

**PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**  
March 25  
**WORSHIP at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.**  
(Sunday School at 9:30)

A procession with palms as the congregation sings, "Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" leads us into the events of Holy Week. Our pastors will provide our meditations.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
March 29, 7:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided)

This night, we will close off the time of repentance begun on Ash Wednesday. Being reconciled to God and to one another, Maundy Thursday leads into an experience of celebrating God's gift of salvation in the person and passion of Jesus Christ. Holy Communion and the concluding act of stripping the altar prepare us for the solemnity of Good Friday and Holy Saturday. The Confirmands will participate in a ceremonial foot washing.

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE**  
March 30, 7:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided)

This worship service, called Tenebrae, is a Holy Week devotion dating from the seventh century. The name, meaning "shadows," refers to the gradual casting of the church into darkness as the events of that holy day are revealed through music and the Word.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Saturday, March 31, 9:00 A.M.  
Fox Hill Campus

This event is for children of Gloria Dei and the community ages 2-6 and is sponsored by Gloria Dei's Youth Groups.

**THE FESTIVAL OF THE  
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**Sunday, April 1**  
**WORSHIP at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.**  
(No Sunday School)

"He is not here, he is risen," is the principal proclamation of the Church on Easter that God has triumphed over sin and death and, through the gift of the resurrection, offers the blessings and the assurances of His kingdom to all who believe.

Easter worship employs our fullest resources in praising God. The sounds, colors, taste, and even the smell of Easter lilies help raise God's people to adoration of the one who "makes all things new!"



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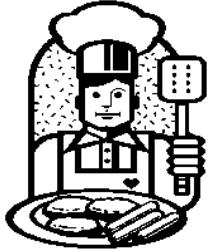
# LENT TO EASTER 2018

## THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS

"Brothers and sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of his creation. But sin separates us from God...as disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love are the discipline of Lent and help us to maintain our spiritual vitality and wholeness."

These words are taken from the opening of the Ash Wednesday service and set the tone for this holy time. They speak of what it means to walk in the light and shadow of the cross of Christ. Join us as we journey together in this holy season to renew and refresh our faith. Our worship takes an introspective turn as we encourage our worshipping congregation to examine their own faith, piety, and spirituality. Our worship is decidedly meditative, and our music is notably quieter and more solemn and contemplative. Holy Communion will be offered each Sunday. Postludes have been eliminated to encourage private prayer at the end of worship (and at the beginning!). Our altar colors reflect the penitential emphasis of the season and the anticipation of the resurrection of our Sovereign Lord and King. The church bells will be silent until Easter morning. Members are asked to focus on prayer, meditation, and their personal faith journey this season.

**SHROVE TUESDAY  
ANNUAL PANCAKE SUPPER  
February 13**



From 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., you are invited for pancakes, sausage, fruit cocktail, juice, and hot drinks. The Youth Groups will serve, and our own Al Scherrer, Jr., will make his delicious pancakes! Donations will be accepted. Proceeds will be given to the Virginia Synod's *Forwarding Faith* campaign which will provide permanent funding for its youth and faith formation ministries such as its annual youth events, ACTS program, and Power in the Spirit.

**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14  
WORSHIP at 7:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided)**

Ash Wednesday is the doorway to the season of Lent. The spirit of this service is solemn but not sad, dealing with our need for reconciliation with God. This will be a service of Holy Communion, and the optional order for the Imposition of Ashes will be offered. Nursery provided.

**Wednesday, February 21**

**Menu:** Pasta Night, salad, garlic bread  
**Movie:** *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part I*  
**Worship:** *Joyous Light*  
**Message:** Focus on St. Peter  
**Dessert**

**Wednesday, February 28**

**Menu:** Hot roast beef sandwiches, mac n' cheese, salad  
**Movie:** *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part II*  
**Worship:** *Joyous Light*  
**Message:** Focus on St. James  
**Dessert**

**Wednesday, March 7**

**Menu:** Grilled burgers, french fries, salad  
**Movie:** *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part III*  
**Worship:** *Joyous Light*  
**Message:** Focus on St. Paul  
**Dessert**

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Menu:** Pizza, wings, salad  
**Movie:** *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part IV*  
**Worship:** *Joyous Light*  
**Message:** Focus on The Emperors  
**Dessert**

**Wednesday, March 21**

**Menu:** Hot dogs, chili, tater tots, salad  
**Movie:** *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part V*  
**Worship:** *Joyous Light*  
**Message:** Focus on Women of the Early Church  
**Dessert**

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT  
February 21 – March 21**

**DINNER AND A MOVIE 5:30 P.M.  
EVENING PRAYER 7:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided)**

This year, our Lenten series will focus on the formative period of Christianity beginning with the birth of Christ and tracing the development of early Christianity through the third century. Along with a five-part video series, *From Jesus to Christ, The First Christians*, produced by Frontline. Our pastors will be preaching on those whose lives most critically affected the rise of Christianity in the early centuries.

Our format will be familiar to many. We begin the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday continuing for five weeks until Palm Sunday. We begin with a delicious dinner served in our Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m., serving continuously until 6:45 p.m. A limited vegetarian option will be available.

At 6:00 p.m., our evening video presentation will begin in the Fellowship Hall and run until worship begins in our Nave at 7:00 p.m.

Worship will include Evening Vespers, and our sermons will focus on five people who were influential in the formation of the early church: St. Peter, St. Paul, St. James, Emperors Augustus, Nero and Claudius, and Women of the Early Church.

Worship will conclude with dessert (provided by the Daybreakers) and conversation in the coffee bar and Simeon Center, allowing time for questions on both the video presentation and the evening's sermon focus.