Palm Sunday Jesus the King Suffers for His People

April 13, 2025 • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

As We Gather:

Jesus is the King! Jesus is God! He is the only one who can save (Deuteronomy 32:36-39). Yet Jesus put aside his power and privileges as God and humbled himself to become a man and to suffer for us (Philippians 2:5-8). Five days before his death on the cross, Jesus fulfilled ancient prophecies (Zechariah 9:9-10) by entering Jerusalem and being acclaimed as King, but at the same time humbly riding on a donkey (Luke 19:28-40). He humbled himself to the point of dying on the cross for us. Jesus won our salvation! And then he rose from the dead with power and took up once again all his authority and dominion as God (Philippians 2:9-11). Today, the anniversary of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, we acclaim Jesus as King over all, with power and glory! And we also remember how he humbled himself so much in order to save us!

We Gather Together at the Entrance of the Church

Everyone takes a palm branch.

Invocation

- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Bible Reading

Zechariah 9:9-10

(Zechariah prophesied that the King would come in victory, but in peace, riding on a donkey)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

- Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
- Hosanna to Jesus, the Son of David!
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- Hosanna to Jesus, the Son of David!

The people shouted those words centuries ago when Jesus entered Jerusalem, riding on a donkey. At that moment the people praised Jesus and laid palm branches and even clothing on the road he was taking. Today we also worship and praise Jesus, our King and Savior! He came as King, not to lord it over people but to suffer and die on the cross for us. May God bless our worship service today! May Jesus Christ be King in our lives!

G Amen.

Everyone streams into the church, waving the palm branches and singing together.

Processional Hymn: King of Kings

Refrain: King of kings and Lord of lords! Glory! (X) Alleluia! King of kings and Lord of lords! Glory! (X) Alleluia!

- 1. Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory! (X) Alleluia! Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory! (X) Alleluia! (Refrain)
- 2. Jesus, risen from the dead, glory! (X) Alleluia! Jesus, risen from the dead, glory! (X) Alleluia! (Refrain)

Inside the Church

When everyone is inside the church sanctuary (worship area), the service continues.

Repentance in the Presence of the King

- The Lord is our true King. Before his judgment seat we must admit that we are guilty of having done what is wrong. In the presence of our King of kings, we cannot offer excuses or justify ourselves. We have failed many times. Yet Jesus Christ loves us and invites us to confess our sins and to receive his royal amnesty, that is, his forgiveness.
- A Lord, forgive us. You are our King but we have disobeyed you. Often we have been slow to do what you command: to love, to forgive, to have patience, to study your Word, to evangelize, to help, and many other things. Yet it is all too easy for us to do what you forbid: to be selfish, to be proud, to speak hurtful or dirty words, to worry, to take advantage of others, to be grumpy or nasty, or many other things. This happens because sin is so close to us, in our very hearts. However, we repent of these things and ask for the forgiveness that you have promised. Please make our hearts clean. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

- Jesus Christ, our King, left his throne in heaven and died on the cross for our sins, to pay our debt. Through faith in Jesus, God the Father makes us clean, forgives us, and the Holy Spirit gives us a new start. By the decree of our King Jesus Christ, therefore, I announce to you that all your wrongdoing has been forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

Service of the Word

Psalm 24 The King of Glory Comes

(We Sing in Prayer 474)

Refrain: The King of glory comes; the nation rejoices! Open the gates before him; lift up your voices!

- 1. Who is the King of glory? How shall we call him? He is Emmanuel, the promise of ages! (Refrain)
- 2. In all of Galilee, in city or village, He went among his people, curing their illness. (Refrain)
- 3. He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation. He took upon himself the sins of the nation. (Refrain)
- 4. He conquered sin and death! He truly has risen. And he will share with us his heavenly vision. (Refrain)

Prayer of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.
- Lord Jesus, you are our King! You have freed us and made us your people! Rule in our hearts and in our lives. Guide others to trust in you and so become part of your kingdom. And come soon to reign in glory! May your kingdom come! In your own name we pray, as you taught us. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 32:36-39

(Our God is the only God, with power and authority over all things.)

³⁶ The Lord will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants, when he sees that their power is gone and there is none remaining, bond or free.

³⁷Then he will say, "Where are their gods, the rock in which they took refuge, ³⁸who ate the fat of their sacrifices and drank the wine of their drink offering? Let them rise up and help you; let them be your protection!

³⁹"See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god beside me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand."

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Reading)

Philippians 2:5-11

(Jesus Christ, although he is King and God, humbled himself unto death for us.)

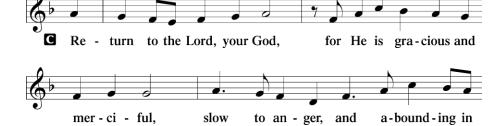
⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand



LSB 173





Holy Gospel Luke 19:28-40 (*Jesus the King enters into Jerusalem in glory – to later be crucified.*)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

And when [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it."'

³² So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. ³³ And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ And they said, "The Lord has need of it." ³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

 39 And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." 40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Song: Glory Be to Jesus (LOSP 93, melody LSB 433) Glory be to Jesus, who in perfect love

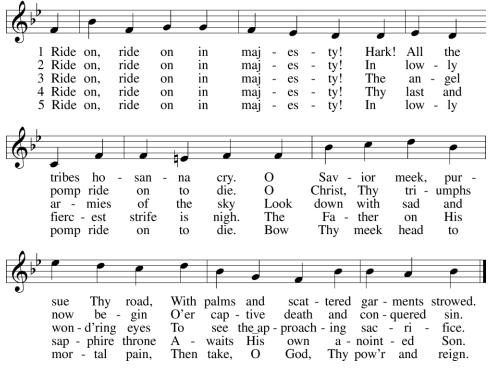
Died to be my Savior, sent from heaven above.

Jesus suffered greatly on the cross for me, Gave me life eternal, from sin set me free.

Children's Message

Hymn: Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

(Lutheran Service Book 441)



Text and tune: Public domain

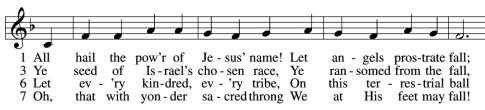
Sermon: A Donkey's Tale



Stand

Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

(LSB 549, stanzas 1, 3, 6, and 7)





Apostles' Creed

A I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven And sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

We pray for all people according to their needs, as God calls us to do in his Word.

- P Oh Lord, we are often weak and of little faith.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and strengthen our faith in Jesus.
- **P** Lord, we want to better understand your Word.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and on every page of Scripture show us Jesus.
- P Lord, we want to do your will.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and help us to imitate Jesus.
- **P** Lord, fill us with your love and help us to forgive one another.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and make us one in Jesus.
- **P** Lord, so many people are depressed or sick or suffering serious problems.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and help us and lift us up in Jesus.
- P Lord, peace and justice are lacking in many parts of our world.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and make us truly free through Jesus.
- **P** Lord, raise up good leaders who will follow your guidance.
- Come, Holy Spirit, and guide us in the footsteps of Jesus.
- Lord, today we especially pray for those on our prayer list who really need your help and comfort... And we also pray for others whom we name in our hearts now... We pray:
- We lift all of these people up to you, trusting that you will be with them as you have promised.
- P Dear God, you always hear us when we pray in Jesus' name. Take away the spirit of fear in us
- And give us your Spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline through Jesus. Amen. (2 Timothy 1:7)

Lord's Prayer

A 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 and ever. Amen.

Sit

Offering

Jesus gave everything for us. In gratitude, we give a portion of our material blessings so that others may also know his love. The Bible says, "For you know the grace of our Lord

Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Choir Anthem during the Offering: My Song is Love Unknown

- 1. My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
- He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
 But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.
 But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
 Who at my need His life did spend!
- 3. Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King. Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.
- 4. In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.
- 5. Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

Stand

Offering Prayer

A Lord Jesus, you are the King of the universe and we are your subjects. However, you suffered and died and rose again in order to save us. Reign in our hearts, Lord! We give you our lives, together with these offerings. In your own name we pray. Amen.

Offertory: Jesus Christ, My God, my Savior (tune: The Lutheran Hymnal 357)

- Jesus Christ, my God, my Savior, Sovereign King, my Lord most high! I am small, yet here I give you All my heart, my hands, my life.
- 2. All I have is yours forever. Let me serve you faithfully! With the Father and the Spirit, Praise be yours eternally!

Closing Prayer

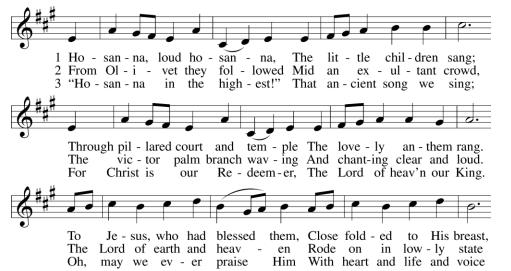
- P Let us pray.
- Lord Jesus, you shed your blood for us! Help us to always trust in your great love and forgiveness, and not in our own strength. Let your Holy Spirit work in us, so that we may walk in your ways and not heedlessly go our own way. In your name we pray. Amen.

Benediction

- P Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered! (Psalm 32:1) Rejoice in the Lord and go in peace!
- C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

(LSB 443)





Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Richard Schlak Organist: Ruth Ann Ostergren

Elder: Russ DeWitt

Acolyte: Aden Morales/Thomas Karl/

Phyllis Meraz/Rudy Valdes

Reader: Bryan Perdue

Ushers: Team #2

Prayer Ministry Philippians 4:6-7

Please call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request or update for the bulletin. If you have a prayer request or update for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at oveja6925@aol.com.

Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones:

We pray for all those who may be grieving or mourning the loss of loved ones, especially remember these who loss is most recent:

Pastor Howard Patten. Please continue to pray for peace, comfort, and strength for Marilyn and all of Pastor's family.

Illness and Recovery:

Maritza Leon, Maritza Schlak's mother (for successful knee surgery); Gilbert Provencio (for recovery after successful surgery); **Diana Holguin** (for upcoming surgery); **Carlos** and Elvira Munoz, neighbors of David DeMartelaere, (for correct diagnosis and treatment of Carlos brain hemorrhage and strength and peace for Elvira); Jaques Reulet, the father of Yves Reulet, Pastor Rick and Maritza's son-in-law's father (for healing in his recovery from quadruple bypass surgery), Mark Pfeifer, nephew of Vicki **Pfeifer,** Mark's wife and Vicki are both encouraged that he is much more responsive, (for continued progress in healing and that he be able to leave the hospital); Deb Sullivan & her brother, Anthony (for guidance & strength in handling parents' estate as they mourn); Diana and sister Dayna, students where Maritza Schlak teaches, orphaned and living with their aunt (for protection and comfort in their loss); Maddy, student where Mari teaches (for safety from gang violence); Andy Barber (for pain relief radiating from neck to hands); Melissa Reddick, friend of Barbara Lewis diagnosed with inoperable cancer (pray for a miracle, peace and comfort for her and the family; Gloria Voge (for successful leg therapy and healing from spine fracture); Sophia, Lorena's mother, Concepcion Arellanes's, caregiver (for cancer recovery); Aubrey McDermett (for 15-year-old with MS in hospital due to stroke); Ken McLennan (for upcoming heart procedures and peace, patience, and strength for his wife); **Barb Spott** (for no further medical issues and for relief from vertigo); Richard Neal, husband of Martha Neal (recovery from stroke and for peace and strength for Richard and Martha); Abigail Kailukatis, friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth (for effective treatment); Merle DeMartelaere, father of David DeMartelaere (correct diagnosis

and treatment for Edema and AFib); David Kwiatakowski, friend of Connie Swinney (recovery and treatment for brain cancer); Elizabeth Hinson, (for recovery from intestinal bug); Jim Werner, brother of Elliott Werner (successful treatment and healing from cancer); Brian Stickney (continuing health issues); Rebekah Livesay (for healing and correct diagnosis); Dick Seiders, father of Ron Seiders (healing from cancer and recovery from hip surgery); Mary Spott, Barb Spott's niece Keighley Spott's mother, (heart related issues); Ann Perdue (relief from Osteoarthritis); Amanda Bowser, friend of the Walker Family, (recovery from cancer); Patty Jones, sister of Martha Neal (stage 4 breast cancer); Robert and Karin Gaudet, (restoring relationships); Sean Sweeney, (brain tumor); Laurie Sterling, (colon cancer); Bruce Walker, (being treated for Parkinson's); Coby Clark and family, (continued cancer recovery); Ryan Walker, (cancer is in remission); Mariella Kraus, (cancer); Bob Gallagher (grateful no cancer was found, but he is still fragile with many health issues); Kathy Kiphart, John Weiske, Linda Seiders.

Praise and Thanksgiving:

Kirstin Hervin, daughter of Mike & Christy Mielke, (thanksgiving for improved health from Lupus condition which appears to be under control through maintenance meds);

Greg Tatum (Marjy Brady's nephew) **& his wife, Jessica** and their baby son, **Jackson Tatum** (thanksgiving to God for this new life);

Lupita Burke, Ascension Preschool Teacher (thanks for recovery from fracture); **Sherri Pfeifer Wilson, niece of Vicki Pfeifer** (completed chemotherapy radiation treatment for cancer and is doing well, thanks be to God).

Ascension News and Notes

Flowers for today's service are provided by the Canada-Karl family in celebration of Palm Sunday.





14-Apr. Fianna Swinney

19-Apr. Darwin Voge



19-Apr. Andy and Suzette Barber

Order Easter Lilies Today

Sign-up in the Narthex Contact: Robin Wiegert



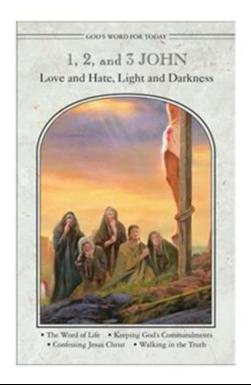


There will be NO THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY on April 17th. It will resume after Holy Week on April 24th.

The Thursday morning Bible study is studying 1, 2,3 John. We meet at the church on Thursday mornings.

We gather at 9:45 and begin the lesson at 10:00 and end at 11:00.

All women are welcome to join us as we study these 3 books. If you have any questions, contact Gretchen Schmalz or Jan Schlak.



Mt. Cristo Rey Pilgrimage

Join us for a devotional Walk to the top of Mt. Cristo Rey on Good Friday morning. Walk alongside members of Ascension and fellow El Pasoans as we take part in this cherished Good Friday tradition.

The Ascension group will gather in the church parking lot at 6:45 AM on Good Friday, April 18. From there, we'll caravan to the site and meet at the trailhead to begin our walk together. Pastor Schlak will guide us with devotions during our stops along the way.

If you'd like to participate, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



Ascension Lutheran Preschool Spirit Night

Thursday, April 24, 2025 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Join us at Chick-fil-A Desert Blvd and help support Ascension Lutheran Preschool. Up to 20% of tonight's sales will go directly toward their efforts. Just use code "ascension" when ordering on the Chick-fil-A® App, or mention Ascension Lutheran Preschool when ordering in the drive-thru or Restaurant. Every meal makes a difference—thank you for helping us support our local schools.





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ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH



JOIN US FOR 2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



JUNE 16-19 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



FOR CHILDREN 3 - 12 YEARS OLD

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH

REGISTER ONLINE: https://alconnect.faith/events/vbs/

Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912 (915)833-1009

Thank You Lord for providing Hearing Aids to Pastor Schlak

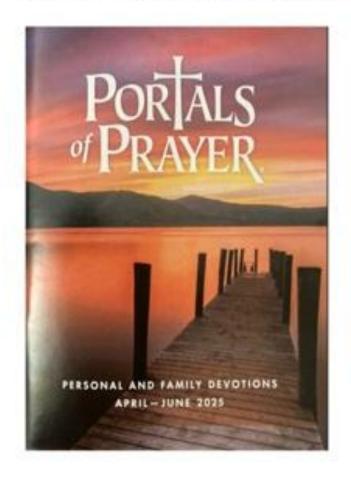




You sent the Holy Spirit and touched peoples' hearts to fill a need. Amen

NOW AVAILABLE

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Be refreshed daily in God's living

LCMS Youth Gathering

ENDURE

July 19-23, 2025; New Orleans, LA





- Youth Gatherings celebrate the meaning of Christian joy in all of life's situations, including transitions and crisis.
- Youth Gatherings recognize and affirm the diversity of God's people.
- Participants ENDURE faithfully no matter what they encounter
- Participants cling to and share the good new of God's faithfulness in Christ that ENDURES forever

If interested contact the Pastor, David DeMartelaere, or Jacob Meraz for information and registration forms

Fundraising for New Orleans Youth Gathering

Ascension Lutheran Church Attendees:

Phyllis & her father, Jacob Meraz

Envelopes with money amounts are posted on the wall in the narthex.

The money contributed will help in the fundraising effort for Phyllis and Jacob to attend this summer.



San Pablo Attendees:

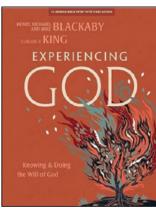
4 youth & 1 Adult Leader

San Pablo youth will be having yard sales on the first Saturday of every month.

Any donations of no longer needed household items, or gently used clothing, shoes, toys, & furniture would be used for their yard sale fundraising effort.

Call Luz Soto (YLM Servant Event Coordinator)
Office: (915) 858-2588 or Cell: (915) 315-6704





Tuesday Night Bible Study Winter 2025

Time: 6:30 p.m. gather, visit, share prayer requests

[Video rolls at 7 p.m.]

Place: Via ZOOM!

Date: First session is Tuesday, January 7, 2025

(proposed schedule below)

Cost: Order Experiencing God (with video access)

directly from Lifeway.com or Amazon.com

Experiencing God

By Henry T. Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, Mike Blackaby and Claude V. King

God is inviting you into an intimate love relationship through which He reveals to you His will, His ways, and His work. When you recognize where God is working, you can join Him in what He is doing. Carefully listening to His voice will anchor you in His plan and set you free to live it with boldness and freedom. Then you will experience God doing through you what only He can do.

Proposed Schedule:

Features:

- · Biblically-rooted and gospel-centered content
- Interactive teaching videos (approximately 15-20 minutes per session)
- 12 group sessions (12 weeks of homework, optional)

Benefits:

 Stay connected with your sisters in Christ with weekly fellowship, encouragement and prayer from the comfort and convenience of your own home!

Date	Lesson #
Jan. 7, 2025	1
Jan. 14th	2
Jan. 21st	Break-Church Council Meeting
Jan. 28th	3
Feb. 4th	4
Feb. 11th	5
Feb. 18th	Break-Church Council Meeting
Feb. 25th	6
Mar. 4th	7
Mar. 11th	8
Mar. 18th	Break-Church Council Meeting
Mar. 25th	9
Apr. 1st	10
Apr. 8th	11
Apr. 15th	Break-Church Council Meeting
Apr. 22nd	12-Final Session
Apr. 29th	Dinner/Fellowship

Please RSVP your attendance to Anita Werner by December 31st (awerner@elp.rr.com)

<u>Please visit Lifeway.com or Amazon.com and</u>

<u>order Experiencing God (with video access)</u>

prior to our first session.

This Week @ Ascension

Sunday (April 13)

9:00 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

10:00 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship

11:45 AM Confirmation Class



Monday (April 14) Church Office Closed

Tuesday (April 15)

6:30 PM Ladies Zoom Bible Class

6:30 PM Boy Scouts (FH)

Wednesday (April 16)

9:00 AM Preschool Chapel (S) 11:00 AM Sit and Sew (FH)

Thursday (April 17)

9:45 AM Women's Bible Study (FH)—CANCELLED, RESUME NEXT WEEK

6:30 PM Choir Practice (S)

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday (April 18)

12:00 PM Preschool Extended Care (FH)

7:00 PM Good Friday Worship

Saturday (April 19)