

Spring is Coming! We are on the journey to Jerusalem. Throughout Lent Jesus has offered glimpses of the future. Sharing old testament prophecy and trying to prepare himself and the disciples for what is to come.

Getting ready can be hard. Even if you know what is coming. Maybe especially if you know what is coming. Peter just couldn't hold it in. He urged Jesus to step aside, to not proclaim this future. I think Jesus had moments of gripping fear too. His rebuke of Peter was harsh and fast. He pushed him away and turned into the coming days. There was much to do, and so little time to do it. When this is true, fully experiencing the journey can be truly hard.

We know where March is leading us. Easter is March 31st.

And yet we have an entire month, to reflect, to consider, to tidy our homes. A month to Spring Clean and clear out the winter clutter. A month to get ready. Our shared transition work this March continues. We gather on Wednesdays for **Soup and Conversation**. We gather on March 10th for Lunch and a closer look at the patterns and events over the past 25 years. In between we gather for Worship and intertwine our lives with Jesus' journey to that cross.

This year we will celebrate the fullness of **Holy Week** in the traditional style; walking in real time with Jesus

On March 24th we will celebrate **Palm Sunday**. We will enter Jerusalem waving palms and singing Hosannah!

We will gather at 6:30pm on **Maundy Thursday**, share a communal meal and step with Jesus into the garden. In the silence that follows Jesus' arrest we will strip the Sanctuary and Altar together. (Please RSVP on signup sheets outside the Sanctuary or call the office. We know that driving at night is difficult for some of us. Please call the office if this is true for you. We will be planning transportation.

**Good Friday** Observances are at 11AM and 7PM.

You are invited to spend **Holy Saturday** remembering the Bible stories of God's deliverance.

March 31st, is **EASTER**. Service is at 10AM. We will celebrate Christ's birth and our Anniversary together.

March is full. There is much to prepare! And how wonderful is that we can do this all together as the Church. God's hands and feet and voice on Irving Park Road!!!