

PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches



APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 3rd	9:00a.m.	St. John's
April 10th	9:00a.m.	Immanuel - Palm Sunday w/ Communion
April 17th	7:00a.m.	St. John's - Easter Service w/ Communion
	9:00a.m.	Immanuel - Easter Service w/ Communion
April 24th	9:00a.m.	St. John's - Confirmation Sunday w/ Communion

Shared Evening Lenten Service

April 6th	7:00p.m.	Good Hope
April 14th	7:00p.m.	St. John's - Maundy Thursday w/ Communion
April 15th	7:00p.m.	United Methodist Church Titonka - Good Friday

Ukraine Relief

The churches of Parish 3 are accepting donations to help those suffering in Ukraine, as well as those who have fled the country.

St. John's: Make checks payable to "St. John's Lutheran Benevolence" and write "Ukraine" in the memo. They can be placed in the offering or mailed to:
St. John's Lutheran Church, PO Box 95, Woden, IA 50484

Immanuel: Make checks payable to "Immanuel Lutheran Benevolence" and write "Ukraine" in the memo. They can be placed in the offering or mailed to:
Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1909 375th St., Titonka, IA 50480

Parish Information:

Office Phone: 641-926-5798

Office E-mail: parishthre@wctatel.net

Office Mail: PO Box 95, Woden, Iowa 50484

Pr. Heille Cell: 507-399-3119

Pr. Heille E-mail: unlikelyj@icloud.com

Spring means so much.

For kids it means the school year is almost over. It means planting season is almost here. Signs of new life start to show up all over the place. The same goes for churches. Spring is our time to celebrate the story of new life in Jesus. I need to hear the Easter every year because I need to hear it over and over. I need Easter and the hope that Easter brings to us. Easter is my every year reminder that God's great love is greater than death. This year I'm looking forward to celebrating with a whole new group of people – the stories the same – but the people I'll be with are brand new. And that's really fitting because deep down Easter means everything starts over.

Starting over for Jesus didn't start with Easter – it started with the cross. Truth is it is the story of Jesus' cross that leads to the hope and glory of Easter. It's a whole story that only makes any sense when both parts are told.

The first half of the Easter story, the cross, is brutal. Jesus' cross is now, for believers, a beautiful symbol of God's power to bring new life in the face of death. But 2000 years ago the cross was a just symbol of power, brutality, and death. The Romans perfected crucifixion. It was their particularly and especially cruel form of execution. The cross was a literally a way to torture somebody for hours until they died.

When Jesus went to the cross he took on the full weight of human evil. Over the centuries it has been tempting to blame somebody else for Jesus' death; but the truth of the cross is that ordinary people, people like me and you, crucified the son of God. It's tempting to try and find somebody else to blame. But the story only makes sense if we, the ones Jesus came to save, are the very ones who would betray him. It's hard to admit that Jesus closest friends and followers would walk away from him in his hour of deepest need. It's even harder to admit that we would be the ones to crucify him.

Pastor's COLUMN

April 2022 (cont'd)

The cross is the first half of our faith story. Thank God it's not the whole story.

The story of our faith centers on the belief that God can do something brand new. And that ability to do something new means nothing and no one is off limits to God. The story of Easter was first told by a few women who came searching for their rabbi, their teacher. They came early on a Sunday morning. They planned to cover his body with spices and oils. This way they could show their great appreciation and admiration for their teacher one more time.

When they got to the tomb they found it wide open.

And Luke says two men dressed in white dazzling clothes met them. The women had everything ready to anoint his body. But this wasn't they expected. The men asked the women a question,

"Why do you look for the living among the dead?"

The next words were the best news of all.

He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

Easter for me is a reminder again and again that Jesus is unlike any other human being. He can heal and battle demons. He can tell just by looking what was going on in the heart and soul of every person. But more than that Easter is the reminder that God's love is never ending.

Thanks for the great welcome over the past month. It's been great to get my feet on the ground and meet so many of you.

John,
Pastor John Heille
Email unlikelyj@icloud.com
507-399-3119 Cell





10 MINUTE BIBLE STUDY



The heart of the story.

Easter has been the focus of believers for centuries. The first people to tell the good news come on they're very first evangelists were the women who went to the tomb early on a Sunday morning.

Look up Luke chapter 24:1-3

The story starts out before dawn. It's kind of wonderful to think that God can move in the darkness. These women went to the tomb with eyes still sore from crying. Their friend and teacher, the one they were honored to call their rabbi was dead. But now, when they stood in the place where his body should have been, there was nobody.

Easter didn't start out as a great day. How is that Good News for us today?

Look up Luke 24:4

The women were seeing something brand new. And in just a moment they would hear the good news from the lips of the angels.

We might never hear good news from the lips of angels; but there are times in our lives when people who care about us will speak a word of life and hope. When are the times in life when you can be the one called to speak hope and new life?

Look up Luke 24:5-7

The first response these women had was so absolutely natural. They were overcome with fear, but God didn't want them to be stuck in fear. The news changed their way of looking at the world and understanding how everything works.

The angels had a great question, "why are you looking for the living among the dead?"

Sometimes people look backwards rather than moving forward. Many people would love to rewrite their past. But there's something in these words from the angels that invite us not to look backwards but to look forwards to the new life that God is bringing into being through Jesus. Where do you need somebody to point you in a new direction this year?

Look up Luke 24:8-9

The women remembered what Jesus had said only after meeting the angels. Once they remembered and saw with their own eyes that Jesus was alive then they went and started to tell others the good news. How can Easter help you to remember all that Jesus has said and done for us?

Immanuel Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal/ Banners

Kyle & Maddie Post

Readers

April 10 - Shelley Kardoes
April 17 - Wendy Harms



SERVANTS OF GOD

St. John's Servant Schedule

Ushers

Alan Larson & Ryan Hobbs

Communion

Karen Larson

Bulletin Board

Leslie Emhoff

Altar Cloths & Flowers

Lynne Larson

Readers

April 3 - Wendy Harms
April 14 - Val Gibbs
April 17 - Gary Hayungs
April 24 - Doris Haugland



The Parish 3 Council Meeting is on
Monday, April 11th at 7:00 pm. at St. John's



St. John's women will have their General Meeting on
Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 pm.



IMMANUEL

April 1 - Mary Franzen
April 3 - Neoma Boyken
April 5 - Nikita White
April 8 - Elsie Planz
April 9 - Amber Rurup
April 13 - LuAnn Brandt
April 14 - Anita Eden
April 14 - Brad Harms
April 20 - Nicole Shillington
April 27 - Nathan Kardoes
April 27 - Robert Schmidt
April 29 - Brian Bruns

ST. JOHN'S

April 1 - Steve Peterson
April 2 - Ashley DeGues
April 17 - Bonnie Doden
April 18 - Aleysha Brandt
April 19 - Coda Stone
April 21 - Luke Haugland
April 25 - Troy Albers
April 27 - Emily Allmon
April 28 - Zadin Henken
April 30 - Jace Young



April 10 - Jay & Clarice Mayland

April 4 - Dan & Cathy Haugland
April 24 - Doug & Michelle Hanna



A Very Happy Birthday to...



Elsie Planz will be celebrating her 99th birthday on April 8th!
Help her celebrate by sending her a card to:
PO Box 390, Joaquin, TX 75954



Easter Sunday *Breakfast*

St. John's women will be hosting an Easter Breakfast after 7:00a.m. Easter Sunday worship service. They will be serving scrambled eggs w/ ham and rolls. We hope you can join us!

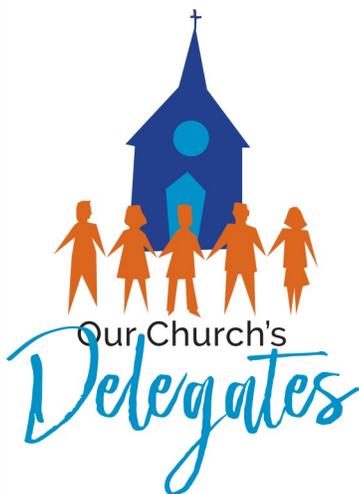


Anyone from St. John's who would like to beautify the sanctuary with an Easter Lily for Easter Sunday should bring their lilies to the sanctuary by Saturday, April 16th.

If you would like to provide a lily in memory of someone, e-mail parishthre@wctatel.net and submit the name(s) the lily is in memory of and the name(s) of who it is from by April 12th, so the information can be printed in the bulletin.



There will be a First Communion Workshop on April 3rd at 1:00p.m. at Immanuel. Anyone in 5th grade or higher who hasn't had first communion is welcome. First Communion will take place during the Maundy Thursday service on April 14th at 7:00p.m. at St. John's.



The Synod Assembly will take place on April 22nd and 23rd in Sioux City.

Pastor John will be attending
Karen Post will be attending as the Synod Secretary
St. John's Delegates are Alan and Lynne Larson

Wish them safe travels on their journey to Sioux City!



**Saturday, April 16th at 9:30a.m.,
there will be a Easter Egg Hunt
(ages 11 and under) at
the Buffalo Creek Activity Center
in Titonka**

**Saturday, April 16th at 10:30a.m.,
there will be a Kids Easter Egg Hunt at
the South Park in Woden**



**Parish 3 has been invited to see Blake & Jenna Bolerjack,
award-winning Christian vocal duo.**

**They will be performing at the Burt Presbyterian Church on
Sunday, April 3rd at 6:30p.m.**

**A free-will love offering will be taken to help in their music ministry.
Ice cream sundaes will be served following the concert.**



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rural Titonka
St. John's Lutheran Church, Woden
302 2nd Street
P.O. Box 95 Woden Iowa, 50484

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