



THE Messenger

Vol. 19, No. 8

A Newsletter of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church of Antioch, Illinois

April 2019



Strength...

After several attempts of twisting and tapping, the lid just wouldn't budge. "Honey, can you open this for me?" Her teenage son is eager to flex his muscles. He opens the jar and hands it back to his mother.

Life is often like that jar, isn't it? At times we just don't have the strength we need to tackle what's in front of us. Not the strength it takes to move a piano or change a flat tire, but the strength we need to raise our children or stay married to someone who is difficult to live with. We need the strength it takes to go to work and deal with people who are rude, inconsiderate, and

lazy, or to walk to the mailbox to find the bills we'll have difficulty paying.

I need more strength!

"Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth... He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak... Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:28-31).

What should we do when we need more strength? Hand that jar over to the LORD. He has all the strength we need and so much more. After all, he is the One who created the earth and everything in it. More

than that, this strong, wise, loving God came to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. The all-powerful God came in human weakness to rescue us from sin and death. He was condemned and crucified. Weakness, right? No! Strength!

Jesus used his strength to remain on that cross until every last sin of ours had been paid for. His empty tomb proves it. "Jesus was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4). Death has been defeated! The guilt of sin before God has been removed! By trusting in Jesus, life in heaven is waiting for each of us.

Need more strength? The One who created the earth has it. The One who died and rose for you has it. He is the One who gives each of us the strength to face each new day with fresh confidence. Find that strength in his Word. And then get ready to soar. Be ready to soar on eagles' wings with renewed strength and soar even through the challenges of life! Be ready to soar on eagles' wings to the home that Jesus has prepared for you in heaven!

!! EASTER 4 KIDS !!

Need some 'kids free' time for some Easter candy shopping or a spring project? How about just a little quiet time for yourself? Your friends at Faith would love to help you out.

We would love to keep your children busy for a few hours on Saturday morning, April 13, during our annual Easter 4 Kids activity day for children who are currently three years old through those currently enrolled in 4th Grade. Please also let your friends and neighbors know about this FREE opportunity!

Advance registration and on-line registration are now available. Same day registration on April 13 will begin at 8:30 AM. But if you have pre-registered ahead of time you can simply drop off your children just a little bit before our starting time at 9:00 AM. We will have activities your children can join in as they arrive. We have a plan for

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FAITH...



EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
24300 W. Grass Lake Road
(at HWY 59) Antioch
847-293-6101

&

LUTHERAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Pre-K through Grade 8)
1275 Main Street, Antioch
847-395-1660

Worship Services Saturday 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 & 10:45 AM

Sunday School weekly at 9:30 AM

Adult Studies Sundays 9:30 AM & Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Visit us online...

www.faithantioch.org
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or on the radio!
WFEL 99.9 FM
Antioch

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keeping them busy from 8:30 AM until we get started at 9:00 AM. And they will certainly have goodies to bring home with them after, as well.

At Easter 4 Kids children enjoy crafts, music, story time, skits and games until you return to pick them up at 11:45 AM. Then at 11:45 AM there will be a fifteen minute sampling of what they learned about Jesus and the events of the first Easter as we close with a final devotion. You can be on your way by noon!

Sounds fun, doesn't it? for you and for the kids? For more details please watch our website, tune in 99.9 FM WFEL - our congregation's radio station - or contact Howie in the church office 847-395-1660 at any time.

Remember all the activities of our Easter 4 Kids day are **FREE** and **EVERYONE** is most welcome. Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. We hope to see you April 13!

Many Unique & Special Worship Services in April

The annual journey of Holy Week begins Palm Sunday April 14. Many holy days and services during the Christian observance of Holy Week and Easter truly have some odd sounding names. Many names tie today's activities to the history of the Christian church in special ways. Of course, Palm Sunday takes it's name from the procession that welcomed Jesus' arrival at Jerusalem.

The crowds shouted "hosanna" (Hebrew for: "Save us!") and waved palm branches. Others laid palm branches they cut and even their cloaks upon the road to pave the way for the donkey Jesus humbly rode into Jerusalem. Clearly the people of the day expected big things from Jesus as he arrived in such a way.

Maundy Thursday likely comes next on the radar of "odd" names of Holy Week elements. Thursday of Holy Week focuses on Jesus' observance of the Hebrew festival of Passover. He took great care in preparing for this celebration in an upper room in Jerusalem that would accommodate all of his disciples. During the meal Jesus took elements of the ancient feast, a loaf of bread and then a cup of wine, and instituted the "Lord's Supper."

But it is not from the Lord's Supper that the term "Maundy" comes into our usage. Rather it is the episode earlier in the evening when Jesus took the servant's role of washing his disciples' feet that prompts the term. The ancient Latin word for commandment is "*mandatum*." In Jesus' explanation of his foot washing he laid out a "new commandment": "love one another as I have loved you... [the world] will know that you are my disciples by the way you love one another." This commandment to love gives Maundy Thursday (*that sure sounds better now than "Commandment Thursday" doesn't it?*) it's name.

It would seem odd to call the day that follows Maundy Thursday "good" Friday since it is the annual remembrance of a brutal death on an ugly ancient cross. But Christians have long labeled the day "good" Friday because they understand and believe that Jesus' death on the cross is God's answer to the world's sin. Historically the Christian church has defined very specific services for different times of the day on Good Friday.

Most Good Friday observances have very little "incidental" music. Often the only music is hymns, psalms and songs that present the Scripture texts themselves or the truths they are convey-

ing. Silence in preparation and in dismissal is another unusual facet of Good Friday worship. The "Service of the Cross" customarily takes place between noon and three on Good Friday. Focusing specifically on the words Jesus spoke from the cross this service conveys the agony Jesus physically and spiritually experienced, truly the punishment of hell, before giving up his life for the world's sin.

Historically, darkness also becomes a featured element of the Good Friday evening service, along with silence. "Tenebrae" is an ancient Latin word for *darkness*. For hundreds of years Christians have observed orders of Tenebrae which reflect the dark vigil of the believers at the foot of the cross as death and darkness descended upon the Savior and the world that first Good Friday. A Tenebrae service is most commonly a service of repentance acknowledging the darkness of our sins and the role they play in Jesus' death. Slowly darkening the worship setting until the 'Christ light' is the only light remaining proves a very moving element to this service which ends in darkness and silence.

HOLY WEEK AT FAITH

SATURDAY APRIL 13

Easter 4 Kids

Registration begins at 8:30 am

Event runs 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14

Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am

CHAPEL EVENING PRAYER

Monday - Wednesday

APRIL 15, 16 & 17

8:30 pm each evening

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 18

Worship at 3:30 & 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19

Service of the Cross at 3:30 pm

Evening Tenebrae (Darkness) Observance 7:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21

Sunrise Worship at 6:00 am

Easter Breakfast begins at 7:00 am

(everyone welcome at no cost)

Easter Festival Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:45 am

Easter morn begins in similar darkness. But the Easter vigil soon blossoms during sunrise worship into vibrant and brilliant musical and visual praises worthy of the risen Lord. Sunrise worship is set apart early and uniquely in the day from the two festival worship services. Along with colorful, spring floral decor Easter worship offers a musical banquet of praise led by choirs and instrumentalists intended to create a transcendence that offers worshippers a foretaste of the perfect and eternal praise of heaven.

Chapel Evening Prayer for Holy Week

A whole week of evening services? Indeed, that’s what the schedule for Holy Week at Faith offers. Many are familiar with worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, but Faith also holds chapel evening prayer services at 8:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening during Holy Week. Built around prayers, Scripture lesson, psalms and hymns each thirty minute service prepares worshippers for a night of rest at peace with our Savior God.

Of course the focus of these evening prayer services are the events of the last week of Jesus’ life used as preparation for the observance of Christ’s death and resurrection later in the week. Come, find peace at evening prayer!

Have you seen our NEW Website?

Even if you only have your phone handy take a second to check out Faithantioch.org! That’s right our brand new website might have similarities to the past but the completely new site is entirely “mobile compatible.” All things Faith Antioch are now quickly and completely available on any type of device. Sermons, calendar of events, staff profiles... the word “vast” best describes the amount of content available.

A few tweaks, of course, still need to be made. Have any questions about anything at Faith or suggestions for us? While on our site you are welcome to send an e-mail directly to our webmaster, our office or any staff member.



Jesus gives us life

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)



Mary pours this on Jesus’ feet. (John 12:3)



Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)



This is placed on Jesus’ head. (John 19:2)



Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus’ coat. (John 19:23-24)



Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)



Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)



While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)



This is rolled away from Jesus’ tomb. (John 20:1)



These are used to prepare Jesus’ body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)



These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)



Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)



Answers: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar on a sponge, stone, spices, linen, silver coins

It Is Finished!

As Jesus was dying, it began to dawn on the Roman soldier who was in charge of the crucifixion just who it was who hung before him: "When the centurion, who stood in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, 'Surely this man was the Son of God'" (Mark 15:39).

The crucifixion of Christ shows us how bad our sins really are. Also his crucifixion shows us that his purchase of forgiveness for all was successful. It is finished. Satan is finished. Christ has made us free.

Pastor Mark Jeske
of *Time of Grace*

Listen to "Time of Grace"

Monday at 9 am - Tuesday at 9 pm
Thursday at 9 am - Saturday at 9 pm



THE VOICE OF FAITH FOR THE ANTIOCH AREA

The Messenger

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
1275 Main Street
Antioch Illinois 60002

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Antioch, IL
Permit No. 64

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



We are located at TWO sites...

FAITH Evangelical...

Lutheran Church
24300 West Grass Lake Road
Antioch Illinois 60002
847-395-1660

Lutheran Elementary School
(Pre-k through Grade 8)
1275 Main Street
Antioch Illinois 60002
847-395-1660

Find out more about us at...

www.faihtantioch.org
[facebook.com/faihtantioch](https://www.facebook.com/faihtantioch)
&
WFEL 99.9 FM Antioch
broadcasting locally 24 hours a day

This is a non-profit publication serving the members of Faith and residents of the surrounding communities with information on activities of the church, school and the community.



Our Mission:

The mission of every Christian and of Faith congregation is to help make more and stronger disciples by sharing with everyone the good news of Jesus Christ.

Highlighting Coming Events at FAITH of Antioch

Please note at which facility the activity will take place... our **Church Campus** on Grass Lake Road or our **Lutheran Elementary School Campus** on Main Street...

- ◆ April 3 & 10 **Lenten Wednesday** Worship at 3:30 & 7:00 PM (*church*)
- ◆ April 13 **MEN'S Bible Breakfast** at 7:30 AM (*school*)
- ◆ April 13 **Easter 4 Kids** activity day (*church*) from 9AM until noon
- ◆ April 13 **Jesus Cares** activities (*church*) 10:30 AM
- ◆ April 14 **Palm Sunday** worship at 8:00 & 10:45 AM (*church*)
- ◆ April 18 **Maundy Thursday** worship at 3:30 & 7:00 PM (*church*)
- ◆ April 19 **Good Friday** worship at 3:30 & 7:00 PM (*church*)
- ◆ April 21 **Easter Sunday** worship at 6:00, 8:00 & 10:45 AM (*church*)
- ◆ April 28 **Youth Confirmation Sunday** at 10:45 AM (*church*)

We invite you to be with us for any of these occasions.

For questions look to our website www.faihtantioch.org for more information or feel free to give Pastor Ungemach a call at 847-293-6101.