

Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Davis Bay, BC

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

If possible, the assembly gathers at a designated place outside the usual worship space, so that all may enter in procession. Palm branches, or branches of other trees and shrubs, are distributed before the service begins.

ACCLAMATION (page 256 in the front of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*)

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. (Repeat 3x)

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to St Luke 19:28-40

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen,

³⁸saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop."

⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

BLESSING OF THE BRANCHES

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.* We praise you, O God,
for redeeming the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king
by those who spread garments and branches along his way.**

Bless these branches and those of us who carry them.

**Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,
so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you;
through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSION

Let us go forth in peace **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #344 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

(v.3 – piano only; chorus – All; v.4 – unaccompanied; chorus – piano and all)

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. *Refrain*
- 2 The company of angels are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

The hymn may be sung as the people process into the church or once all have taken their places.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

Silence is kept.

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens — wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel - The Story of our Lord's Passion according to St. Luke 22:14-23:56

From "The Message" by Eugene Peterson

Following the reading, a time of silence is kept for meditation and prayer

The Story of our Lord's Passion and Death from Luke 22: 14 – 23:56

14 When it was time, he sat down, all the apostles with him, **15** and said, "You've no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering. **16** It's the last one I'll eat until we all eat it together in the kingdom of God." **17** Taking the cup, he blessed it, then said, "Take this and pass it among you. **18** As for me, I'll not drink wine again until the kingdom of God arrives." **19** Taking bread, he blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, given for you. Eat it in my memory." **20** He did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant written in my blood, blood poured out for you.

21 "Do you realize that the hand of the one who is betraying me is at this moment on this table? **22** It's true that the Son of Man is going down a path already marked out - no surprises there. But for the one who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man, this is doomsday." **23** They immediately became suspicious of each other and began quizzing one another, wondering who might be about to do this. **24** Within minutes they were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest. **25** But Jesus intervened: "Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. **26** It's not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. **27** "Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You'd rather eat and be served, right? But I've taken my place among you as the one who serves. **28** And you've stuck with me through thick and thin. **29** Now I confer on you the royal authority my Father conferred on me **30** so you can eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and be strengthened as you take up responsibilities among the congregations of God's people.

31 "Simon, stay on your toes. Satan has tried his best to separate all of you from me, like chaff from wheat. **32** Simon, I've prayed for you in particular that you not give in or give out. When you have come through the time of testing, turn to your companions and give them a fresh start." **33** Peter said, "Master, I'm ready for anything with you. I'd go to jail for you. I'd die for you!" **34** Jesus said, "I'm sorry to have to tell you this, Peter, but before the rooster crows you will have three times denied that you know me."

35 Then Jesus said, "When I sent you out and told you to travel light, to take only the bare necessities, did you get along all right?" "Certainly," they said, "we got along just fine." **36** He said, "This is different. Get ready for trouble. Look to what you'll need; there are difficult times ahead. Pawn your coat and get a sword. **37** What was written in Scripture, 'He was lumped in with the criminals,' gets its final meaning in me. Everything written about me is now coming to a conclusion." **38** They said, "Look, Master, two swords!" But he said, "Enough of that; no more sword talk!" **39** Leaving there, he went, as he so often did, to Mount Olives. The disciples followed him. **40** When they arrived at the place, he said, "Pray that you don't give in to temptation." **41** He pulled away from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, **42** "Father, remove this cup from me. But please, not what I want. What do you want?" **43** At once an angel from heaven was at his side, strengthening him. **44** He prayed on all the harder. Sweat, wrung from him like drops of blood, poured off his face. **45** He got up from prayer, went back to the disciples and found them asleep, drugged by grief. **46** He said, "What business do you have sleeping? Get up. Pray so you won't give in to temptation."

47 No sooner were the words out of his mouth than a crowd showed up, Judas, the one from the Twelve, in the lead. He came right up to Jesus to kiss him. **48** Jesus said, "Judas, you would betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" **49** When those with him saw what was happening, they said, "Master, shall we fight?" **50** One of them took a swing at the Chief Priest's servant and cut off his right ear. **51** Jesus said, "Let them be. Even in this." Then, touching the servant's ear, he healed him. **52** Jesus spoke to those who had come - high priests, Temple police, religion leaders: "What is this, jumping me with swords and clubs as if I were a dangerous criminal? **53** Day after day I've been with you in the Temple and you've not so much as lifted a hand against me. But do it your way - it's a dark night, a dark hour." **54** Arresting Jesus, they marched him off and took him into the house of the Chief Priest. Peter followed, but at a safe distance.

55 In the middle of the courtyard some people had started a fire and were sitting around it, trying to keep warm. **56** One of the serving maids sitting at the fire noticed him, then took a second look and said, "This man was with him!" **57** He denied it, "Woman, I don't even know him." **58** A short time later, someone else noticed him and said, "You're one of them." But Peter denied it: "Man, I am not." **59** About an hour later, someone else spoke up, really adamant: "He's got to have been with him! He's got 'Galilean' written all over him." **60** Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about." At that very moment, the last word hardly off his lips, a rooster crowed. **61** Just then, the Master turned and looked at Peter. Peter remembered what the Master had said to him: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." **62** He went out and cried and cried and cried.

63 The men in charge of Jesus began poking fun at him, slapping him around. **64** They put a blindfold on him and taunted, "Who hit you that time?" **65** They were having a grand time with him. **66** When it was morning, the religious leaders of the people and the high priests and scholars all got together and brought him before their High Council. **67** They said, "Are you the Messiah?" **68** If I asked what you meant by your question, you wouldn't answer me. **69** So here's what I have to say: From here on the Son of Man takes his place at God's right hand, the place of power." **70** They all said, "So you admit you claim to be the Son of God?" "You're the ones who keep saying it," he said. **71** But they had made up their minds, "Why do we need any more evidence? We've all heard him as good as say it himself."

Luke 23:1-56

1 Then they all took Jesus to Pilate **2**and began to bring up charges against him. They said, "We found this man undermining our law and order, forbidding taxes to be paid to Caesar, setting himself up as Messiah-King." **3** Pilate asked him, "Is this true that you're 'King of the Jews'?" "Those are your words, not mine," Jesus replied. **4** Pilate told the high priests and the accompanying crowd, "I find nothing wrong here. He seems harmless enough to me. **5** But they were vehement. "He's stirring up unrest among the people with his teaching, disturbing the peace everywhere, starting in Galilee and now all through Judea. He's a dangerous man, endangering the peace."

6 When Pilate heard that, he asked, "So, he's a Galilean?" **7** Realizing that he properly came under Herod's jurisdiction, he passed the buck to Herod, who just happened to be in Jerusalem for a few days. **8** Herod was delighted when Jesus showed up. He had wanted for a long time to see him, he'd heard so much about him. He hoped to see him do something spectacular. **9** He peppered him with questions. Jesus didn't answer - not one word. **10** But the high priests and religion scholars were right there, saying their piece, strident and shrill in their accusations. **11** Mightily offended, Herod turned on Jesus. His soldiers joined in, taunting and jeering. Then they dressed him up in an elaborate king costume and sent him back to Pilate. **12** That day Herod and Pilate became thick as thieves. Always before they had kept their distance.

13 Then Pilate called in the high priests, rulers, and the others **14**and said, "You brought this man to me as a disturber of the peace. I examined him in front of all of you and found there was nothing to your charge **15** And neither did Herod, for he has sent him back here with a clean bill of health. It's clear that he's done nothing wrong, let alone anything deserving death. **16** I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go." **18** At that, the crowd went wild: "Kill him! Give us Barabbas!" **19** (Barabbas had been thrown in prison for starting a riot in the city and for murder. **20** Pilate still wanted to let Jesus go, and so spoke out again. **21** But they kept shouting back, "Crucify! Crucify him! **22** He tried a third time. "But for what crime? I've found nothing in him deserving death. I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go." **23** But they kept at it, a shouting mob, demanding that he be crucified.

And finally they shouted him down. **24** Pilate caved in and gave them what they wanted. **25** He released the man thrown in prison for rioting and murder, and gave them Jesus to do whatever they wanted. **26** As they led him off, they made Simon, a man from Cyrene who happened to be coming in from the countryside, carry the cross behind Jesus. **27** A huge crowd of people followed, along with women weeping and carrying on. **28** At one point Jesus turned to the women and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, don't cry for me. Cry for yourselves and for your children. **29** The time is coming when they'll say, 'Lucky the women who never conceived! Lucky the wombs that never gave birth! Lucky the breasts that never gave milk!' **30** Then they'll start calling to the mountains, 'Fall down on us!' calling to the hills, 'Cover us up!' **31** If people do these things to a live, green tree, can you imagine what they'll do with deadwood?"

32 Two others, both criminals, were taken along with him for execution. **33** When they got to the place called Skull Hill, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. **34** Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; they don't know what they're doing." **35** The people stood there staring at Jesus, and the ringleaders made faces, taunting, "He saved others. Let's see him save himself! The Messiah of God - ha! The Chosen - ha!" **36** The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him, making a game of it. They toasted him with sour wine **37** "So you're King of the Jews! Save yourself!" **38** Printed over him was a sign: this is the king of the jews

39 One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: "Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!" **40** But the other one made him shut up: "Have you no fear of God? You're getting the same as him. **41** We deserve this, but not him - he did nothing to deserve this." **42** Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom." **43** He said, "Don't worry, I will. Today you will join me in paradise." **44** By now it was noon. The whole earth became dark, the darkness lasting three hours - **45** a total blackout. The Temple curtain split right down the middle. **46** Jesus called loudly, "Father, I place my life in your hands!" Then he breathed his last. **47** When the captain there saw what happened, he honored God: "This man was innocent! A good man, and innocent!" **48** All who had come around as spectators to watch the show, when they saw what actually happened, were overcome with grief and headed home.

49 Those who knew Jesus well, along with the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a respectful distance and kept vigil. **50** There was a man by the name of Joseph, a member of the Jewish High Council, a man of good heart and good character. **51** He had not gone along with the plans and actions of the council. His hometown was the Jewish village of Arimathea. **52** He lived in alert expectation of the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. **53** Taking him down, he wrapped him in a linen shroud and placed him in a tomb chiseled into the rock, a tomb never yet used. **54** It was the day before Sabbath, the Sabbath just about to begin. **55** The women who had been companions of Jesus from Galilee followed along. They saw the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. **56** Then they went back to prepare burial spices and perfumes. They rested quietly on the Sabbath, as commanded.

MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY #666 **"What Wondrous Love"** *Please rise if able*

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith with all the children of Sarah and Abraham in the words of the ancient Jewish *Shema*:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

You shall love the Lord your God

with all your heart,

with all your soul,

with all your mind,

and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like unto it:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Be seated*

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need, saying, "Merciful God" and responding "**Receive our prayer.**" *A brief silence is kept.*

We pray for the church, called to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Make us unflinching servants of the gospel. Deliver us from hardship as we confront the forces of injustice and practice radical compassion. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the earth and all its inhabitants, created in love: Train us to recognize your divine goodness in the world around us. Rouse in us a reverence for creation, that we take greater care of its resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those in positions of authority called to lead with integrity and compassion: Supply them with courage and vulnerability when challenged with new ideas. Deliver them from fear that limits imagination and impedes justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those who suffer, waiting expectantly for mercy and consolation: Accompany those who feel abandoned or betrayed, defend those who are wrongly accused, and embrace those who are incarcerated or detained. Heal those who are ill, grieving, or caring for those who cannot safely care for themselves (*especially those we bring before you now in silence or aloud. . .*).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For Christians around the world, preparing this week to journey with Jesus to the cross: Reveal to us once again the earthshaking power of humble service, unmerited forgiveness, and sacrificial love. Lead us all from death to life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We remember those who have died (*especially Dorcas, Gwen, Freda and Hildegard*), who were commended into your hands. Remember us when you come into your kingdom, and prepare a place for each of us with you in paradise. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE/OFFERING/OFFERTORY *A musical reflection is played as the table is set*

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. **Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Brother and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed are you, O living God,
sovereign of time and space.

You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.
Your word leads us across the sea to freedom,
and you have carried us together to this holiest of all weeks.
Blessed be your name forever!

Blessed are you, O living God,
for your glory revealed in Jesus Christ.
He is our King who shows his power in weakness.
He is our Servant, who washes our feet with love.
He is our Lamb, whose blood takes away our sin.
He is our Host at this meal, offering us the cup of salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed . . .
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Blessed are you, O living God,
for the gift of your loving Spirit.
Fill this meal and us with the life of your Son.

Make us servants of one another and of everyone in need.
Bring us with all your people to the joy of the resurrection.
Blessed be your name forever! Amen. Amen. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (*sung to the usual melody*)

**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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

FRACTION (*The bread is broken*)

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

INVITATION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**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.**

The servers are invited to come forward and prepare for distribution

HYMN BEFORE AND DURING THE MEAL #496 "One Bread, One Body"

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

SHARING OF THE MEAL *As directed by the presider*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, **you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in this last week of our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN #346 "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty v. 3 – piano only

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the
 2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
 4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -
 pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring
 pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
 gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Music: THE KING'S MAJESTY, Graham George, 1912–1993

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POSTLUDE AND DISMISSAL

All are invited to join us for the services during Holy Week. This Thursday (Maundy Thursday), our gathering begins at 6 p.m. with a simple meal of soup and bread. Worship with Holy Communion (also known as “The Lord’s Supper”) begins at 7 p.m.

On Friday, Good Friday, our worship begins at noon. It is a plain and yet profound service focussed on the Passion and Death of our Lord, the confession of our sins, and the “adoration” of the cross.

Next Sunday, Easter—the Feast of our Lord’s Resurrection—the festival worship begins at 9.30 and includes hymns of joy, lots of special music, and hot cross buns, easter eggs and coffee/tea following the service. Not only is everyone invited to share our worship that morning but any and all are welcome to bring some easter eggs (hard-boiled and, if possible, decorated) to share.

Holy Week, also known as the “Great Week”, is the last of the six week season of Lent. Easter morning marks the first Sunday in the seven-week season of Easter (a week of weeks). From our journey through Lent, begun with the signing of ashes on Ash Wednesday, we continue our journey through Easter to the Feast of Pentecost 50 days after Easter. Easter and its seven Sundays after Easter are the very heart of our Christian calendar and its message of Life in Christ and Life with Christ is at the heart of our faith. So please join us and share our confident hope and deep gladness.