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#### The season of Lent and Easter

Spring is eagerly anticipated, as many people look forward to enjoying the great outdoors once more. Spring is also a special time of year for practicing Christians.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday and lasting 40 weekdays until the arrival of Easter Sunday, the Lenten season is a very important time of year for Christians. During Lent, Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, selfdenial, and spiritual discipline. While the Bible does not reference Lent, the practice of observing Lent has become a standard.

The following focuses on each of the special days of this church season as they pertain to Western Christianity (Eastern Orthodox churches observe Lent somewhat differently).

#### Ash Wednesday

The Day of Ashes commemorates the repentance of sin. On Ash Wednesday, Christians have ashes placed on their foreheads in the shape of a cross in recognition of their need to repent. Many churches host Ash Wednesday services, and those who receive the ashes are not only reminded of their mortality and sinfulness, but also of the opportunity for absolution. Christians typically fast on Ash Wednesday, though some simply abstain from eating meat.

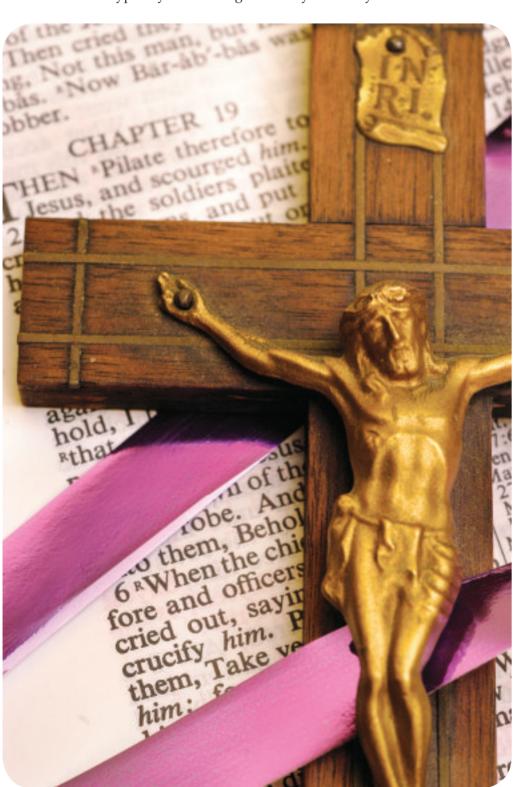
#### Palm Sunday

On what is now called "Palm Sunday," Jesus Christ rode a donkey into Jerusalem while villagers welcomed him and waved palm branches. This is mentioned in each of the Biblical Gospels and occurs a week before His subsequent resurrection. Jesus possibly rode a

donkey rather than a horse as a sign of peace, as a war-waging king might ride a horse. The "Passion of the Christ" is typically read during Palm Sunday masses.

#### Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday is sometimes re-



ferred to as "Covenant Thursday,"
"Maundy Thursday" or "Thursday
of Mysteries." Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus

Christ with the apostles. According to Catholic News Agency, Holy Thursday might be one of the most important, complex and profound days of celebration in the Catholic Church. Holy Thursday celebrates the institution of the Eucharist as the true body and blood of Jesus Christ and the institution of the sacrament of the priesthood.

#### **Good Friday**

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Jesus was condemned by his peers as King Herod and Pontius Pilate had found him not guilty of his crimes. But crowds were enraged, and Pilate reluctantly ordered his crucifixion rather than face a mass riot.

#### **Holy Saturday**

Holy Saturday marks the final day of the Triduum, or the three days preceding Easter Sunday. Scripture states that Holy Saturday was when Jesus' body was placed in the tomb.

#### **Easter Sunday**

A festive and celebratory day for Christians, Easter Sunday is a time for sharing the good news of Jesus' resurrection. His body is discovered missing from the tomb, and Jesus appears to his followers again showing proof that He is alive. Typically, Easter Sunday is one of the most well-attended Sunday services for Christians. It also is a day to spend with family, and many families share large meals to mark the end of the Lenten season.

#### **Assembly of God**



good friday: march 30, 7p

xtreme easter eggsperience: march 31 ages 2-10, 9:30a, register online

easter services: april 1, 8:30a & 10:30a

PAINESVILLE ASSEMBLY OF GOD / 10949 JOHNNYCAKE RIDGE, PAINESVILLE 440.354.6805 / PAINESVILLEAG.COM

#### **Baptist**



4200 State Route 306 Willoughby OH 44094

440-951-2020 • 440-951-3878 FAX www.willohill.com

#### Worship Opportunities for Everyone

- Sunday Morning Worship 10:45am
- Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm
- Wednesday Family Night and Prayer Meeting 7:00pm
- Sunday Adult Bible Fellowship 9:30am
- Children's Sunday School 9:30am
- Children's Church 11:00am
- The Hill Youth Group Sunday 9:30am & Wednesday 6:45pm
- Awana Wednesday 6:45pm
- Ladies Ministry
- Women with a Mission



Willo-Hill Christian School K3 - 6th Grade

www.willohill.com/whcs • 440-951-5391

Join Us for Our Easter Service on April 1st at 10:45 am



#### BIBLE BAPTIST TEMPLE

1565 Chardon Road - Euclid, Ohio 44117 Andrew J. Rusnacko, Pastor www.biblebaptisteuclid.com

## - The "Still" Church -

We "still" preach Repentance as well as Faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ

We "still" sing from Songbooks & Hymnals We "still" use only the King James Bible
We "still" teach Separation & Standards

We "still" emphasize Preaching of the Word of
God - and after 39 years we're "still" here!

We invite you to visit with us and see the way
churches used to be - and "still" should be!



#### WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMS

Thursday Evenings 8:00 pm Friday Afternoons 2:00 pm Saturday Mornings 10:00 am Sunday Mornings 7:30 am WHKW 1220 AM

Free Newsletters upon request, please call 216 - 531-1273

Sunday Mornings, 10:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evenings, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Studies, 7:00 p.m.

#### **Baptist**

# Mentor Baptist Church invites you...



EASTER SERVICE Sunday, April 1 10:45am

> \*Brunch - 9#30am \*Egg Hunt - Noon

www.mentorbaptist.org

440-942-8278





Because Jesus died and rose again for <u>all</u> of us!

Easter Breakfast at 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am

Chesterland Baptist Church

12670 Chillicothe Rd., Chesterland, OH 44026 **(440) 729-7101** 

www.ChesterlandBaptist.org

**Baptist** Catholic

#### **CHARDON BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. James H. Hayes, Pastor 363 Wilson Mills Road, Chardon Ohio 44024 Church: 440-285-3757

E-Mail: chardonbapt@windstream.net

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP • 11:00 A.M.

EASTER BREAKFAST • 10:00 AM • WORSHIP • 11:00 A.M.

(NO EVENING ACTIVITIES)

REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES INCLUDE:

SUNDAY SCHOOL • ALL AGES 10 A.M.
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP, BIBLE CLUB &
YOUTH MINISTRY • 6 P.M.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY • 7 P.M.



# PERRY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

3918 Main St., Perry, Ohio 44081 440-259-2111 • Rev. Michael Cole

Easter Services: Early Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m.

firstbaptistperry@hotmail.com
THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU!

**Brethren** 

# Easter Lit

#### Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Христосъ воскресе! Воистину воскресе!

Χριστός ἀνέστη! Αληθεως ἀνέστη!

Easter Liturgical Celebrations:

St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church, 532 Lloyd Rd. Euclid, OH

Saturday, March 31st at 4:00pm

Vigil Divine Liturgy Followed by the Blessing of Easter Food Baskets.

Sunday, April 1st at 9:00am

Resurrection Matins followed by the Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Easter Food Baskets.

Holy Transfiguration Byzantine Catholic Church, 5768 Andrews Rd., Mentor-On-The-Lake, OH Saturday, March 31st at 7:00pm

Vigil Divine Liturgy Followed by Resurrection Matins and the Blessing of Easter Food Baskets.



# Painesville Church of the Brethren

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

We invite you to join us as we continue the work of Jesus.

GOOD FRIDAY:

SERVICE OF DARKNESS 7 PM

EASTER SUNDAY:

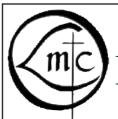
Sunrise Service 8:30 am
"Resurrection: Our Hope" Service
10:30 am

Pastors John & Sondra Bocchieri

10410 Buckeye Road Painesville, Ohio 44077 off Fairgrounds Rd. 440-352-3974

Open Prayer Thursdays 6 pm Sunday School 9:30 am Church Service 10:30 am

**Wheelchair Accessible** 



# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

29850 Euclid Ave, Wickliffe, OH 44092

(440) 585-0700

**Holy Thursday:** 

7 PM Mass of the Solemn Lord's Supper

Good Friday: Stations-NOON

3:00 PM Services

Holy Saturday: Food Blessing at Noon

Easter Vigil: 9:00 PM

Easter Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, & 11:30 AM

**WEEKEND MASSES:** 

**Saturday - 4** & 6 PM, **Sunday -** 7:30, 9:30, & 11:30 AM

#### Catholic



# Celebrate Holy Week at Our Lady of the Lake All are welcome!



March 23: Living Stations of the Cross, 8:00pm

March 29: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00pm

March 30: Community Stations of the Cross, 12:00pm

March 31: Blessing of the Food Baskets, 12:00pm

Easter Vigil, 8:00pm

**April 1:** Easter Mass, 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

At the corner of E. 200th and Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid

216-486-0850 • www.OLLEuclid.org

## St. Patrick Parish



16550 Rock Creek Rd. Thompson, Ohio 44086 **440-298-1327** 

#### Easter Vigil Mass:

Saturday, March 31st at 7:30 pm Easter Sunday Masses:

Sunday, April Ist at 9:30 am



#### **Easter Vigil Mass:**

Saturday, March 31st at 7:30 pm

#### **Easter Sunday Masses:**

8:00 am • 10:00 am 12:00 Noon

#### **Christian Science**

# First Church of Christ, Scientist

101 Daniels Dr., Chardon (near Marc's)

Worship Service - Sundays 11 am Gratitude/Testimony Meeting - Wednesday Evenings 8 pm



www.chardonchristianscience.org • (440)286-6801

We Would Love to Welcome You.





## DIOCESAN EVENING OF CONFESSION.

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 5-8:00 PM

#### COMMUNAL PENANCE...

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 7:00 PM With individual confessions

#### **ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES -**

March 26th, 27th, and 28th, from 9:00 -10:00AM Monday, March 26th and Wednesday March 28th -7:00-8:00 PM

#### HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH..

Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM Agape Dinner at 6:30 PM in Hanson Hall Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 PM Night Prayer 11:00 PM

#### **GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH..**

Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM followed by
The Divine Mercy Novena
Stations of the Cross at Noon
Solemn Service of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM
Living Stations of the Cross with our Youth at 7:00 PM

#### **HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST....**

Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM followed by The Divine Mercy Novena Blessing of Food at 11:30 AM Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 PM

#### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST MASSES...

8:30 and 11:00 AM The Divine Mercy Novena at 9:30 AM

#### **DIVINE WORD CATHOLIC CHURCH**

8100 Eagle Road in Kirtland 440-256-1412

www.divinewordkirtland.org



# ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Serving the Needs of God's People Since 1949

Serving

# JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE EASTER AND THE RISEN CHRIST!

#### **HOLY THURSDAY** ~ March 29th

Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00 pm

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#### GOOD FRIDAY ~ March 30th

Stations of the Cross @ 12 Noon
The Lord's Passion @ 3:00 pm

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#### **HOLY SATURDAY** ~ March 31st

Morning Prayer @ 9:00 am Food Blessing @ 3:00 pm Easter Vigil @ 7:30 pm



# EASTER SUNDAY! April 1st

Masses in Church ~ 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Gym Mass ~ 11:00 am

www.smmwillowick.org

32114 Vine Street, Willowick, OH 44095
440-943-2133

#### Catholic

#### Easter Blessings from St. Justin Martyr 35781 Stevens Blvd. Eastlake 44095

Holy Thursday - March 29 6:00 PM Parish Fellowship Meal 8:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper 9:00 PM Adoration of the Eucharist until Midnight

Good Friday - March 30

Noon Mid-Day Prayer Service
3:00 PM Celebration of the
Lord's Passion
8:00 PM Living Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - March 31
9:00 AM Morning Prayer Service
2:00 PM Blessing of Food Baskets
8:00 PM Easter Vigil Liturgy

Easter Sunday - April 1 Church: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM; Lambur Hall: 9:30 AM (No 5:00 PM Mass on Easter Sunday)



#### **Episcopal**



# St. James Episcopal Church

131 N. State St, Painesville, Ohio 44077 parking lot on E. Erie St. (Rt. 20)

440-354-3526 www.stjamesoh.org Celebrating 150 Years in our Church!

#### **Holy Week and Easter Services**

March 25 Palm Sunday: 8 AM Mass and Palms Blessing; 10:30 AM Mass with Procession

reday: 7 PM Mass followed

March 29 Maundy Thursday: 7 PM Mass followed by Vigil

by vigit

March 30 Good Friday: 12 PM Stations of the Cross;

7 PM Solemn Worship

April 1 Easter Sunday: 7 AM Holy Vigil with New Fire;

10:30 AM Resurrection Mass

#### **Disciples of Christ**



- Inter-generational Study
- Inclusive Worship
- Joyous & Fun Focused Community Mission Formation
- Biblical Interpretation that Makes Sense for Today

# Perry Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

# Welcomes You

Worship: 9:30 am • Sunday School: 11:00 am

3270 Call Road, P.O. Box 177

Perry, OH 44081-0177

Email: sec@perrychristianchurch.org

Telephone: (440)259-4821

Website: www.perrychristianchurch.org

#### **Episcopal**

#### St Luke Episcopal Church

Welcomes You

11519 Wilson Mills Rd. P.O. Box 244 (Mail) Chardon, Ohio 44024

Phone & Fax: 440-285-4641

Email: stlukechardon@yahoo.com
Website: www.stlukechardon.org

Rector: Rev. Chris McCann

Sunday 10:15 am Holy Communion
Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday, March 25 10:15am Holy Eucharist - St Luke Church

Seder Meal, March 28 6pm St Luke Church – FREE – but Reservation

**REQUIRED - by Thurs March 22nd** 

Maundy Thursday, March 29 7pm Institution of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, March 30 12p – 3pm 3-hour service. Jesus preaches from the Cross

Pilgrim Christian Church - All are Welcome

6pm Good Friday Liturgy – St Luke Church

Easter Vigil, March 31 (regional) 7pm Church of the Epiphany,

21000 Lake Shore Blvd, Euclid 44123

Easter Day, April 1 9:30am Pascal Fire and Holy Communion.

Worship is followed

by Soup Sunday Easter Day Breakfast

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.





#### Lutheran

# \*\*\*\*

#### Grace Episcopal Church Welcomes You

36200 Ridge Road, Willoughby, Ohio 44094 Phone: 440-942-1015

Web: http://GraceWilloughby.org Email: office@gracewilloughby.org The Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway, Rector

Sunday services: 8am & 10am

# Holy Week and Easter Services

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 – 10AM – NOON Palm Cross Workshop

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25 – 8 & 10AM** 

Palm Sunday Liturgy Pancake Breakfast

MONDAY & TUESDAY MARCH 26 & 27 - 7PM Eucharist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 – 6-8PM Stations of the Cross & Eucharist THURSDAY, MARCH 29 – 7PM

Maundy Thursday Liturgy Foot Washing, All Night Vigil

FRIDAY, MARCH 30 – 7PM Good Friday Liturgy

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31 - 7PM**Joint Easter Vigil at Epiphany, Euclid

SUNDAY, APRIL 1 – 9AM

Festive Easter Eucharist Grace Notes Choir with the Seasonal Brass

#### Like us on Facebook

## Trinity Lutheran Church LCMS

37728 Euclid Ave., Willoughby

440-942-7766

WEB: trinitywilloughby.org Christian Education Hour 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM

Pastor: Rev. Adam L. Sorenson

#### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM (H/C) GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE 7:00 PM EASTER CELEBRATION WORSHIP 8:30 AM (H/C) and 10:45 AM (H/C) EASTER BREAKFAST 9:30 AM





#### **Zion Lutheran Church**

**Christ is risen! Join us for worship!** Good

Maundy **Thursday** 

12:30 & 6:30 pm

with communion

**Friday** 12:30 &

Easter Celebration

6:30 pm

**Weekend Worship** 

Sun. 11:30 am - Contemporary

Sat. 6:30 pm - Traditional

Sun. 9:00 am - Traditional

with communion

Saturday

ma e Contemporary

Sunday

6:30am SONrise 9 am Festival 10 am Breakfast

508 Mentor Ave. Painesville, OH 440-357-5174

www.zelc.com

1893-2018 · Celebrating our 125th Anniversary



#### SHORE HAVEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

280 East 222 Street, Euclid, OH 44123 216-731-4100

Rev. Steven Hackmann

#### **Every Sunday**

Educational Hour 8:45 AM Worship 10 AM

Communion: 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays

#### **Holy Week Schedule**

Palm Sunday, March 25, 10 am Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm w/ Communion Good Friday, Noonday Service w/ Luncheon, March 30 Good Friday, Tenebrae Service, March 30, 7:30 pm Easter Resurrection Service, April 1, 10 am, followed by Brunch

Please join us!



Blessed to be a Blessing



Rev. Howard A. Davis, Pastor Steve Berndt, Vicar

Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm

Good Friday 7:30 pm

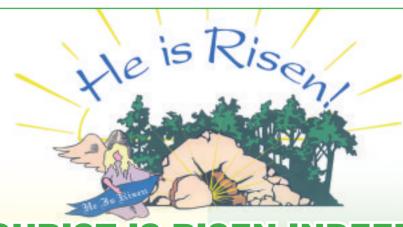
**Easter Sunday:** 

**Worship Service 10:00am** 

Regular Sunday School 9:00 am

Regular Sunday Worship 10:00 am

(440) 428-3759



#### **EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION, APRIL 1**

Pancake Breakfast 8:45am (free will offerings accepted)

Children's Egg Hunt 10:00am (held indoors for small children)

Worship 10:30am

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT CHRIST!** 

#### **LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)**

5555 SOM CENTER ROAD. WILLOUGHBY (BETWEEN RT. 20 AND RT. 84)

WWW.CHRISTLCHURCH.ORG

& "Like" us on Facebook!

Pastor David Thielo (440) 942-1412

**OUR FACILITIES ARE WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE.** 

# Where Faith Grows Bethel Lutheran Church LCMS



32410 Willowick Drive, Willowick, Ohio 44095 • 440-943-5000



Reverend Donald P. Beaumont, Pastor www.bethelwillowick.org

| Saturday Worship         | 6:00 p.m.            |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Sunday Worship           |                      |
| Christian Education Hour |                      |
| Midweek Lenten Services  | Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. |

| Holy Week          |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Palm Sunday        | 10:00 a.m.          |
| Maundy Thursday    | 7:00 p.m.           |
| Good Friday        | 11:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. |
| Saturday Worship   | 6:00 p.m.           |
| Easter SONrise     | 6:30 a.m.           |
| Easter Celebration | 10:00 a.m.          |
|                    |                     |







8125 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH

#### He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!



Join us this Easter morning to celebrate our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our Easter Festival Service is at 9:30 am.

Additionally, we gather together to worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for our Traditional Worship Service or at 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings for our Contemporary Worship Service.

Additional information may be found at FaithMentor.org
or on our Facebook page:
Facebook/8125Mentor Ave

Rev. Dr. Kevin L. Guynn 440-255-2229

#### Pilgrim Lutheran **Brethren Church**



#### Please Celebrate Easter With Us

Easter Festival – Wednesday, March 21st 6:00 p.m. Dinner followed by activities

Palm Sunday - March 25th 8:30 & 11:00 Worship services

Holy Wednesday - March 28th 7:00 p.m. Communion Service

Good Friday - March 30th 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Easter Services - April 1st 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Easter Worship 9:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9514 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Mentor, OH www.pilgrimlbc.com | 440.255.9403 | pilgrimlbc@gmail.com

#### **Methodist**





#### Willoughby United Methodist Church

Palm Sunday Services Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm Cross Walk (Friday) Good Friday Service

Regular Times\*\* see below 7:00 pm

#### **Easter Service Times**

8:00 \* 9:30 \* 11:00 am Continental Breakfast served between services Regular Weekly Service Times\*\* 8:00 & 10:30 am **Education Hour 9:15** 

> 15 Public Square 440.942.9068 Willoughbyumc.com

Community Cross Walk will begin at 9:30 am Friday, March 30 at the Willoughby Bible Church and end at Willoughby United Methodist Church with a closing service at 10:30 am.

# No feeling. The grave is empty. JESUS IS ALIVE!

Come and see, this Easter.
Sunday, April 1, 2018

"A Conversation with the Resurrected Jesus"

Services at 9am and 11am

# Plus! Join Us for Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 25 Services at 9am and 11am Maundy Thursday

March 29 Service at 7:30pm Good Friday

March 30 Tenebrae Service 7:30pm



#### One church, two ways to worship

Sanctuary Traditional Worship . iConnect Modern Worship



#### **Methodist**

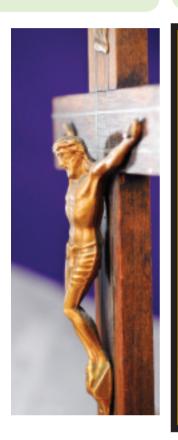
#### Non-Denominational



7271 Lake Shore Blvd. Mentor 440-946-1193 **Worship Services** 8:30 and 10:30 am www.mentorplainsumc.org

**Mentor Plains United Methodist Church** 

Rev. Byron Bufkin





#### **EASTER SERVICES**

Palm Sunday - 10:30AM • Good Friday - 7:00PM Easter Sunday - 10:30AM

Come & Share the Joy of Easter

7510 Reynolds Rd., Mentor, OH 44060 (corner of Rt. 306 & Adkins Rd.)

#### **Pentecostal**

LakeErieChurch.com



WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO **MEETING YOU!** 

During all of our Holy Week services, we will have the following available:

- Nursery: Infant birth to 1 year & Toddler
- 1 to 3 years
- Pre-School; 3 to 5 years old
- Kids Church; 5 to 12 years old

Contact our kids leaders at kidzone@lakeeriechurch.com if you have any questions regarding our Childrens Holy Week Services.

Please call, or email becki@lakeeriechurch.com for all other questions.

#### **Non-Denominational**

**Body of Christ Community** 38057 Erie Rd, Willoughby OH 44094

Pastor Mike Currier

Palm Sunday Service - 10:00 AM

Holy Thursday - 7:30 PM

Good Friday - 2:00 & 7:30 PM

Easter Celebration – 10:00 AM

440-942-1985

#### **Hillcrest Community Church**

5631 Ridgebury Blvd, Highland Heights www.hillcrestcommunitychurch.org 440-442-6230

#### **Easter Service Times**

Palm Sunday Morning Worship Service - 11am Good Friday Service March 30 - 7pm Easter Sunday Morning Worship Service - 11am

We are a Bible teaching/preaching ministry with traditional services



221 E. 320TH St Willowick, OH 44095 440-943-0151 erieside.org EASTER SERVICES
Good Friday 6:30 pm
Easter Sunday 10:30 am
Easter Sunday Continental
Breakfast 9:00 am

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 am Childrens Worship Also at 10:30 am



#### Location:

Lakeland Community College Performing Arts Center, 7700 Clocktower Dr, Kirtland OH 44094

#### Easter Services Schedules:

Good Friday Service: March 30th at 7pm (no childcare provided)

Easter Sunday Services: April 1st at 9am & 10:45am

(NOTE: childcare will be provided ONLY for the 10:45am service)

**Sunday, April 8th:** 10am Worship Service resumes

For more information go to parksidelake.com/events













## Create and hide unbreakable Easter eggs

Easter is one of the most important days of the year for Christians. Easter Sunday is filled with symbolism and tradition, some of which harken back to early Christianity, while others trace their origins to paganism.

The Easter Bunny and Easter eggs are two Easter traditions with less extensive histories. The Easter Bunny, according to sources including History.com, first arrived in America in the 1700s via German settlers who brought with them their tradition of an egg-laying hare called "Osterhase." Children would make nests where the rabbit could lay its colored eggs. Eventually, the custom spread from Pennsylvania, where many German immigrants settled, to other areas around the country.

Eggs are symbolic of new life and rebirth in many cultures. To Christians, eggs represent the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Another theory suggests that Christians were once forbidden to eat during the Lenten season preceding Easter. Therefore, Christians would paint and decorate eggs for Easter to mark the joyous celebration and cessation of penance and fasting.

Even though these traditions have endured, Easter eggs themselves might not be so strong. This year, Easter celebrants may want to experiment with different materials that are more forgiv-



ing and more enduring than standard eggs.

#### Wooden eggs

Families may find that wooden eggs are much more forgiving than standard eggs. Wooden eggs don't have to be boiled, and they don't need time to harden, and they're quite maneuverable for young fingers.

Decorators can explore different ways to color wooden eggs. Acrylic paints are readily available and safe for users of any age. Wood stains or wood markers also can be used to give the eggs a natural finish. Others may want to rip small

pieces of decorative paper to create a decoupage effect on their wooden eggs.

#### Sew soft eggs

Those who are handy with a needle and thread can explore patterns for making soft, stuffed eggs. Cozy fleece or other fabrics can be sewn together to make the general egg shape. Then the egg is filled with polyester filling, feathers or another soft material. Ribbons, buttons, trims, and other decorative touches can personalize the eggs and add a touch of whimsy. Check out www.sew4home.com for their ideas on handmade Easter eggs.

#### Modeling clay

Children who love to get their hands dirty may enjoy making Easter eggs out of modeling materials. Colors can be blended together to create a marbleized effect. Depending on the clay medium, the eggs may air-harden or may need to be heated at a low temperature in the oven to fully cure.

Easter eggs are a fun tradition that adds to the festivity of spring. While traditional eggs can be used, many different, more long-lasting materials can be used as well.

#### Non-Denominational

Don't words like overflowing and lavish make you smile? The idea that you could have more than enough is a powerful concept. It's not about being greedy or looking out for yourself, it's actually about the generosity of God who loves to give. He is the God of grace, and Easter is a glorious picture of His grace abounding!

Good Friday Service:
Friday March 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Services:

Sunday April 1st at 9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.





12920 Painesville-Warren Rd. • Painesville, OH 44077 440.254.4747 • www.leroychapel.org



#### Create religious Easter traditions



Easter is on the way, and practicing Christians across the globe have spent the Lenten season preparing for the day when they celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent is a season best spent in the company of close friends and family, and the following are a few ways for Christians to celebrate their faith in the weeks leading up to Easter Sunday.

- Give Easter eggs a different meaning. Easter eggs are popular among youngsters, and that popularity can be used to teach kids about their faith. Eggs are frequently viewed as a symbol of new life, so parents can use them to show their children how Christ died and was born anew. Eggs can be filled with small items that symbolize something related to Christ's story. Or they can be left empty to represent the empty tomb after His resurrection.
- Eat food that conveys Biblical stories. For Easter dinner, enjoy foods that are mentioned in the Bible. A fish dinner can convey the story of how Jesus multiplied fish to feed the crowds, or dine on lamb and share the story of Passover.
- Participate in church services. Throughout Lent, many parishes offer Easter vigils or specialized services that relate the account of Jesus' life and subsequent

death on the cross. Some churches may recreate realistic stations of the Cross. Employing pageantry to bring biblical stories to life can help young children visualize and better understand the meaning of Easter.

- Create a Christ-centered Easter basket. Parents can still fill kids' Easter baskets with some of the familiar confectionary treats, but those parents who impart lessons about their faith to their kids also can include books about the story of Easter, rosary beads, a crucifix for a child's room, and maybe a children's Bible.
- Make time for volunteer work. Many families reserve volunteerism for the Christmas season, but Easter also marks a great time to volunteer. In a season that focuses on the ultimate sacrifice, families can open their hearts to others. Invite someone over for Easter dinner who has nowhere to go. Share your holiday celebrations with a person of another faith so that he or she may be able to see what makes this time of year special. Create a service jar filled with small, loving tasks everyone in the family can do each day.

The Lenten season, including Easter, is the most celebrated time of the year for Christians. Families can enjoy the festivities by blending many different traditions together and by focusing on the spirituality of the season.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Holy Thursday, which falls on the Thursday before Easter Sunday, commemorates The Last Supper of Jesus Christ. During The Last Supper, Jesus, who Christians believe is the Son of God, established the sacrament of Holy Communion. The Last Supper was the final meal Jesus enjoyed with his disciples in Jerusalem, and it was during The Last Supper when Jesus predicted one of those disciples would ultimately betray him. Holy Thursday is sometimes referred to as "Maundy Thursday," a reference to the religious rite of maundy, which is the washing of the feet. The Last Supper and the rite of maundy are connected because it was during The Last Supper that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Though The Last Supper, during which Jesus gave his disciples bread, telling them it was his body, and wine, telling them it was his blood, is celebrated at every Mass as part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Holy Thursday Mass places even greater emphasis on this significant event.



#### **Presbyterian**

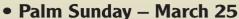






# First Presbyterian Church

Join Us for Holy Week & Easter!



- Maundy Thursday March 29
- Easter Sunday April 1
   Easter Message:
   "The Folded Napkin"

Contemporary Worship at 9:00 am Traditional Worship at 11:00 am

Worship with Communion at 7:00 pm

Contemporary Worship at 9:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:45 - 11:00 am Egg Hunt at 10:30 am Traditional Worship at 11:00 am

(Fully-staffed nursery for all Sunday services)

4785 Shankland Rd., Willoughby www.fpcwilloughby.org • 440-946-0070 • 🚮



# Easter symbolism complements the holiday

Tradition plays an important role in Easter celebrations for many families. Cherished traditions and symbols of Easter may include anything from egg hunts to lilies to lambs. Understanding the importance behind these symbols can make sharing the miracle of Easter that much more special.

#### Eggs

Eggs are one of the more recognizable symbols of Easter. For Easter egg hunts, eggs are hard-boiled and decorated in bright hues. It's believed that the origins of Easter eggs are both secular and religious. From the secular (once pagan) perspective, the egg is an ancient symbol of new life, according to The History Channel, and has been associated

with pagan festivals that celebrate spring. Some Christians feel that Easter eggs represent Christ's emergence from the tomb and his subsequent resurrection. Eggs were once a food not consumed during Lent, therefore painting and decorating them to mark the end of fasting and penance became a way to celebrate Easter.

#### Crucifix

The crucifix is one of the central symbols of Easter and Christianity. The cross is a symbol of Christ's crucifixion and sacrifice. The crucifix also highlights the ability of God to give new life to people after death.



In addition to wearing and displaying the cross during Easter, some people bake "hot cross buns" as another symbol of the season.

#### Rabbit

The Easter bunny is very much a secular symbol of the holiday, but one that has become so ingrained with the season that many people ascribe to it a Christian meaning. Pagan celebrations of spring often linked rabbits or hares with the season because of their fertility and ability to bring forth new life. According to the Christian living resource Crosswalk, believers associate the rabbit coming out of its under-

ground home as a symbol of Christ emerging from the tomb.

#### Lilies

Lilies are often exchanged during Easter celebrations or presented as hostess gifts for those sharing the holiday meal with others. The American Bible Society says lilies grow in the spring around the time when Easter is typically celebrated. Also, because they look like trumpets, they can be a symbol that heralds Christ's resurrection.

#### Lamb

The lamb is another symbol associated with Easter. Lambs were originally

associated with the Jewish holiday of Passover, when lambs were sacrificed and their blood was used to mark which houses contained those faithful to God. As a result of his crucifixion, Christ became the symbolic lamb for all — the ultimate sacrifice. In fact, Christ is often referred to as "The Lamb of God."

Easter is replete with many recognized symbols. Unearthing their meanings can be a learning experience and a way to further immerse oneself in this holy holiday.

## **Bunny Cupcakes**



#### **Bunny Cupcakes**

Recipe courtesy of Amanda Rettke of "I am baker"

Prep time: 45 minutes Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 24

- 1 2-layer size white cake mix
- 1 tablespoon, plus 2 teaspoons, McCormick Pure Lemon

Extract, divided

- 1 tablespoon McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract
- 3/4 cup white chocolate chips
- 2 sticks butter, softened
- 16 ounces confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 10 drops McCormick Green Food Color
- 1-2 drops McCormick Red Food Color
- 12 large marshmallows, halved crosswise
- 3 tablespoons white nonpareil sprinkles

Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding 1 tablespoon lemon extract and vanilla. Spoon 3 tablespoons batter into 24 paper-lined muffin cups. Bake as directed on package for cupcakes. Cool cupcakes on wire rack.

To make bunny feet: In medium, microwave-safe bowl, microwave white chocolate chips on high 30 seconds. Stir until completely melted and smooth. Spoon into pastry bag or re-sealable plastic bag. Snip small corner from bag. Pipe 24 pairs of bunny feet onto parchment or wax paper-lined cookie sheet. Use toothpick to smooth out bumps or rough edges, and gently tap cookie sheet on counter to help settle. Allow to harden 2 minutes in freezer or 15 minutes in refrigerator.

To make frosting: In large bowl, beat butter and remaining lemon extract until light and fluffy. Gradually add confectioners' sugar, beating well after each addition and scraping sides and bottom of bowl frequently. Add milk; beat until light and fluffy. Remove half the frosting and place in medium bowl. Add green food color; mix until evenly blended. Spoon into pastry bag fitted with grass decorating tip. Set aside. Remove half the remaining frosting into small bowl. Add red food color; mix until light pink. Spoon into another pastry bag.

Using pink frosting, pipe three toes and padding on each bunny foot. Once frosting has set (about 1 hour) gently press down on pink frosting to create smoother look.

**To assemble cupcakes**: Pipe green frosting onto each cupcake in series of short motions to create individual grass spots. Cover top of each cupcake completely.

To make bunny butts: Place cut sides of marshmallow halves onto each frosted cupcake, leaving room for bunny feet. Shape remaining white frosting into dime-sized balls then roll with white sprinkles to cover. Pipe small drop of remaining pink or white frosting onto top of each marshmallow. Press bunny tail on top.

Place both bunny feet against base of marshmallow with toes facing down.

# Where Everyone Is Welcome First Church Congregational Join us for the Easter Season Services

Palm Sunday March 25th 9am Contemporary Service in Chapel

10am Sunday school

11am Traditional Service in Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday March 29th 7pm Worship with Holy

Communion in the Sanctuary

Good Friday March 30th 7 pm Worship in the Chapel

Easter Sunday April 1st 9am Contemporary Service in Chapel

10am Fellowship Hour and Easter egg hunt

11am Traditional Service in Sanctuary

#### All are Welcome and Invited!

THE NORMAL SCHEDULE INCLUDES TWO SERVICES

- 9am Sunday Contemporary in the Chapel
- 10am Adult Sunday school in CE Building
- 11am Sunday school for Children in CE Building
- 11am Sunday Traditional in the Sanctuary each Sunday
- 7pm Every Wednesday (February 14-March 21) Lenten Program



First Church Congregational is part of the United Church of Christ located on The Square, 22 Liberty Street, Painesville Ohio 44077, Details on daily activities at www.firstchurchcongregational.org under News view calendar or (440) 357-7518