Warmly in Christ,

Fr. Lance+



Ministry News

Senior Warden, *Craig Gates* Greetings and welcome to April, what wonderful weather God has given us to celebrate this holy season. As we near end of Lent, I hope that your practice of selfdiscipline, sacrifice, selfexamination and prayer has gone well and you have felt the presence of God each day.

Holy Week services will begin with distributing Palms on Saturday April 1st and Palm Sunday, April 2nd. As we prepare for Easter Sunday, we have several special services to guide us on the way to the resurrection. On Wednesday there will be a Rite I service at 10:00AM. On Maundy Thursday we will imitate the humility of Jesus and include foot washing by Fr. Lance, the celebration of the Last Supper (Holy Eucharist) and conclude with the stripping of the altar. This is a reverent and moving service that should be experienced in its entirety.

Good Friday service will include the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ at noon, followed by Stations of the Cross and flowering of the cross.

The Holy Saturday Great Easter Vigil at 8:30PM begins with the candlelight service which includes the renewal of our Baptismal vows and the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ with the ringing of the bells. Our glorious Easter Sunday services, celebrated at 8:00AM and 10:30AM will conclude our Holy Week activities and services.

I hope you will come to worship

with your St. Andrew's Family and grow closer to God with us.

Altar Guild, *Glee Gates, Director* As the season of Lent comes to a close and we begin our Holy Week services, it is a busy time for many of us including The Altar Guild. The special services and many of the additional activities require preparation by the Altar Guild.

Saturday 4/1, everyone is invited to help in stripping palms and weaving palm crosses. We will begin at 9:30AM in Krysher Hall. Please bring scissors! It is an enjoyable time of fellowship and craftsmanship (no experience needed). We are blessed that Diane will be there again this year to provide instructions on how to weave the palm crosses.

The lilies are ordered for our Easter Celebration. Please consider making a donation in the name of a loved one as a memorial, blessing or thanksgiving to be recognized in our Easter flower bulletin. Envelopes will be in the Narthex, pew pockets or you can contact the office.

Please listen to the weekly announcements and watch your bulletins for details and times of all the Holy Week services and activities. We look forward to worshipping with you during this most holy season. Wishing you a blessed Easter from your Altar Guild.

Pastoral Care, *Janet Crisfield* A Happy and Blessed Easter to everyone from the Pastoral Care Team. Now is a good time to reflect the sacrifice Jesus made for us because he loves us. Now is a good time to reflect on love for one another and remember how we treat others is how we are treating Jesus.

The Pastoral Care Ministry is dedicated to bringing the presence of Christ to parishioners that are unable to come to regular services either on a temporary or on-going basis. This follows the tradition of the earliest Christians bringing bread and wine from services to those unable to come.

Many of our members are licensed Lay Eucharistic visitors and bring communion. Some of our members also belong to the Order of Saint Luke and are also able to anoint for healing. That being said, it is not necessary to be or do either. There is always giving the gift of your presence.

We provide visits to the homebound, hospitalized, those in rehab or extended care facilities. We meet bi-monthly during the regular church year. Training and screening is required of anyone wishing to join this rewarding and important ministry. If you are interested in learning more please call Janet Crisfield at 352-796-9389 or Father Lance at the church 352-683-2010

Remember if we do not know when you are in the hospital or home bound, you or someone on your behalf must call the office. We have no other way of knowing your needs. If you need or know of a fellow parishioner that could benefit from this ministry please call the church at 352-683-2010.



April 1 - Saturday Palm Sunday Service 4 pm

- April 2 Palm Sunday 8 am and 10:30 am
- April 5 Wednesday in Holy Week Rite I 10 am (no Healing Service)
- **April 6 -** Maundy Thursday Soup at 6 pm, Service at 7 pm (Please sign up in the narthex)
- April 7 Good Friday Service at 12 pm, followed by Stations of the Cross
- April 8 Holy Saturday 4 pm in the Memorial Garden, followed by Flowering of the Cross The Great Vigil of Easter at 8:30 pm (No 4 pm Holy Eucharist Service)

April 9 - Easter Sunday Service at 8 am and 10:30 am



FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

On Holy Saturday April 8th at 4:30, after the Memorial Garden service, we will once again adorn an outdoor cross with flowers. All are welcome; please bring long stem flowers. If you have not joined us in this glorious Easter tradition, a wooden cross is covered in chicken wire and we weave the flower stems in the wire until the whole cross is covered.

APRIL LECTIONARY

04/02 PALM SUNDAY

The Liturgy of the Palms Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 The Liturgy of the Word Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14- 27:66

04/06 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 Psalm 116:1, 10-17 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

04/07 GOOD FRIDAY

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42

04/08 HOLY SATURDAY

Job 14:1-14 Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16 1 Peter 4:1-8 Matthew 27:57-66

04/08 GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Romans 6:3-11 Psalm 114 Matthew 28:1-10

04/09 EASTER SUNDAY

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18

EASTER 2

Acts 2:14a,22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

EASTER 3

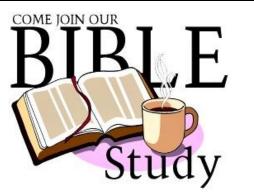
Acts 2:14a,36-41 Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35

EASTER 4

Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

St. Andrew's Women's Guild is Coming!

Exciting news! St. Andrew's is forming a Women's Guild! There are many ongoing and new activities where help is needed. This is a follow-up to a discussion at the Ladies' Tea last October. An organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at `11:30 am in Krysher Hall. A light lunch will be provided. Those of you who have already volunteered to help in areas such as funeral receptions and library are encouraged to attend this meeting so that we can get these groups better organized. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex starting April 8 so we'll know how many to expect for lunch. If you have questions of want additional information, please contact Connie Mehr or Patti Werner.



Adult Bible study in April

Fr. Larry Edmonds will be teaching the Adult Bible Classes in April and May this year. He will be teaching from some of the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament. In particular, he will be covering Joel, Amos, Obadiah, and Jonah. Fr. Larry will be looking at the prophecies contained in these short books and in particular how Jesus came to fulfill them. These promise to be fascinating classes and I hope you will make plans to attend. The classes will be held on Wednesdays at 3 pm and then at 6:30 pm in the Narthex. The study will begin April 12th. Please sign up in the narthex.





SAVE THE DATE!

Friday May 5th Cinco de Mayo/Chili Sharing 5:30 in Krysher Hall



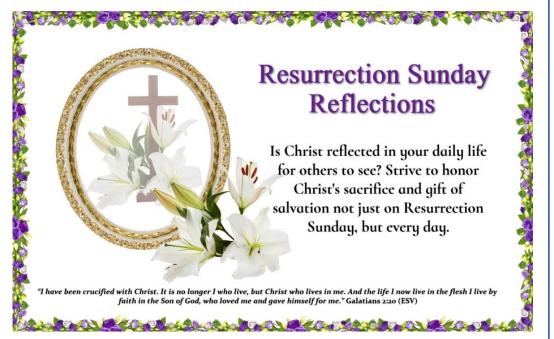
Successful Undie Sundays!



Pictured: Vera Scharf and Christina Mason return from shopping with another car full of undies!



The Undie Sundays of March that was sponsored by Daughters of the King was a great success! Over \$630 was collected in cash/checks and 4 trunk loads of underwear and socks for the women, infants and children that are in the Dawn Center Domestic Violence Shelter. The Daughters of the King and the Dawn Center sincerely thank all that donated.





Please make sure to notify the office if you, a family member, or someone from the church that you know goes into the hospital. The hospital no longer keeps a list that we can check at the front desk. If you do not let the office or Fr. Lance know, we are not able to visit. You can call the office at 352-683-2010 or Fr. Lance's cell phone 352-515-8657. TREASURER'S REPORT January 1 - February 28, 2023 Connie Mehr, Treasurer

	This Month	Year to Date	2023 Budget
Revenues			
Core Church	79,351.61	79,351.61	364,626.00
Thrift Shop	9,013.66	9,013.66	35,250.00
Total Revenues	88,365.27	88,365.27	399,876.00
Expenses			
Core Church	64,580.10	64,580.10	377,352.00
Thrift Shop	3,649.93	3,649.93	22,524.00
Total Expenses	68,230.03	68,230.03	399,876.00
Net Gain/Loss			
Core Church	14,771.51	14,771.51	(12,726.00)
Thrift Shop	5,363.73	5,363.73	12,726.00
Total	20,135.24	20,135.24	-
Investments		Bank Accounts	
SSGA	96,940.51		Bank of America
Alliance Bernstein	26,226.42	Unrestricted	56,430.44
		Restricted	391,837.09
		Discretionary	1,152.58
Total	123,166.93	Total	449,420.11

Remember to order your lilies for the Easter Service in honor or memory of loved ones.



Envelopes are located in each pew. Cost \$15. Any questions, please call the office.

	<u>March 2022</u>
-	Transfers in: 0
-	Weddings: 0
	Transfers out: 0
	Baptisms: 0
	Anointing: 21
	Deaths: 1
	Joanne Sabens (02/16/2023)
	Funerals: 0
-	

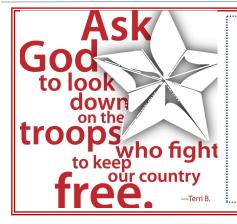
EASTER BASKET

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. - 2 TIMOTHY 1:12 NIV

	March	Atte	ndanc	e	
Week Ending Sat./Sun	Wed. Healing	Sat.	Sun 8 am	Sun 10:30 am	To- tal
4/5	-	45	38	78	161
11/12	-	65	33	81	179
18/19	6	49	41	81	177
25/26	7	49	41	82	179
TOTAL	13	208	153	322	
AVERAGE	7	52	38	80	



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES AT HOME & OVERSEAS:

Julian Barry Jason Hobson Joseph Edmonds and Bradley Meissner

Please call the office to update this list.

Dur church family is a circle of strength and love. With every new connection, the circle grows. Every joy shared adds love. Every crisis faced together makes the circle stronger.

April Birthdays

- 1 Samantha Traudt
- 2 Paul LeBron
- 3 Gil Peterson
- 4 Molly Agius Patricia Dodge Sandra Meyers
- 6 Jody Bowes
- 7 George Cotter
- 8 Pat Hladky Jean Wimpenney
- 9 Nancy Cotter Gretchen Murray Steve Sumner Doug Voght
- 10 Mark Traudt
- 12 Phil Clohset
- 13 Rich Kovacs Butch Trainor
- 15 Ben Mikosz
- 16 Brittney Traudt
- 17 Paula Harrelson

- 18 Carolyn Bedarski
- Gail Jordan 19 - Jim Dodge
- Bob Howell Linda Parks Hal Smith
- 20 Alarene Knight Olivia LaCava
- 21 Kevina Trapp Mary Trosky Rocco Volpe
- 23 Heather Steele
- 24 Cierra Fitch
- Frederick Larham
- 25 Jose Mendoza
- 26 Laurine Smart 28 - Cole, Desiree
- Cole, Maria
- 29 Stephen Bolchazy
- 30 Beverly Crosetto



Need a name tag?

Membership transferred?

Other information?

Your <u>church office</u> can help with that! We're available from Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Whether you call, email, or stop by, we're happy to help!



April Anniversaries

- 18 Niedurny, Gail and Jerry
- 21 Scharf, Father Fred and Vera
- $23\,$ Hicks, Robert and Sylvia
- 24 Sumner, Steve and Gloria
- 25 Curtis, Anita and Raymond
- $\mathbf{26}$ Crouse, John and Mary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
R	April 2023	023	LOCATION KEY C =Church CH -Coulton Hall KH=Krysher Hall CR = Conference room	in office L = Library TS = Thrift Shop all SC = Chapel/Classroom ice room MG = Memorial Garden	ssroom Garden	 1 9:30 am Palm Crosses mak- ing 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 3 pm Easter Choir 4 pm HE II
2	ß	4	Q	Q	7	ω
8 am HE II 9:15 Adult Formation 10:30 am HE II 12:15 Episcopal Traditions PALM SUNDAY	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	10 am Rite I (Wednesday in Holy Week Service) 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open	9 am Backpacks 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 6 pm Supper 7 pm Maundy Thurs Service	12 pm Good Friday Service OFFICE CLOSED	 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 10:30 DOK Meeting 3 pm Easter Choir 4 pm Holy Saturday Service (MG) 4:45 Flowering of the Cross 8:30 pm The Great Vigil of
9 8 am HE II 9:15 Adult Formation 10:30 am HE II EASTER SUNDAY	10 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	11 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	 12 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 3 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 	 13 9 am Backpacks 9 am Women's Bible 10 am Vomen's Bible 10 am - 2pm Thrift 10 am - 2pm Thrift 6 pm Sanctuary Choir 	14 9 am Men's Group (KH) OFFICE CLOSED	15 4 pm HE II 5 pm Adult Formation 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8 am HE II 9:15 Adult Formation 10:30 am HE II	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open 6 pm MOVIE NIGHT	 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 3 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 	9 am Backpacks 10 am Women's Bible Study (KH) 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 6 pm Sanctuary Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	4 pm HE II 5 pm Adult Formation 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8 am HE II 9:15 Adult Formation 10:30 am HE II	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	10 am - 2 pm Thrift Store Open	 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 3 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 	9 am Backpacks 10 am Women's Bible Study (KH) 10 am - 2pm Thrift Store Open 6 pm Sanctuary Choir	9 am Men's Group (KH) OFFICE CLOSED	4 pm HE II 5 pm Adult Formation 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop
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