

Dear First Lutheran,

The Worship Team has been hard at work planning meaningful and inspiring worship experiences to praise God and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. Thank you so much, Misty, Jeff, Kendra, Jennifer, Sharon and Sharmyn for all your hard work (and for laughing at my jokes).

Maundy Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Traditionally, Maundy Thursday service includes footwashing and the Last Supper. However, footwashing is not always comfortable for people, so this year we are doing a holy anointing. Those who are comfortable are invited forward to be marked with the cross of Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit with olive oil. Like Jesus, we will serve each other by marking each other either on the forehead or on the back of the hand. We will also participate in Holy Communion and the service will conclude with the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday worship is remembering and celebrating the death of Jesus Christ. We will read eight Bible verses each followed by a piece of art explained, music or a sound to help us further engage with the readings. We will also extinguish one candle after each reading until we are shrouded in darkness. We will end by walking the cross, covered in black cloth, out of the sanctuary and leaving in silence.

Easter Sunday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m.

We are starting a new tradition this year to celebrate the resurrection. We will fly an Easter banner! We have purchased a 22 foot pole to fly the Easter banner above our heads as we sing "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today."

Holy Humor, April 24 at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Humor Sunday is a tradition started in the Orthodox church. It is a Sunday where we get to laugh at evil, who tried to vanquish God, but God always wins! That is why we can laugh in the midst of suffering. Evil cannot overcome us because we know God is stronger than evil and death. So we are going to celebrate the gift of laughter and the joy of Easter.

Pastor Sami Pfalzgraf
First Lutheran Church
302 S. 10th St.
St. Joseph, MO 64501
(816) 232-8378