



The Grace Vine

April 2023

Rector's Writ

Not so long ago, we had boots and coats and heat on to help us endure winter. Spring has officially arrived, and we find ourselves trying to be faithful in observing a holy Lent, being faithful in and keeping our disciplines throughout. Within a few days, those Lenten disciplines and observations will intensify as we prepare for Holy Week. We know how the story unfolds: the last supper; Christ's prayers in Gethsemane; betrayal; denial; the trial and crucifixion; death, grief, and silence. Like some of the disciples, we tend to have a response for almost anything. As we recall our Lord's teachings, his suffering and death, and the shadows cast during Holy Week, so often our main response is silence. Some years it's difficult to enter and embrace that silence. Sometimes we want explanations; we want life to be different; we want life to be fair. The Holy Week stories we read and listen to are not about fairness, but faithfulness: Christ's love and faith in the Father; the Father and the Son's abiding, enduring love for humanity.

The point of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection is our salvation and redemption. Jesus did what we could not do for ourselves and restored us to a right relationship with God. The renewed life we see each spring is one reminder of the renewing love, hope, and grace we're given through Jesus Christ our Savior. Please invite and plan to bring family and friends with you for Holy Week and Easter services. The joy of Easter is an empty cross, an empty tomb, and hearts filled with praise, glory, and worship offered gladly to our risen Lord.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise for ever and ever. Amen. (Easter Week Prayer, BCP p.223)

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age, till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love, and praise. (Hymn #182 Christ is Alive!)

A blessed Holy Week and a blessed, joyful Easter
to you and those you love.

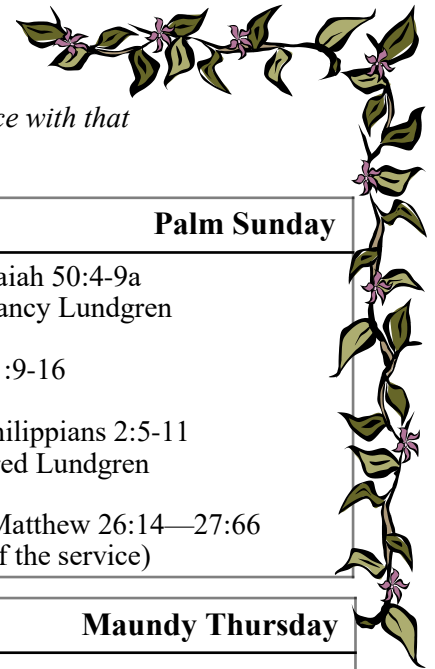


Carol+



Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.

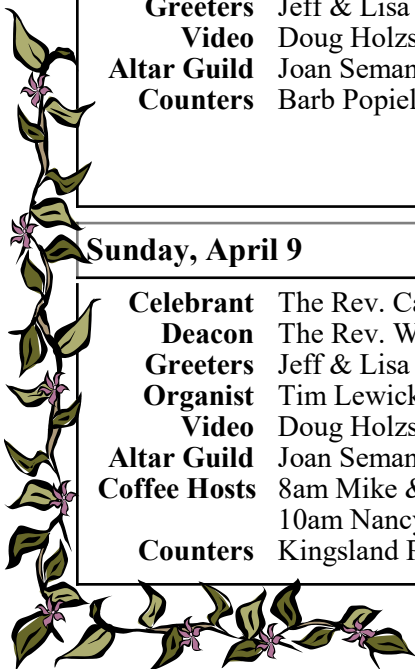


Sunday, April 2		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Palm Sunday
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 50:4-9a Nancy Lundgren
Wrshp Ldr	10am Carolyn Englert	Psalm	31:9-16
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	2nd Reading	Philippians 2:5-11 Fred Lundgren
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Passion Gospel	Matthew 26:14—27:66 (read at the end of the service)
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius		

Sunday, April 6		7:00 PM Holy Eucharist	Maundy Thursday
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 12:1-14 Tim Splinter
Wrshp Ldr	Carolyn Englert	Psalm	116:1, 10-17
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin	2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 11:23-26 Carol Marotta
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius		

Sunday, April 7		7:00 PM Holy Eucharist	Good Friday
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Carol Marotta
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	22
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Video	Doug Holzschuh	Gospel	John 18:1—19:42
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius		

Sunday, April 9		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter Day
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 10:34-43 Tim Splinter
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	118:1-2, 14-24
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	Colossians 3:1-4 Jeff Croll
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 28:1-10
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder		
Coffee Hosts	8am Mike & Shirley Johnson 10am Nancy & Jim Ervin		
Counters	Kingsland Pretorius & Carol Marotta		





Sunday, April 16		8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer		2 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. William Snyder	1st Reading	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Carolyn Englert	
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin	Psalm	16	
Organist	Tim Lewicki	2nd Reading	1 Peter 1:3-9 Fred Lundgren	
Video	Doug Holzschuh	Gospel	John 20:19-31	
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder			
Coffee Hosts	8am Kay & Rallph Wise 10am Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk			
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius			

Sunday, April 23		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		3 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Tim Splinter	
Wrshp Ldr	10am Carolyn Englert	Psalm	116:1-3, 10-17	
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	1 Peter 1:17-23 Carol Marotta	
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Luke 24:13-35	
Video	Doug Holzschuh			
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder			
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Doris Whipple & Gail Richards			
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius			

Sunday, April 30		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		4 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. William Snyder	1st Reading	Acts 2:42-47 Jeff Croll	
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	23	
Greeters	Cindy Ward & Jameson Patrick	2nd Reading	1 Peter 2:19-25 TBA	
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	John 10:1-10	
Video	Doug Holzschuh			
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Marsha Snyder			
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Marsha & Bill Snyder			
Counters	Barb Popiel & Kingsland Pretorius			

Sunday, May 7		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		5 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 7:55-60 Nancy Lundgren	
Wrshp Ldr	10am Carolyn Englert	Psalm	31:1-5, 15-16	
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren	2nd Reading	1 Peter 2:2-10 Fred Lundgren	
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	John 14:1-14	
Video	Doug Holzschuh			
Altar Guild	Nancy Ervin & Cindy Hoskins			
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald			
Counters	Midge Myers & Kingsland Pretorius			



Walking Group

Come walk with us. Carol Marotta & Laurie Barney will lead the walk at noon. Meet at Chestnut Hills Park, Ravenna, and walk to the first parking lot.





Did You Know?...



Easter is certainly upon us. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Lent is almost over, and we hope your Lenten discipline has helped you grow in the Spirit. We've had a good group participating in the Tuesday Lenten Studies. Those attending included **Midge Myers, Kathy Marsh, Kingsland Pretorius, Roberta O'Keefe, Marsha & Bill Snyder, Rick Taylor, Marcia Splinter, Kay Wise, and Carolyn Englert. Rev. Carol** was our facilitator. We met in the parish hall and enjoyed all parts of the evening: a light meal, the discussion, and Compline. Soup and bread along with cookies and/or other sweets were supplied by **Bill & Marsha Snyder, Kingsland Pretorius, Midge Myers, Kay Wise, Rev. Carol, Marcia Splinter, Rick Taylor, and Kathy Marsh.** We studied from the booklet *Living Well Through Lent: Practicing Compassion with all Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. There were some lively and moving discussions over the readings and the challenges they offered. We ended each session with praying Compline together. If you haven't read or know what Compline is, please look it up in your prayer book beginning on page 127. It's a brief yet calming, quiet service with some lovely prayers...a wonderful way for groups or individuals to end any day...

Nancy & Jim Ervin are so proud of their granddaughter **Emily** who's on the Dean's List at Siena Heights University in Michigan. Way to go, Emily!...

Rick Taylor, chair of the Membership and Growth Committee, invited members of the congregation to join them for a discussion about church growth. There was a lot of discussion, and some ideas were brought up, but we know this won't be an easy "fix" for any of us. The focus included: what can *we* do to make a difference in growing our church and being active in the community, and what it will take to get this job done. There will be other meetings, and everyone is asked to join and give helpful ideas that will encourage us with growth at Grace Church...

On March 5th **Sergeant Andrew Wert** from the Ravenna Police department provided Active Shooter Training after the 10am church service. The meeting was held in the parish hall after a quick coffee hour. Members that stayed after church or came back to church for the presentation were: **Midge Myers, Kingsland Pretorius, Barb Popiel, Kay & Ralph Wise, Laurie Barney, Marsha & Bill Snyder, Fred & Nancy Lundgren, Rick Taylor, Nancy, Jim, & Emily Ervin, Cathy Potisuk, and Frank & Joan Seman, and Rev. Carol.** Sgt. Wert presented us with many good ideas about how to help keep us safe while at worship. Some of the "Run, Hide, Fight" scenarios were presented, and a lot of questions were asked. I don't know if we feel safer, but we do have a good idea what to do in case of an emergency. Nancy

Ervin prepared and set out cheese & crackers and fresh fruit for the group to snack on, along with **John McDonald's** cakes for hosting coffee hour. Thanks Nancy and John!...

The Vestry retreat took place on March 11th. There's plenty to work on especially regarding church growth and attracting new members, physical plant maintenance, and exploring other ideas and needs. There's always plenty of work, service, decisions, and planning for the vestry, rector, and all of us to participate in...

As Altar Guild members know, the bread box that holds the communion wafers has a lid that's just never fit properly and was difficult to open at times. That's been remedied thanks to **Ralph Wise**. He put that silver box on a lathe and now it fits as it was always supposed to fit. Thank you, **Ralph** for fixing that!...

Carol Marotta vacationed in California, and she took the Ohio weather with her - - it snowed. Her sister **Doris** commented that at least Carol knew how to drive in the snow—but then again, she was one of the few in California that did...

Kathy Summy is traveling with her parents to Cary, North Carolina to see her aunt who will be moving to Wisconsin. The road trip will allow **Kathy's** mother, **Karen** to spend some time with her sister before she leaves North Carolina. **Kathy's** dad, **Arnie** is making the trip with them, too...

Congratulations to our own **George Furrer** who celebrated his 95th birthday this month. The family had a wonderful party that was enjoyed by nearly the entire family who came from all over the country. George especially enjoyed seeing the great-grandchildren in all their activity and fun. George still lives by himself in the home he built many years ago, and with the help of his 'children' he's still enjoying life, keeping the faith, and keeping busy. The church family even sang Happy Birthday to him in the parish hall. Happy birthday, **George!**

Breakfast Club

April 14th 8:00 AM
Cracker Barrel

Everyone is invited to join the group! We order off the menu and pay for our own meals.





**Holy Week
&
Easter Services at
Grace Church**

Sunday, April 2nd
8 & 10am Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 5th
5pm Healing Service & Eucharist
(with prayer & no laying on of hands for healing)

Thursday, April 6th
7pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist
concludes with stripping of the altar

Friday, April 7th
7 pm Stations of the Cross and
Good Friday Liturgy

Sunday, April 9th
8 & 10am Easter Day
Festive Eucharist

Parish Wide Interior Clean Up Day
Saturday April 8th from 9am—noon

We'll provide a list of what needs to be cleaned, cleared, polished, etc.. This is a project that needs more people than Altar Guild members alone. We need and encourage the support of any/all our volunteers who can attend to help, just as members pitch in for the parish work day, whether it's for an hour or for the duration. The difference is the focus is on the interior, God's house of prayer at Grace Church, and doing all we can to make sure the church looks its best for our Easter worship and celebrations.



Bishop Coadjutor Elect Anne B. Jolly Ordination & Consecration



Some vestry members at Grace are planning to attend the ordination and consecration of The Rev. Anne B. Jolly on Saturday April 29th, 11am at Cleveland Public Auditorium (500 Lakeside Ave.). We may be arranging a carpool if we have a number of Grace members interested in attending as well. The diocese has issued an open invitation and has room for all. They're also livestreaming the service, and Rick Taylor has offered to set up the livestream on our big screen in the Parish Hall so any members who'd like to view the service but remain in Ravenna may have that option. Please let us know (by calling the church office) if the Parish Hall livestream of the event is something you'll attend. Many thanks to Rick Taylor—and the Diocese of Ohio—for making this option available to members who for any number of reasons opt not to attend in person.

Thank you! Thank you!

Our thanks & appreciation to those who serve & help at Grace Church in so many ways, including:

- **Ralph Wise** for repairing the bread box for the Altar guide.
- **Luke Snyder** for supplying the church office with LOTS of Keurig coffee pods and items for the Raven Packs.
- **Nancy Ervin** for picking up & arranging the cheese, crackers, and fruit for the Active Shooter meeting.
- **John McDonald** for changing light bulbs inside & outside. meeting with the furnace repair tech after natural gas was smelled outside; adjusting the thermostats and light timers after Daylight Savings; fixing the front church door lock & the rectory front door lock; raking up & disposing of leaves gathered on the back steps and at the back door; and likely several other things we don't even know about.
- **Cathy Potisuk** for clearing out & disposing of the winter greenery in the Memorial Garden.
- **The Grace Church Vestry** for their service, dedication, and leadership.
- Everyone who attended the Lenten Services and added so much to the conversation. And to **Rev. Carol** for facilitating those meetings.
- Everyone who supplied a dinner or desserts for those attending the Lenten services.
- **Rick Taylor** for working so hard on the Growth and Membership committee.

<h2>Congratulations!</h2> <p><i>and many happy returns...</i></p>		<h3>Baptisms</h3>
<h3>Birthdays</h3>		
1st Rick Lashley Michelle McLaughlin	<h3>Anniversaries</h3>	2nd Dennis Dier Phillip George
2nd Laurie Barney	20th Jim & Nancy Ervin	5th Bill Snyder
12th Phil Rich		7th Dale Espey
13th Kathy Summy		9th Jim Ervin
20th Sue Ahrens		10th Jamie Popiel
21st Ralph Wise		11th Bruce Ahrens
29th Marcia Splinter		29th Cathy Potisuk
		

Keeping Members Safe & Locking Doors

Following Sgt. Andrew Wert's March 5th presentation on the FBI's Active Shooter Training ("Run, Hide, Fight"), it was made clear that simply locking doors can discourage a potential 'active shooter.' In an effort to do what we can to keep Grace Church members safe in these uneasy times, the vestry decided we will continue *locking all doors, including the front church doors, 10 minutes after each service starts.* We're trying to be sure members are aware of this, so if you know there's a chance you'll be late, you might plan to let a friend know (maybe by text) when you've arrived to be let in. We don't want to discourage anyone from attending just because they're running late. We also want to be sure we're taking measures to help keep all Grace Church members safe. We still need volunteers to help with locking all doors in the church and parish hall about 10 minutes after each service starts, then re-opening doors so members can get to coffee hour. Our 8 o'clockers have this covered, but we still need weekly help with volunteers to cover this concern at the 10am service. Please let one or the wardens—Barb Popiel or Carol Marotta—or the rector know if you can help.

THANK YOU!!

The Bulletin Board

Selling the Kitchen Stove

During our most recent fire inspection, we learned that to continue using the commercial stove we have in the parish hall kitchen, we'll be paying \$500-600 a year for inspection of the fire suppression system above the stove. With feedback from Building & Grounds and some members, vestry has opted to sell and/or remove the current stove. If you know of any service organizations, clubs, etc. that might be interested in purchasing the stove, please let us know. It still works fine and in a place that has plenty of room, it could be put to good use. If we can't sell it, we may consider donating it to a non-profit group or other alternatives. We plan to replace it with one large size household gas oven. We only need the fire suppression system on commercial stoves. Obviously removing the stove AND the hood above it (which contains exhaust fans and the fire suppression system) will take some planning, and we need to keep the Building & Grounds group in the loop with that.

Please contact the Jr. Warden, Carol Marotta or the rector if you have any leads or know of any group or individual that may be interested. FYI: The ten burner, two-oven stove is a **Peerless Professional Cooking Equipment** brand. The hood that contains the exhaust fans and fire suppression system is from **Sturdi-Bilt Restaurant Equipment**. We're not sure when it was purchased/installed, how long it's been in use, or where to start for an asking price. If anyone can be of help, or has a contact person, please let us know. Thank you.



Outreach Projects

Ravenna High School - They are VERY LOW on Deodorant and Body Wash for both sexes, and Toothpaste. Other Hygiene Products are also needed: Unscented Wipes, Laundry Detergent which is sent home with the students

Center of Hope (red wagon) -Peanut Butter, canned Tuna/Chicken, Ramen Noodles, and Mac & Cheese

Center of Hope - Shampoo/Conditioner, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Travel Mouthwash, Dental Floss, and Combs.

APL - List of needs is on the container in the parish hall

Thank you for any donations- they are greatly appreciated!
Grace's Vestry



The Grace Vine

Grace Episcopal Church
250 W. Cedar St.
Ravenna OH 44266

Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna

The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector
The Rev. William Snyder
Marsha Snyder—Secretary
Tim Lewicki—Organist
Martha Croll—Choirmaster

Phone: 330-296-3443
Web Site: www.graceravenna.org
Email: revcarol@graceravenna.org

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
Carol Marotta, Junior Warden (2022)
Laurie Barney, Clerk (2023)
Barb Popiel, Senior Warden (2023)
Kingsland Pretorius (2023)
Midge Myers (2024)

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