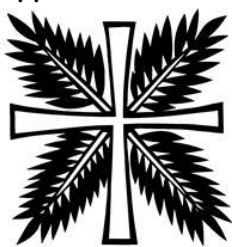




1656 Lincoln Way, McKeesport, PA 15131 + (412) 673-2296 + faithwhiteoak.com

Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025

Remember Us



On this Sunday of the Passion, the gathered church remembers the final days of Jesus' life. Once the celebratory palm branches are set down, the mood shifts as the somber tones of betrayal and crucifixion take over. The Lukan narrative draws us into the details, and we remember the extent of God's passion for us as Jesus enters into the depths of suffering

through divine selfless love poured out for the sake of the world.

There is power in remembering. To be sure, this is an exercise of memory and recall for us. Yet Holy Week is much more than that. In our remembering of Jesus' passion, our reality is re-membered with God's reality. Like members of a body, we are re-membered onto Christ, formed into one through the Spirit, and drawn into the reality of God's saving love. Through scripture, song, and prayer, the liturgy of this day re-members us as God's people as we bear witness to Jesus' remembrance of us.

In the culminating moment of the crucifixion, only Luke's gospel reports the exchange between the two criminals and Jesus. The one criminal chastises the other before he addresses the crucified Jesus, saying, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42). The request is for more than an act of recall; the criminal is seeking to be re-membered in the dominion of God, seeking a fusion of realities—his with Jesus'. Without hesitation, Jesus responds, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (v. 43). The criminal will be *with* Jesus, re-membered to Jesus.

This Sunday we remember Jesus' passion as together we are joined to God's loving action for the world. Jesus' last breath on the cross is the moment when our reality is re-membered with God's, for Jesus remembers us, and paradise's reign is realized.

Presiding Minister: Rev. Randy Marburger

Worship Leader: Dr. Wendy S. Farone, Vicar

Assisting Minister: Daisy Shields

Lector: Kathy Morgan

Organist: Drew Pogyor

Altar Care: Loran Bohman

The Sanctuary Light: is given to the Glory of God.

The Columbarium Light: is given by Loran Bohman in memory of Mother, Marilyn Bohman.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance Hymn **Refer to Worship Booklet**

Hymn of the day **Refer to Worship Booklet**

Communion Hymns **ELW 339 Christ, the life of All the Living**
ELW 332 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
ELW 343 My Song is Love Unknown

Sending Hymn **Refer to Worship Booklet**

Communion- If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, you can either stand at the step or stay in your seat and Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is acceptable.

Membership- There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any and all congregation activities; and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your request for membership.

April 2, 2025 Evening Prayer: 28

April 6, 2025: 31

Bible Storytelling, April 8, 2025:

Maundy Thursday Service, April 17, 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service, April 18, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, Service, April 20, 10:00 am

Lenten Suppers

We are very grateful for all of those who cooked, cleaned, planned, and participated in the Wednesday evening Lenten suppers. This time of breaking bread together reinforces not only our fellowship but our relationships with God and each other as we share in the blessing of the nourishment of our spirits and our bodies.

Understanding Church

Vicar Wendy Farone and Pastor Dan Smail invite you to listen to the newly rebranded podcast, Understanding Church. If you have never listened to podcasts, you are in for a treat! Stop by Vicar Wendy's office and she will set you up on your phone to engage in learning about the church, Lutheranism, and each other. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or visit www.belc.org/podcast. Let Vicar Wendy know your ideas for future podcasts!

Church Council Meeting: Thursday, April 24th 12:30 pm

Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, April 26th, 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Bible Storytelling News

We will not meet on Tuesday, April 15th due to Holy Week. Hope to see everybody, however, on Thursday, Friday and Easter Sunday.

Upcoming Commemorations

**Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church
Saturday, April 19, 2025**

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.