

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

LENT
A Season of Renewal

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
March 24, 2019
www.holyshepherd.org
Office Hours 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday
Phone 925-254-3422

For the Week of March 31, 2019

Read: "The Bridesmaids" (Matthew 22:1-13)

Recite: In his parable,

Jesus said, "...At midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'" — Matthew 25:6

Reflect:

- This week's parable includes another wedding party, just like last week. Tell about one of your favorite celebration meals. It might be an annual celebration like a birthday party or holiday meal. It might be a specific celebration you've been a part of in the past that stands out as your favorite.
- If God's relationship with us were like a party, who else would you want to invite to be a part of that party?
- What do you think is at the heart of these "missed opportunity" stories which Jesus tells his friends and followers?

Pray: Lord God, Heavenly King — you describe your kingdom as a joy-filled, expectant wedding celebration to which we have been invited. We confess to you that sometimes we are so distracted by our every-day lives that we miss the invitation and miss the joy. Help us to be ready at all times to serve and celebrate you. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

upcoming EVENTS

TODAY - 12 Noon, CFM, Bring your lunch, Bible & Lunch Bunch (co-ed); Acts 25 & 26, Contact Janine Crowe

March 27 - Wednesday, Loaves & Fishes Pittsburg

March 30 - April 7 - Spring Break; Preschool Closed

April 3 - 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper

6:45 p.m. Contemplative Midweek Worship

April 4 - Thursday 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, CFM, Lesson 2, 1 Thessalonians 2

April 10 - 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper

6:45 p.m. Contemplative Midweek Worship

April 11 - Thursday, Loaves & Fishes, Martinez

April 14 - Palm Sunday

April 16 - Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting

April 18 - Thursday 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, CFM, Lesson 3, 1 Thessalonians 3

April 24 - Wednesday, Loaves & Fishes, Pittsburg

April 27 - 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Preschool Fundraiser



Please check out the sign-up for hosting coffee fellowship and add your name if you are willing to help out. Thanks.



Altar flowers this morning have been given by Paul and Karen Heuer in memory of Cathy Johnson.



Sunday, March 24

9:00 am Coffee Bar (in CFM)

9:30 am Congregational Worship

10:00 am Sunday School (PreK-5th Gr.)

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship (in CFM) hosted by Joan Kiekhaefer

10:45 am KidMin Sunday School Ends

10:50 am Letter writing in CFM for Chaplains Wings Letters for Easter

10:50 am Adult Sunday School

11:00 am KCCL Bible Study

11:30 am Adult Sunday School Ends

12 Noon Bible Lunch Bunch in CFM, Bring your lunch

12:15 pm KCCL Worship

Monday, March 25

9:00 am Preschool

11:00 am LARC

10:30 am AA Meeting

3:30 pm Orinda Mandarin Program

Tuesday, March 26

9:00 am Preschool

11:00 am LARC

11:00 am Caregiver Coffee

6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 am Preschool

10:30 am Preschool Chapel

11:00 am LARC

3:30 pm Orinda Mandarin Program

6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper

6:45 pm Contemplative Midweek Worship

7:30 pm Spirit Borne

Thursday, March 28

9:00 am Preschool

10:30 am Preschool Chapel

11:00 am LARC

7:00 pm Shepherd's Bells

7:00 pm Men's Weekly Bible Study, Europa Restaurant, Orinda

Friday, March 29

9:00 am Preschool

9:30 am Mailing Party in CFM for Chaplains Wings Easter letters

11:00 am LARC

7:30 pm KCCL Taize in Chapel

Saturday, March 30

Sunday, March 31

9:00 am Coffee Bar (in CFM)

9:30 am Congregational Worship

10:00 am Sunday School (PreK-5th Gr.)

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship (in CFM) hosted by Yvonne and Otto Tschudi

10:45 am KidMin Sunday School Ends

10:50 am Adult Sunday School

11:00 am KCCL Bible Study

11:30 am Adult Sunday School Ends

12:15 pm KCCL Worship



Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, 4/18

7:00 pm

Good Friday, 4/19

Noon & 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, 4/21

9:00 & 10:30 am

If you are able to volunteer to fill any of the lay server positions for these services, there is a sign-up sheet in CFM. Services are Maundy Thursday, 4/18, 7 pm; Good Friday, 4/19, noon and 7 pm; Easter Sunday, 4/21, 9 am and 10:30 am. Thank you for helping!

Decorate the Sanctuary



You will find donation envelopes in the pew racks this morning. All donations, \$10/each, need to be received by April 7 in order to have your name(s) included in the Easter Bulletins. Make checks payable to HSLC and memo for "Easter Decorations." If you use your personal pink numbered envelopes, please be sure to include who it is in memory or honor of and also write your name on the outside of the envelope. Thank you.



Paradise Book Project

Our Sunday School children and teachers invite the congregation to join them today and March 31 in the Center

for Ministry during coffee fellowship to participate in their charitable project - helping a 2nd grade class in Paradise, CA. Lori Oczkus is our liaison with this class and their teacher, Mary Ludwig. Ponderosa Elementary School in Paradise lost everything due to the Camp Fire. They need children's books very much. Each student in the 2nd grade class has written a letter asking for two books. There are 25 children in the class. In order to sponsor a child you may write a check to HSLC with *Paradise Books* in the memo line for \$15.00 or give cash at our child sponsoring events today and the 31st.

Also, you will be asked to write a note to one of the students. Stationery will be provided as well as suggestions as to what to write. (You will be asked to print as the children do not yet read cursive writing.) HSLC is ordering the books and they are coming soon. If you have questions, please contact Janine Crowe or Joan Kiekhaefer. Thank you.

Copies of the revised church directory are now available in the CFM. Revisions and or changes to the directory after printing will be posted in the weekly new updates.

Dear Friends,

The purpose of this letter is just to give you a 'heads up' that we are going to have a couple of special guests with us at worship on Sunday, March 31st. Our "guest preacher" that day will be a certain Pastor Ken Mikulasek. Does that name perchance ring a bell? If so, it's probably because you were a part of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in the years before the merger which formed Holy Shepherd!!

Pastor Mikulasek – who will be accompanied by his dear wife Earna – served on the pastoral staff of Shepherd of the Valley for half-a-decade during the 1970's. (In fact, Pastor Mikulasek recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination into pastoral ministry.)

We hope you'll be able to join us for worship that day – as we learn a bit about our history as a congregation and as we celebrate the ministry of one whose labors were so vital to the well-being of Shepherd of the Valley during his tenure. If you are unable to join us that day but would like to share a memory of 'days gone by' with Pastor Mikulasek and Earna, please send a card/note to Lisa Verley in the church office and we'll share it with them during our reception/coffee fellowship time that morning.

Pastor John and Pastor Pam

Rev. Kenneth Mikulasek

It has been an incredible privilege to serve as Pastor for fifty years, proclaiming in word and actions the unconditional love and forgiveness of God. I was blessed to serve in partnership



HEALING

Kathy Williams	Howard Hansen
Tony Sanchez	Dinah Washington
Mark Yates	Kramer Collins
Marilyn Lyndahl	Kathy Dowell
Harry Howe	DeLane Riveness
Laura Zellmer	Mallory Weiss
Henry Kramer	Mary Ann McCauley
Cecily Bartsch	Ann Brohm
Pat Tveitmoie	Kathy McCarty Schwab
Chris Immesoete	

WELLNESS

Grace Adams	Rolf Benseler
Kellen Derrough	Carol Kramer
Del Hock	

PEACE / COMFORT

Kitti Colucci	Dottie Russell
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MILITARY

Keep our armed forces safe and give them courage, hope and strength.

Brian Henson	Megan Howard
Peter Kler	Melanie Kler

THOSE WHO GRIEVE

Paul and Karen Heuer and family on the passing of Cathy Johnson (Karen's mother) on 2/22 after a lengthy illness. A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 18 at 2:00 pm with a reception following in CFM.



March 24	Dr. Bob Weyand
March 26	Susan Patterson
March 27	Won Kyun Yang
March 28	Patricia Pomidor

with four California congregations: All Saints, Sun Valley; Holy Shepherd, Orinda; St. Mark's, Pleasant Hill; and Holy Cross, Livermore. Since retirement, I continue to meet with colleagues in the Mt. Diablo Conference and provide some pastoral supply. I value time with Earna, my wife and partner of fifty years. Together we enjoy every moment we can with our two daughters and five grandchildren. Most Sundays we are sitting together at Trinity Lutheran, Pleasanton for worship led by our pastor, Heidi Hester. I am grateful to my high school pastor, family members, mentors, teachers, bishops, colleagues, parishioners, mutual ministry groups and church councils for sharing this journey of ministry and offering their wisdom, guidance and encouragement even in challenging times. Through them, I often experienced the grace of God, a grace that continues to sustain me. Thanks be to God!



Join us for this family friendly event for Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool. We will be offering a Western Style BBQ meal catered by Bonehead's Texas BBQ, Lafayette. The dinner fundraiser will be Saturday, **April 27, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

A mailing which includes raffle and dinner tickets will go out this week and tickets will also be sold beginning **Sunday, March 31** and continue in CFM during coffee fellowship through April 21. Dinner tickets will be \$25/adults, \$12/children, 2 and younger free.

Sample raffle prizes: 2-night stay in a ski chalet at Kirkwood Resort; Giants Tickets, Sailing Adventure and picnic on Angel Island. Raffle package tickets are \$12.00 each, 10 for \$100 or 20 for \$175. This year we are going to offer a 50/50 raffle. For those unfamiliar with this type of raffle - the prize is 50% of the money taken in by the raffle ticket sales for this item. The other 50% is retained by the Preschool - hence, the name, 50-50 raffle. Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are \$5 each, 12 for \$50 or 25 for \$100.

Another way to support the fundraiser is through a cash donation if you do not plan to attend or purchase raffle tickets.

Thank you for supporting our preschool.



The leprechaun left us gold on the playground. Our room was all messy as he walked on the tables and left his footprints.

Hello wonderful friends,

To date we have received \$24,408.70 towards the \$30,000 double-match challenge grant! Amazing! Thank you.

Easter Sunday is April 21, so we have 40 more days to meet the deadline (at time of writing). Can we make it?

Progress in the labor and delivery building has been terrific. They're now smoothing down the terrazzo flooring. Next will be the installation of the sinks, toilets, showers, and laundry equipment.

To get us to the "finish line" by Easter, please consider a donation. (IHP - Matt West, Treasurer, 8016 No. Everton Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152 or www.ihpt.org and click on PayPal or call Joyce 480-540-9317 and she will take a credit card.)

Blessings and gratitude,

Paula and Denny

Attendance March 17, 2019 9:30 a.m. 63

The weekly news inserts are available on the church's website every week - go to www.holyshepherd.org and click on Weekly News.