

MARCH 2024



VIEW FROM THE LAKE

ABIDING PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

EARLY EASTER

BY PASTOR SERENA

Easter is in March this year. The very last day of March, but still March.

Those of us in the making-worship-happen-world can tend to get a little bit grumpy when the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox (the formula that determines the date of Easter) falls this early in the calendar. It makes the planning for the flurry of special services in Lent and Holy Week feel rushed, and thus increases the likelihood of liturgical stress overlapping with winter blues.

This year, however, I am trying shift my perspective. After all, Easter is the point. Lent is a meaningful season that calls us into honest reflection and vulnerability before God. And Holy Week pulls us into the depth and power of God's love expressed. But Easter is the point. Easter is the culmination of the story without which the rest of the story would lose its promise of hope. Easter is the assurance that whatever struggles and pains (and stresses, and bulletin typos, and scrambling for worship assistants) we have experienced in the lead up, the end of life and life abundant. Easter is the reminder that even the inevitability of death is defeated by God's love.

And this year, of all years, I think our community could probably use an early Easter. We have been grappling with questions and struggles and anxieties for a while now. We have been taking steps forward, but also feeling the stress of culture shifts and the need to invest our energy and effort to bring to fruit the vision we have for our future. And in the midst of all of this effort and angst, I think we probably need the reminder of what it's all about. We need the reminder of abundant life coming springing up where only death seemed present. We need the promise and the hope of resurrection.

So, if the bulletins have some mistakes... or we don't quite get the light-dimming right on Good Friday... or if anything else gets missed or mixed up in the scramble of early Easter, I am choosing to celebrate the rush. Just like we can't mess up worship, we can't keep Jesus in the tomb. And Thank God for that.



**WORSHIP: 10:00 AM ONLINE/
IN-PERSON**

**APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 3/27
ANY NEWS/ PHOTOS CAN BE SENT TO ERIN
APLCBUDDLAKE@GMAIL.COM**

OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE:

Abiding peace lutheran church makes christ known by welcoming all people to a supporting and accepting place to grow in faith and community and to serve the lord as people created by god, saved by christ and nurtured by the holy spirit. we are a reconciling in christ congregation, committed to the full inclusion and celebration of people of all sexualities, genders, and gender expressions, and to the work of racial equity.

Phone: 973-691-9393 Website: www.abidingpeacechurch.org

COUNCIL & MINISTRY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH

- Parmalat Milk
- Mac & Cheese (regular or gf)
- Pasta (regular or gf)
- Crushed Tomatoes
- Beans
- Rice
- Vegetable Oil
- PB & Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Juice
- Hot-Dogs and buns
- Vegan/vegetarian soups
- Vegan/vegetarian protein options
- Toiletries
- Re-usable bags!
(proteins & breads must go directly into freezer)

OUR FOOD PANTRY HAS BEEN VERY BUSY THE PAST FEW MONTHS! PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY.

OUR STAFF

Pastor:
Serena Rice
pastorserena@optimum.net
c: 908-458-3940

Music Director:
Ben Schroeder
benmschroeder@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:
Erin Porter
aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Serena will hold office hours on Thursdays throughout Lent. The plans below may change, as circumstances require – check weekly bulletins and Monday e-blast for updates. In addition to posted hours in the office, Pastor Serena is also available to the congregation by cell phone or e-mail during the week: (908) 458-3940; pastorserena@optimum.net. Her day off is Saturday, so please refrain from sending non-emergency messages or calls on Saturday.

Erin will be in the office Thursdays from 9:00-12:00, and can be reached via email: aplcbuddlake@gmail.com

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER

CINDY PAWLO
HEATHER NILSEN
JACKIE KING-PALERMO
GEORGE PAWLO

COUNCIL MEMBERS

CINDY PAWLO
KEN SCHWIER
SHELLI SKEELS
SIBYLLE SCHROEDER
HEATHER NILSEN

JACKIE KING-PALERMO
MARIA JEREZ-KEARNEY
CHARLIE PALERMO
AARON HYNDMAN

MINISTRY LEADERS

ARTS & CRAFTS
CHRISTIAN ED. & YOUTH
EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP
FINANCE
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
MESSENGERS DANCERS
MUTAL MINISTRY
PROPERTY
SOCIAL MINISTRY
SENIORS
STEWARDSHIP
WORSHIP & MUSIC

SIBYLLE SCHROEDER
HEATHER NILSEN
AARON HYNDMAN
DEMETRIA LAIRD
GEORGE PAWLO
NITA PERSSON
MARY KASAKOVE
HEATHER NILSEN
VACANT
SIBYLLE SCHROEDER
SIBYLLE SCHROEDER
NICK SENIOR
MARY KASAKOVE

PASTOR'S MARCH HOURS

Feb 26 – Mar 3

Thursday, 2/29 – 4:00pm – 9:00pm
Sunday, 3/3 – 9:00am – 1:00pm

Mar 4 – Mar 10

Thursday, 3/7 – 10:30am – 9:00pm
Sunday, 3/10 – 9:00am – 12:00pm

Mar 11 – Mar 17

Thursday, 3/14 – 10:30 am – 9:00pm
Sunday, 3/17 – 9:00am – 2:00pm

Mar 18 – Mar 24

Thursday, 3/21 – 10:30am – 9:00pm
Sunday, 3/24 – 9:00am – 2:00pm

Mar 25 – Mar 31

Thursday, 3/28 – 10:30am – 9:00pm
Friday, 3/29 – 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, 3/30 – 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Sunday, 3/31 – 7:00am – 12:00pm

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy week services are some of the most moving and special services of the church year, and they take a lot of volunteers to make them flow smoothly. Whether or not you have ever been involved with worship assistance roles before, please consider volunteering for one or more of these services:

MAUNDY THURSDAY

- Assistant minister
- Usher/acolyte
- Communion assistant
- Soloist
- Livestream assistant

GOOD FRIDAY

- Assistant minister
- Usher/acolyte
- Cross-procession
- Lights
- Soloist
- Livestream assistant

EASTER VIGIL

- Assistant Minister
- Usher
- Lectors (5)
- Communion assistant
- Lights & chimes
- Soloist
- Livestream assistants (2)

EASTER FLOWERS
THERE MAY STILL BE PATCHES OF SNOW ON THE GROUND, BUT IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE FLORAL CELEBRATIONS IN OUR SANCTUARY ON EASTER SUNDAY, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PAYMENT AND DEDICATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY SUNDAY, MARCH 24. DEDICATIONS MAY BE MADE EITHER "IN MEMORY OF" OR "IN HONOR OF."



MARCH READINGS

3/3

- Exodus 20:1-17
- Psalms 19
- I Corinthians 1:18-25
- John 2:13-22

3/10

- Number 21:4-9
- Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- John 3:14-21

3/17

- Genesis 9:8-17
- Psalms 25:1-10
- I Peter 3:18-22
- Mark 1:9-15

3/24

- Mark 11:1-11
- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Mark 14:1-15:57

3/31

- Acts 10:34-43
- Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24
- I Corinthians 15:1-11
- Mark 16:1-8

MARCH FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

CHILI COOK-OFF

Bring your favorite chili recipes and your appetite to our annual chili cook-off which will be March 2, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Bring your favorite green or Irish desserts on March 17th for our St. Patrick's Day coffee hour.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS AND SERVICE

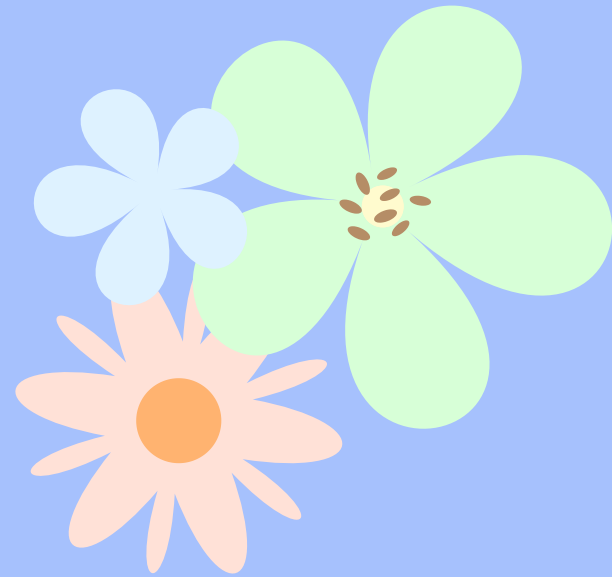
Our midweek soup suppers and Lenten services continue throughout the month of March. Soup supper will be held March 7th, 14th, and 21st with soup at 7 followed by the service at 7:30.

HOLY WEEK

Join us for Palm Sunday March 24th. We're planning to have a luncheon following our service to welcome our Korean congregation.

THE APLC PASSOVER SEDER AND EASTER BRUNCH ARE STILL PLANNED FOR THE 28TH AND 31ST RESPECTIVELY.

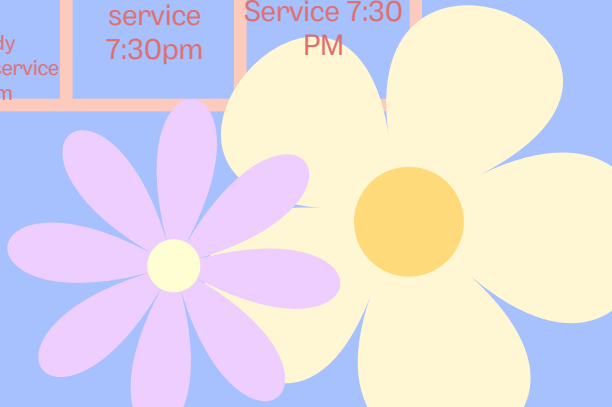
MARCH BIRTHDAYS!
3/10 - ERIN PORTER
3/11 - TYLER RICE
3/11 - MARCO PONCE JR.
3/14 - SERENA RICE



DID WE MISS A BIRTHDAY? PLEASE EMAIL ERIN (APLCBUDDLAKE@GMAIL.COM) TO KEEP US UP TO DATE!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | | 3/1 | 3/2 |
| 3/3 Worship 10:00 Outreach forum 11:30 | 3/4 | 3/5 Faith Kitchen 9:00am-12:30pm | 3/6 AA 6:30 PM Financial Strategy Team meeting @ 6:00pm | 3/7 Worship & Music Committee meeting 1:00pm Children's Church 6:30 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten mid-week service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 | 3/8 | 3/9 |
| 3/10 Worship 10:00 Inaugural 3-5 y/o Sunday School class @ 11:00 | 3/11 | 3/12 | 3/13 AA 6:30 PM | 3/14 Children's Church 6:30 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten mid-week service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 | 3/15 | 3/16 |
| 3/17 Worship 10:00 Council Meeting 11:30 | 3/18 | 3/19 | 3/20 Seniors Ministry Tea Party 2:00pm AA 6:30 PM | 3/21 Prayer Service for Mt Olive Manor 4:30pm Children's Church 6:30 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten mid-week service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 | 3/22 | 3/23 |
| 3/24 Worship 10:00 Forum on Bible Translations 11:30am Luncheon with Mok Yang Korean Church 12:30pm | 3/25 | 3/26 | 3/27 AA 6:30 PM | 3/28 Seder Meal 6:30pm Maundy Thursday service 7:30pm | 3/29 Good Friday service 7:30pm | 3/30 Easter Vigil Service 7:30 PM |

3/31
Easter sunrise service 7:00 AM





**March 2024
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A REPLACEMENT IF YOU CANNOT SERVE.

| March | 3/3 | 3/10 | 3/17 | 3/24 Palm Sunday | 3/31 Easter |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Altar Guild | Sandy | Mary/Sandy | Mary/Sandy | Mary/Sandy | Mary/Sandy |
| Counter | Anna Santino | Ursula Schroeder | Howard Corneilson | George Pawlo | Sandy Carlson |
| Assistant Minister | Sue Stirrat | Sandy Carlson | Doug Laird | Sibylle Schroeder | Sheeba David |
| Lector | Sheeba David | Maria Jerez | Demetria Laird | Mary Kasakove | Sue Stirrat |
| Communion Assistant | Maria Jerez | Mary Kasakove | Cindy Pawlo | George Pawlo | Maria Jerez |
| Usher/Greeter/Acolyte | Howard Corneilson | Mary Kasakove | Sibylle Schroeder | Cindy Pawlo | Doug Laird |
| Soloist | TBA | TBA | TBA | TBA | TBA |
| Livestream Assistant | Nick Senior | Sheeba David | Ray Mueller | Nick Senior | Tyler Rice |

BREAD BAKING:

Sandy Carlson

