



March 29, 2023



Due to illness and out of an abundance of caution, the Church offices will remain closed through the end of the week.

Wednesday evening Holy Eucharist with Healing, followed by Faith & Fellowship, and Stations of the Cross on Friday will continue as scheduled.

If you have a pastoral emergency or need immediate assistance during this time, please reach out to Fr. John+.

From Fr. John

I was reading the Passion Gospel, which we will hear on Sunday, and I particularly noticed Matthew's telling of the Garden of Gethsemane story. It seems to me that Jesus was praying a prayer that we all pray, more often than we might like to admit. "Dear God, please make all this just go away!" Whether it is an illness, work stresses, family upheaval, or something else that we would like to "pray away," Jesus prayed it perfectly. "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; ..."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached on this passage from Matthew and said that we need to learn how to get from "let this cup pass from me," to "not what I want, but what you want." He said, "This, you see, is the thing that determines whether you go through life devoted to an eternal cause or whether you go through life depending on your own finite answers, which really turn out to be no answers. This is the thing that determines whether you can rise out of your egocentric predicament to devotion to a higher cause."

Taking Dr. King's point in a slightly different direction, we need to get to "not what I want, but what you want," because most times we need to quit asking God to help us with our personal problems. Instead, we need to ask God what we can do to help God. We are, after all, the Body of Christ in the world. We need to be about God's work, no matter what is happening in our lives. And amazingly, if we focus on doing God's work in the world, all of those "cups that we would like to have pass from us," become much less annoying, or at least less important.

Focus on the work that God has given us to do and everything else will slowly but surely take care of itself. And even if it does not take care of itself, the peace that comes from following where God leads will make our problems seem much easier to handle.

Have a blessed Holy Week,
Fr. John+



Lenten Opportunities

- **Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist & Healing Service**- 5:15 p.m. in the Chapel
- **Stations of the Cross** - Friday at 12:15 p.m. in the Church



Tonight

Dinner: 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall
[Delicious entree, salad, bread, dessert]
[\$5 for adults; FREE ages 18 & under]

JEYC/EYC: 6:30 p.m. in Youth Building
Adult Class: 6:30 p.m. in Parlor
Season 3 of *The Chosen*

Ministry Fund Assistance

During March, St. James was able to assist several families with utilities, rent, and gas expenses. This was all due to your generosity. The need is always great as you are aware.



Please remember that the first Sunday "loose plate" collection (cash) is designated for the Ministry Fund, and we welcome donations by check as well - please make checks payable to St. James with Ministry Fund written in the check's Memo section. Thank you!



This Saturday - Make Palm Crosses

No previous experience needed!
Training offered on the spot!

Saturday - April 1st
9:30 a.m. - Parish Hall
Fellowship, coffee, snacks!

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of the Palms followed by the Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. - Front of Chapel

10:30 a.m. Patio off Parish Hall - Procession into Church

[Coffee hour follows service in Parish Hall.]

TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK

10:30 a.m. Diocesan Chrism Mass with Renewal of Ordination Vows - Church

WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK

Regular Faith & Fellowship

5:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing Service - Chapel

6:00 p.m. Dinner - Parish Hall

6:30 p.m. EYC - Youth Building

6:45 p.m. Adult Class - Parlor

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing - Church

7:30 p.m. - 7:30 a.m. Vigil - Chapel

[Sign up in the Narthex or Parish Hall.]

GOOD FRIDAY

12:15 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday - Church

1:15 p.m. Meditations on Last Seven Words of Christ - Church

2:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Church

HOLY SATURDAY

THE GREAT VIGIL of EASTER

10:00 a.m. Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday - Chancel

6:00 p.m. Convocational Celebration - Kindling of the new fire, lighting of the Paschal Candle, followed by the first Festival Eucharist of Easter

[Nursery Available]

EASTER DAY

THE GREAT FESTIVAL of the RESURRECTION

9:00 a.m. Easter Brunch - Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Parlor [Ages 5 and Younger]

Easter Egg Hunt - Youth Building [Ages 6 - 10]

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Flowering of the Cross - Church

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, April 10, 2023.

Maundy Thursday Vigil Returns

Jesus said, "could you not stay awake with me one hour?" Matthew 26:40 (NRSV)

The Maundy Thursday (Thursday in Holy Week) liturgy is a

very powerful one. But perhaps the most moving part of the service comes at the end, when the altar area of the church is stripped of everything that makes it look grand, and perhaps all that makes it look "occupied." The end of the Maundy Thursday service reminds us of that place and time in which Jesus was arrested and taken away, leaving the Disciples alone.



The period of time between The Last Supper and sunrise on Good Friday is commemorated by a Gethsemane Watch, or Maundy Thursday Vigil. Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex and Parish Hall for those who would like to stay in the Chapel for one overnight hour beginning Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. continuing through Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. More than one person may sign up for each hour. There will be a Sheriff's deputy on premises all night for security. There will be reading and prayer resources available for those who participate.



Easter Flower Memorials

It is the custom of St. James at Easter to invite our parish family to make a contribution to the glory of God and in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a loved one. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those we love, but these gifts allow for the festive decoration of the church.

If this is your wish, please send your donation along with the names of those you wish to remember to the church office no later than **Tuesday, April 4th**. Offering envelopes are also in the church pew racks. (You may email the names to the office for clarity in spelling, as well: rita@stjamesla.org.)

Eggs Needed

St. James is having a hunt!
An egg hunt!
Actually 2 egg hunts!

Easter Day at 9:30 a.m.!



One for children ages 5 and under will be in the patio off the Parish Hall.
The other one for ages 6 - 10 in the area around the Denley Patio.

Donations of pre-wrapped candy are being accepted!
Place in the blue crate in the Parish Hall.

Worship



April 2nd

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Bishop +Jake will Preach and Celebrate

In-person Worship at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Childcare is available for the 10:30 AM service.

[Click on this link to join the 10:30 AM service.](#)

April 2, 2023
Evening Prayer
Online @ 5:00 PM



[Click on this link to join Evening Prayer.](#)

Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077

Passcode: 1620

[Click here for the order of service & reading.](#)

Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

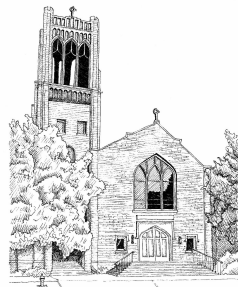
Rita Klock, Lisa Harp, Belle Chatelain, Eleanor, Stephanie and Baby Stark, Carli, Fr. John, Lacy Shaw, Sam Bejach, Gary and Becky Maxwell, Lawrence, Liz McSween, Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Kip Hogue, Charles, Jim Bristol, Ellen Moore, Mother Meredith Ward, Pat Carter, Jack Dewitt, Sr., Beth Hebert, Rita & Bill Clancey, Jimmy Hurt, Carol Rowe, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, Donnie Hayes, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Bill and Beverly Jarvis, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Laura Murchison, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Richard Norem, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Bernard Parker, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Shannon Norman, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Stacy and Richard, Chase Barnfield, Taylor Thompson, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Dietrich DeBoer, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Donna House, Dayna Hill, Jane Tyson, Gerard, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

Kyle Jordan, Josh Duff, Samuel Hayes, Franklin Watson, Kyle Jordan, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in April (day):

Tucker McLure (1), Johnny Downs (2), Babson Fresh (5), Foster Walker (5), Bubba Flournoy (7), Laura Johnson (9), Jeff Matthews (10), L. B. Matthews (12), Michael Jurgensen (16), Rita Klock (17), Clay Ray (21), Vivian Cabrera (22), Linda Hargrove (23), Stephen Dubois (25), Jennifer Higginbotham (25), Fred Alexius (29), Kathy Kingsley (30).



Visit our Website

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