

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

March 31, 2022

Upcoming Events.

Church Work Day

4/2 Sat, 9:00 a.m.

Hosanna Chalk Art & Palm Cross Making

4/9 Sat, 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation/Palm Sunday

4/10 Sun, 10:00 a.m.

Holy Week Noon Day Services

4/11-4/13 Mon-Wed, 12:10 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

4/14 Thur, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

4/15 Fri, 7:00 p.m.

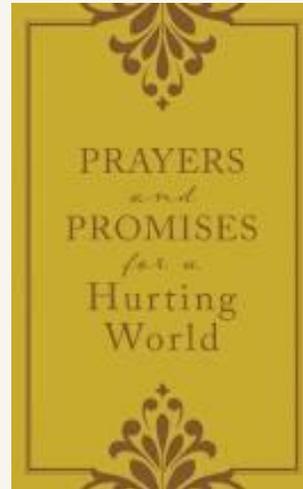
Easter Resurrection Sunday

4/17 Sun, 10:00 a.m.

In This Issue

God's Promises
Church Grounds Cleanup Day
Change in Communion Protocols
Easter Egg Fillers
Palm Sunday/Confirmation Sunday
Holy Week

God's Promises



An excerpt taken from
*Prayers and Promises
for a Hurting World,*
a devotional by Laura Freudig.

*"I will give them an undivided heart and
put a new spirit in them; I will remove
from them their heart of stone and
give them a heart of flesh"*
Ezekiel 11:19

Dear Lord, I long to smash the idols that have grown between us, but sometimes I don't even recognize them. All I see are habits, personality quirks, tendencies, and tastes, while You see false gods to which I am bowing without even realizing it.

I ask You to show me what I have propped up on Your altar. Show me my heart, Lord, and help me give back to

[Easter Lilies](#)
[New Sign](#)
[Ladies' Luncheon](#)
[Search Process](#)
[Youth & Children's Ministry](#)
[Giving Opportunities](#)
[Weekly Calendar & Schedule](#)
[Helpful Links](#)

Sunday Worship Service:
10:00 a.m.--Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary

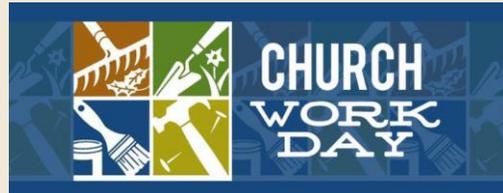
[Visit our website](#)

You the parts of it that have been devoted to something or someone other than You. I long to return to You. But You are holy and righteous and altogether different; to my sinful heart, holiness feels like loss. Make me brave in stepping toward You and leaving behind what hinders me. Sometimes it feels like trying to walk on water. How will I stay afloat without those precious habits, personality quirks, tendencies, and tastes I think are holding me up? I long to be held up only by You, but I'm scared, Lord. You are the water under my feet. You are the air buffeting me. You are the hands reaching out to hold me. Give me the faith to step out of the boat and know I don't need solid ground under my feet. *You* are the only solid ground. Idols will sink, and You will bear me up. Amen.

Seek God! Pray!
Give it ALL to Him!

Church Grounds Cleanup Day

Church Work Day
THIS Saturday, April 2nd,
Beginning at 9:00 a.m.



John Wandel, our Junior Warden, and Doug Wayland, our volunteer Sexton, are organizing a list of tasks that need to be done around our property to make it look lovely for Bishop Reed's visit April 10th and for Easter Sunday, April 17th.

Some of the tasks on the list are:

In the sanctuary: dusting the pew kneelers, tidying up areas that have become cluttered, and cleaning any other areas that need attention.

In the courtyard: adding mulch to the flower beds in the courtyard, trimming trees, cleaning the columns, painting the wrought iron bench, and varnishing the wood benches around the oak trees.

Please consider coming to lend a hand to beautify our church home.

Change in Communion Protocol

Return of the Common Cup at Communion



All restrictions have been lifted pertaining to COVID protocols. We will now have the option to drink from the common cup. But we will also have the option to intinct (dip) into a chalice used just for intinction. So, there will be two chalices. The Lay Eucharistic Minister will present the chalice for sipping, and an acolyte will hold the chalice to be used for intinction. The Lay Eucharist Minister will say the words prior to intinction while the acolyte presents the chalice to the person who wants to intinct. This will add a level of safety for those who may be concerned about partaking from the common cup.

Easter Egg Fillers

Need Easter Egg Fillers for Easter Egg Hunt Due THIS Sunday



We need your help with our annual Easter Egg Hunt this year. There are plenty of plastic eggs, so we don't need those. However, we do need trinkets to fill the eggs, like stickers, Easter themed items small enough to put in the eggs, and candy. Of course, the parents probably prefer more non-edible fillers!

Please bring your donations to the church by **this Sunday, April 3rd**. There are boxes in the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall in which you may leave your gifts.

Our youth group members will begin stuffing the hundreds of eggs this Sunday during coffee hour. If you'd like to help, just look for the bins of eggs and join in the fun.

Palm Sunday & Confirmation Sunday

April 10th is Palm Sunday and Confirmation Sunday

Bishop Reed will be here to celebrate Palm Sunday and Confirmation Sunday. There are five youth who are attending a confirmation class with Cindy Prowse and Fr. Rick. A reception will be held after the service in the fellowship hall, where the confirmands will be presented with their certificates and get the first slices of cake.

Bishop Reed will address the congregation after the presentation during coffee hour. Make plans to attend.

The loose offering and any designated gifts will be given to Bishop Reed's Discretionary Fund. He uses that fund to help churches and parishioners in various ways. Several years ago he supported two of our youth who went to China on a summer mission trip. Please consider giving a gift to support ministry through Bishop Reed.

This promises to be a special Sunday for all.



Holy Week

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week is the most significant week in our liturgical year. It begins with

Palm Sunday and concludes with the Easter Resurrection Service. There are services during the week that help us walk through the last week that Jesus was physically on this earth.

The Palm Sunday service and our Confirmation service will be the same Sunday, which makes for a morning full of celebration. This will be the first time, for us, that both liturgies will coincide.

For Easter Sunday, we're asking everyone to bring noise makers, which will be used every time "Alleluia" is said during the service. Kids, young and old, will have fun making "noise" during church! Click here for the [Holy Week Schedule](#).



Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies to Decorate the Altar

Every year we use Easter lilies to beautify our altar for the Easter Resurrection service. We need your help to do that.

There will be yellow inserts in your bulletins this Sunday to use to sign up to sponsor lilies. They cost \$13 each, and you may sponsor as many as you'd like. You may dedicate the lilies in memory of someone or in thanksgiving of a special someone or event in your life. The dedications will be printed on an insert in the bulletin for the Easter service. The deadline is Sunday, April 10th. You may take home your Easter lilies after the Easter Resurrection Service April 17th, or you may have them taken to nursing homes or to others who couldn't be with us Easter morning.



New Sign

Check Out Our New Sign!

It was installed Monday by Doug Wayland and Bill Bazar. It really looks wonderful.

Thank you to all who contributed to make the replacement of the old, dilapidated sign possible!



Ladies' Luncheon



We had a small group, but those who attended enjoyed delicious food, good fellowship, and lots of laughs!



Search Process

Links for Search Process Resources

Dear St. Mark's faithful,

Thank you for your persistent and consistent prayers for the Search Committee and the search process. We are continuing to meet and work together on behalf of all of us.



In my regular reading today, I can't help but wonder who the "Sanhedrin" and "Pharisees" are in our lives today, the people, especially leadership, that worry more about their own status and positions than they seem to care about the people in our world. We witness great acts of mercy, healing, friendship, and support exhibited and accomplished every day by Christians in the world, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And yet, Jesus and the Apostles are crucified over and over again. May we remember who we are and whose we are; and when we don't, may we repent and turn back into the love and grace of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Acts 4:13-22

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it. But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name." Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish

them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

God's Peace and Blessings,
John D.

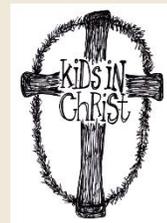
Here is a list of useful links to use during the search process for our new rector:
Parish Profile on St. Mark's [website](#)
Diocese of West Texas website [churches in transition](#)
Prayers during the search process: [prayers](#)

Youth and Children's Ministry

SEEK Youth Group and Kids in Christ

Kids in Christ

We'll gather at the church Saturday, April 9th at 10:00 a.m. to draw the Hosanna chalk art on the sidewalks around the sanctuary. Terry Wright is also going to teach us how to make crosses out of palm fronds.



Last Sunday we read and acted out the parable of the prodigal son. It is so good to be forgiven!

We also read about missionaries Ann and Adironam Judson. We are encouraged by their story to keep doing good! Even if you're not seeing results, God is working!!!

SEEK Youth Group

Five of our youth group (Libby, Colin, Alise, Kadynze, and Melody) are currently staying after church on Sundays for confirmation class with Fr. Rick and Mrs. Prowse. Confirmation Sunday is April 10th. Those of you not in the class are invited to hang out with Kids in Christ until noon. We will wait until after Easter to resume our 4:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon gatherings.



Youth not in confirmation class, parents of children in Kids in Christ, and anyone else who would like to help, please stay after church THIS Sunday to fill eggs for our hunt on Easter Sunday. An Easter basket overflowing with eggs is one small way to demonstrate the abundant life we have in Christ!

Feel free to text prayers requests in our group chat or to Mrs. Molly anytime.

Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S CHURCH!

Is the Lord blessing you? Are you grateful for what He has done in your life? Remember His Church. Though we have experienced limitations for worshiping together, we still have ministries to support and salaries and bills to pay. Give out of faith, thanksgiving, and generosity, and never out of guilt. If you are blessed to be able to give, here are the four ways to do that:



- Online through our website. There is a blue "Giving" button at the bottom of each page. Just click on that and it will take you to our online EGiving page. You will need to set up a user profile, and then you can set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts. You can also give through the ["Donate to St. Mark's"](#) link.
- **NEW APP**----Through your cell phone using the app, Vanco Mobile. To get the app, go to the app store and search for "Vanco Mobile". The icon background is dark purple with a white circle and a purple letter "V" in the center. Download the app and follow the prompts. You can use it to set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts.
- Mail in your check to: St. Mark's Church, 2727 Airline Rd, CC, TX 78414. We have a drop-in mailbox that is locked at all times. We check the mail every day, so your check will be secure.
- Drop your check off at the church. Just put it in the locked mailbox to the left of the red doors at the fellowship hall.

**THANK YOU for helping spread the Kingdom
through your continuing support
of St. Mark's Church.**

Weekly Calendar

Calendar & Ministry Schedule

Here is the [link](#) to the April schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

April 2 - Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Church Work Day--Sanctuary and Courtyard

April 3 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. - Kids in Christ--Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. - Youth Confirmation Class--Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. - SEEK Youth Group **will not meet**

April 5 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m. - Women's Group--Jason's Deli, 1416 Airline

6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples

7:00 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Online--Zoom

April 6 - Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Location to be determined.

12:00 p.m. - Noon Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall

5:30 p.m. - Search Committee Meeting--Fellowship Hall

April 9 - Saturday

10:00 a.m. - Hosanna Chalk Art & Palm Cross Making--Sanctuary

Helpful Links

Below you will find several links to websites or Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.

[St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#)

[Donate to St. Mark's Church](#)

[St. Mark's Church Facebook Page](#)

[Diocese of West Texas](#)

[Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine](#)

Denison Forum--News Discerned Differently

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