

The Way... The earliest Christians were called *The People of the Way.* This weekly publication is provided to show how our congregations are living *The Way* today. Sunday of Lent March 26, 2023

# Holy Week

Palm Sunday ~ April 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00<sub>am</sub> ~ Blythe Chapel 10:30am ~ Fort Branch First & Live Streaming

Holy Thursday ~ April 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00<sub>pm</sub> ~ Communion @ Fort Branch First UMC

Good Friday ~ April 7<sup>th</sup> 6<sub>am</sub>-6<sub>pm</sub> ~ 12 Hour Prayer Vigil

## Easter Sunday ~ April 9<sup>th</sup>

7:00am ~ Sunrise Service w/Communion @ Blythe Chapel UMC w/ Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast following

9:00<sub>am</sub> ~ Easter Worship Service w/Communion & Live Stream @ Fort Branch First UMC 8:00<sub>am</sub> ~ Easter Morning Breakfast

# Let's Celebrate the **FINAL FOUR** With **FOUR** different flavors of **SMOOTHIES**

served in a lidded cup to take into the sanctuary.

## Let laughter 'spring' forth!

"Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush." (Doug Larson)

"Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in one basket." (Evan Esar)

"Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade." (Charles Dickens)

"The world is mud-luscious and puddle wonderful." (e.e. cummings)

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt." (Margaret Atwood)

#### A God with scars

If anyone has ever asked you why a loving God allows suffering, you've probably developed a theodicy. That's a fancy word for defending belief in divine goodness despite evil's existence. Theologians who tackle this profound mystery note that God himself wasn't spared from pain. Despite his sinlessness as true God, Jesus endured crucifixion as true man. As proof of that sacrifice, his body was scarred.

Those marks feature in a poem by English pastor Edward Shillito. Seeing wounded combatants return from World War I, he wondered how the Gospel could seem like good news to them. When Shillito realized that Christianity alone features a God who suffered, he wrote "Jesus of the Scars" to offer comfort and hope. The poem concludes:

The other gods were strong; but thou wast weak; They rode, but thou didst stumble to a throne; But to our wounds only God's wounds speak; And not a god has wounds, but thou alone.

This 12 Hour Prayer Vigil is to center ourselves with God as we prepare to reflect on the gift Jesus gave us. Starting with Maundy Thursday services all through Easter Sunday, we will have several opportunities to hear what Jesus did for us. You may pray for the blessings and sacrifices given for you either at your home, in the church sanctuary or wherever you feel most comfortable.



12 Hour Prayer Vigil Gam<sup>~ 6pm</sup>

The vigil is scheduled for 12 consecutive hours with specific prayer commitments in half-hour increments. Utilize the board in the Narthex or on our website <u>www.fbfirst.org</u> to reserve your desired prayer time.



is posted on the bulletin board & <u>www.fbfirst.org</u>

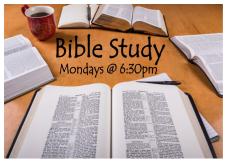
Fort Branch First UMC P. O. Box 116 Fort Branch, IN 47648

Deliver to:





Brian Price, cancer treatment 501 S Main Fort Branch, IN 47648



Celebrating with you!

Hannah Bryant ~ 27th Rachelle Kifer ~ 29th Kirsten McGowen~ 30th Philip Beckett ~ 1st Sarah Fuhs ~ 1st

\* -This symbol, when found in the Order of Service invites you to stand - if able.

CCLI #2446518 Streaming License # 20701562

#### **CHILDREN & WORSHIP**

Children are welcome in the worship service! We do offer options. Following the Children's Sharing, children may attend Sunday School at Blythe Chapel or Nursery at Fort Branch First.



† Indicates location is Blythe Chapel Ω Indicates location is First UMC

#### This Sunday Lent ~ week 5

*9:00am* 

+ Worship 10:30am  $\Omega$  Worship & Live streaming worship

~ Office Closed ~ Monday: Ω Říble Study 6:30pm <u>Tuesd</u>ay: Wednesday: Thursday: ~ Office Closed ~ Friday: Saturday

Next Sunday: Palm/Passion Sunday 9:00am + Worship

10:30am 'Ω Worship & Live streaming worship

Complete Schedule @ www.fbfirst.org

#### Next Sunday's Message:

"LENT~ IESUS' EXAMPLE OF FAITH, The Faith of the King"





Welcome to Worshi

....May God's Word help us each see something or someone in a new way today.



## Rev. John Baylor, Jr.

#### PRELUDE

**\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US** \*HYMN #530 Are Ye Able 9:00am Are Ye Able #530 10:30am

#### **\*GREETING AND PRAYER**

We offer a cordial greeting to all worshipers who have come to praise the Lord. Your presence helps lift our spirits, and we welcome you in Christ's name.

#### **LENT REFLECTION & CANDLE LIGHTING**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please add your name to the attendance register located in your pew and pass to the next person until reaches everyone in your row.

PRAYERS SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS In The Garden PRAYER HYMN #314 9:00am #2164 10:30am X2 Sanctuary

#### PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

#### THE OFFERING:

The Gathering of the Gifts \*Presentation of Gifts with DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below! Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Derek Robicheaux ~ Jenni Schleter ~ The Commission

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 15:21-41 NLT

MESSAGE "Lent, Jesus' Example of Faith: Jesus' Faith in Death"

\*HYMN #504 #504

9:00am 10:30am The Old Rugged Cross The Old Rugged Cross

\*BLESSING Pastor \*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD Acolytes

\*DEPARTING SONG: (insert)

Rolled Away

**\*PASSING THE PEACE:** 

Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

POSTLUDE



Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests —last names are printed for individuals requesting prayer for themselves or with explicitly given permission.

Jane Marginet, Richard Michel, Becca Manolov, Carla Jackson, Connie Osborn, Tommy Osborn, Alec Taylor, Morgan Whitehead, Terri Jarboe, Derek Barton, Jo Eckert, Ruby Wilkerson, Scotti Pitts, Deanna Wilson, Don Colvin, Gretchen Young, Effie Dilbeck, Frances Burns, June Regenhold, Sam Smith, Ruth Ann Sokeland, Margie Beal, Lesa Prater, Brian Price

With the current tax laws, not everyone will need to itemize their 2022 Federal Income Taxes.

As to save our Financial Secretary (aka volunteer) a lot of extra work, a financial statement of your offerings and tithes <u>will only be prepared for you</u> upon request.

Please contact

<u>Paul Cardinal</u>

email: redbird937@hotmail.com

## The Crucifixion

<sup>21</sup> A passerby named Šimon, who was from Cyrene, was coming in from the countryside just then, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. (Simon was the father of Alexander and Rufus.) <sup>22</sup> And they brought Jesus to a place called Golgotha (which means "Place of the Skull"). <sup>23</sup> They offered him wine drugged with myrrh, but he refused it.

<sup>24</sup> Then the soldiers nailed him to the cross. They divided his clothes and threw dice to decide who would get each piece. <sup>25</sup> It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup> A sign announced the charge against him. It read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup> Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

<sup>29</sup> The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. "Ha! Look at you now!" they yelled at him. "You said you were going to destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. <sup>30</sup> Well then, save yourself and come down from the cross!" <sup>31</sup> The leading priests and teachers of religious law also mocked Jesus. "He saved others," they scoffed, "but he can't save himself! <sup>32</sup> Let this Messiah, this King of Israel, come down from the cross so we can see it and believe him!" Even the men who were crucified with Jesus ridiculed him.

## The Death of Jesus

<sup>33</sup> At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock. <sup>34</sup> Then at three o'clock Jesus called out with a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"* 

<sup>35</sup> Some of the bystanders misunderstood and thought he was calling for the prophet Elijah. <sup>36</sup> One of them ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, holding it up to him on a reed stick so he could drink. "Wait!" he said. "Let's see whether Elijah comes to take him down!"

<sup>37</sup> Then Jesus uttered another loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup> And the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

<sup>39</sup>When the Roman officer who stood facing him saw how he had died, he exclaimed, "This man truly was the Son of God!"

<sup>4°</sup> Some women were there, watching from a distance, including Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James the younger and of Joseph), and Salome. <sup>4</sup>' They had been followers of Jesus and had cared for him while he was in Galilee. Many other women who had come with him to Jerusalem were also there.

RESPONSE: The Word of God, for the people of God. *Thanks be to God!* 

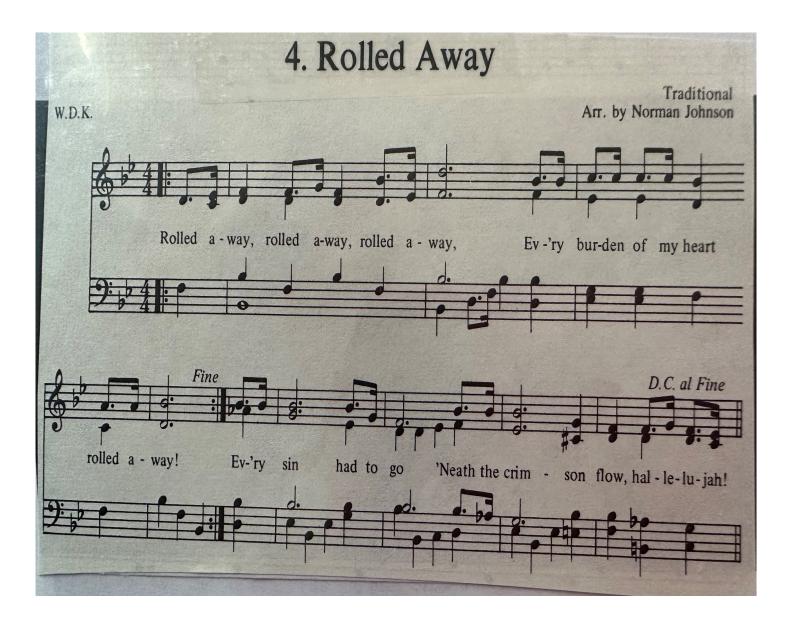
## Listening Guide "Jesus' Faith in Death" March 26, 2023

Scripture: Mark15:21-41

#### How does Jesus show His faith as He prepares to die?

He		(vs. 21-28)	
He	Kept (vs. 29-32)		
He	Received	(vs.33-36)	
He	(vs.	. 37-41)	

**Personal Application:** It takes a lot of faith to die when it is anticipated. Does it bring you comfort to know that Jesus needed a lot of faith to face His death?



### **Limiting distractions**

Getting a cell phone is a major milestone for kids — and a huge decision for parents. Despite our boys' complaints, we made them wait longer than most of their peers. We emphasized accountability, monitoring and time limits. Out of curiosity, I checked my own phone usage. It was more than double the limit we set for our kids! I came up with reasons (excuses, really) why I needed more time.

But God stopped me in my tracks and prompted me to use a "time's up" notification. It helps me be intentional about removing distractions. What diverts you from God's best? Are you listening to him and then redirecting your attention? God, speak clearly — and prompt us to listen!

—Janna Firestone

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