



# Salem Lutheran Church

205 W. Main Street  
PO Box 427  
Elizabethville, PA 17023  
717-362-9222

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*The Rev. Nathan Carl Minnich, STS, Pastor*

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## Salem Lutheran Church

205 W. Main Street, PO Box 427, Elizabethville, PA 17023  
717-362-9222 Church Office / Parsonage  
salemelizabethville@gmail.com

**The Rev. Nathan Corl Minnich, STS, Pastor 717-903-6593**

*The Rev. John C. Schaertel, Pastor Emeritus*

*Wanda Latshaw, Organist Kenneth E Campbell, Jr., Choir Director*

*Caitlin E. Witmer, Council President 717-372-9359*

*Chris Paul, Office Secretary/Financial Secretary 717-319-1164*

*The March / April 2012 issue of "The Spirit" is the monthly newsletter of Salem Lutheran Church: sponsored by Pr. Nathan in honor of the birthdays of his Nana Joan (Mar 1), Sister Tara (Mar 12), Niece Makenna (Mar 27), Sister Jen (Mar 31) and his Mother Aleen (Apr 11).*

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## from the desk of Pastor Nathan

“WERE YOU THERE?... when I first decided to trust and believe”... is something you might ask our Lord. “WERE YOU THERE?... when I promised to love and honor my spouse for the rest of my early life”... is something you may ask our Lord. “WERE YOU THERE?... when death entered my life and took my loved one away... is a question you may ask our Lord. With the surest of confidence, my sisters and brothers, I can assure you HE WAS. At these, and other significant times when you entered His house at an important time of your life, HE WAS THERE... waiting for you... waiting for you... and still longer... waiting for you. When you sit in the silence of the church building as I do for daily prayer... in the stillness of the early morning... you can almost hear the words being asked... “WERE YOU THERE... when they nailed me to the tree? WERE YOU THERE... when they laid me in the tomb? It’s a haunting feeling isn’t it? To smugly ask the question of our Lord “WERE YOU THERE... when YOU needed Him the most? And now, in depth of your soul, you hear His voice asking you the same question. With the surest of confidence, my sisters and brothers, I can assure you that YOU WERE! Your sins were the nails that pierced his skin. Your sins were the weight of the world collapsing his lungs. Your sin was the darkness that covered the earth in shame. YOU WERE THERE... and now Christ Jesus sits waiting for you at his table set with a feast of love and forgiveness and wonder WHERE ARE YOU NOW? Sometimes... it takes a realization like this to make you tremble. Come to the place where He waits for you. Come with others when we worship on Sundays and Wednesdays in Lent... and most importantly come and spend a few moments alone... here... waiting quietly in prayer. The prayer vigil is not for Christ because He waits quietly for you all the time... the prayer vigil is for YOU. Make a place on your calendar for this between Good Friday and Easter Vigil and be ready with an answer... WERE YOU THERE?



Make the return to regular worship and see the very beginning of the Lenten season and walk with your friends and neighbors on what will certainly be another meaningful journey of confession, renewal and growth. So many of you have found great reward in this season and I encourage anyone who has been

inactive for any length of time to make the change in your life... instead of giving something up, something that may not even be that important to you... why not try adding something of meaning this year? One hour or so on a Sunday morning and an hour on Wednesday evening is certainly the most meaningful and significant Lenten additions you could imagine. The nature of these services tends to be quiet and reflective, and without a doubt will encourage you to ponder the value of Christ and his Church in your life.

Once you begin, you will be drawn into the most amazing journey that you will ever know! The season of Lent, as it draws you closer to your mortality and faithfully causes us to repent, pray, learn, and grow, will leave you ready to receive our Lord's absolution accomplished only through His cross and resurrection. As we travel together this season we commit to one another our prayers and our companionship. As Palm Sunday draws near we plan for the most emotionally stimulating days imaginable. Plan to take just one hour to pray during the prayer vigil, even the late night hours are most rewarding. Pray the stations of the cross, meditate and truly enter into a space of prayer; with Christians across the globe remembering the passion of our Lord. Although Easter morning is ultimately what we pray and wait for, the journey to that morning is most rewarding. Join us again for Good Friday evening service to begin the continuous prayer vigil which concludes with the Vigil of Easter service which will again begin on the parsonage lawn with the lighting of the paschal candle and the procession of the light which conquers the darkness.



✠ *Pastor Nathan*

## **Society of the Holy Trinity comes to Salem**

Join the Susquehanna Chapter of the Society of the Holy Trinity as we gather for a one day retreat at Salem on MONDAY MARCH 5th at 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. We will pray together, worship together, study together, and share in fellowship and mutual support. ANYONE is welcome. Reservation is only needed if you plan to join us for lunch. Please see Pr. Nathan if you would like to come. Since this is the FIRST time the society has come to Salem it would be nice to see many Salem members here to support our worship.

# Worship Notes – Mid-Week Lent:

Topic: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11



March 7<sup>th</sup> – **Rev. Nathan Minnich** – Faith @ St. John Lutheran

March 14<sup>th</sup> – **Rev. Jeff Wagner**–

Healing & The Working of Miracles @ Trinity UM

March 21<sup>st</sup> – **Rev. Tom Bruner**– Prophecy @ Salem Lutheran

March 28<sup>th</sup> – **Rev. Dan Shahan** -

Speaking/Interpreting Tongues @ Peace UCC

**GOOD FRIDAY** – **Rev. Dan Shahan** -

Distinguishing Between Spirits @ Salem Lutheran



**begin at 6:15 PM**

*Worship Notes: THE VIGIL OF EASTER (the Saturday Evening service) is the climax of the triduum that began on Maundy Thursday... darkness and light, death and life, chaos and order, slavery and freedom. The CROSS is vindicated as the Lord's THRONE. We will gather wearing purple to begin the service as we have for several years to make the new fire, and to light the new paschal candle for our Easter celebration. The service continues with the most beautiful culmination of the Maundy Thursday stripping of the Altar... the slow and yet joyful return of all the worship appointments! Please join us in this most enlivening service.*



*Take a moment to send a card to those who are unable to be with us at worship.  
Salem cards are in the Narthex, feel free to take one!*

## Prayer List:

**Manor at Susquehanna Village:** Eugene Fenstermacher,  
Leah Long, Marie Erdman

**Beacon House:** Mildred Swab

**Nottingham Village Retirement Center:** Gladys Matter

**At home:** Debbie Homberg, Alice Mease Clinton (friend of Irene Lehman), Robert & Elizabeth Mattern (friend of Rich Reed), Dave Warner (Peg Massari's friend), Anna Shade (Bob Ramer's Mother), Courtney Plank (Robin Hoffman's friend), Horace (Pork) Schwartz, Jr., Ronald Leshner, Kim (Miller) Corcoran (Judy Paul's niece), Paul & Catherine Zelnick (Jane Ingbritsen), Doris Hoffman (niece of Gerald & Dorothy Hoffman), Carl Snyder, Gail & Joe Lau, Lee Matter (Sharon Lehman's father), Thomas Acker – Spec. Forces, Afghanistan (husband of Nicole: granddaughter of Walter & Sharon Lehman), Irene Lehman, Fran Budd (Jane Ingbritsen), Mary Shade, Sonny Weist (Phyllis Weaver), Carol Matthews (Irene Lehman's sister), Joan Sanborn (Jessica's Spacek's paternal Nana), Derl Paul, Carl Shomper (Joan Minnich's Brother), John Lehman, Kay Lehman (Paul & Natalie Lyter), Dan Shock (Wanda Latshaw's father in law), Blake Ringler, Darcy Koppenhaver, Joan Taylor (Peg Massari's mother in law), Vince Kellit (Peg Massari's brother), Brian Ingbritsen, Nevin Maurer, Bob Weaver (friend of Rich & Fritz Reed), Judy Welker (Peg Massari's daughter), Rena Wert (Mother of Deb Scheib), Tim Enders (nephew of Natalie Lyter), Chris Miller, Richard Reed, Robert Kissinger, Bobby Leshner, Elsie Phillips, James Swope, Elsie Watts, Linda Schwegler, Eppie Lehman, Clarence Bucher, Jessica Ingbritsen

*Please help to keep our prayer list current by calling the church office for changes: 717-362-9222 or [salemelizabethville@gmail.com](mailto:salemelizabethville@gmail.com)*

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**Sponsors are needed for Fellowship, Bulletins, Newsletters  
and Evening Service Altar Flowers**

**Altar Flower Vases available for sponsoring on:**

August 12th (2)

Nov. 18th (1)

August 26th (2)

Dec. 30 (2)



# Council Notes

Many thanks to Jill Liles for agreeing to become the Council Secretary. The council reviewed the year-end financial reports of the church and has a very positive outlook for 2012. The council approved the renewal of the Church Website by Travis Enders who will create, host and update a new site that will be capable of many new things. There were several property updates, and other items that are all listed in the council minutes and available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

## ***Financial Reports & Attendance***

Our annual budget requires us to average just over \$1,400 per week to meet the needs and ministries of the congregation. Although there are certainly months which exceed the average!

Actual Jan. income: \$10,307.40

Actual Jan. expenses: \$10,678.41  
(deficit: \$307.01)

Actual Feb. income: \$9605.85

Actual Feb. expenses: 9771.35  
(deficit: \$165.50)

### Sunday Attendance

Jan: 29, 65, 53, 51, 52

Feb.: 48, 29, 62, 60



Prayer Interrupted? Stay  
current... email the office and get weekly prayer updates.  
[salemelizabethville@gmail.com](mailto:salemelizabethville@gmail.com)

## *Study and Learning:* **LOOKING for a weekly Bible**

**Study? UPDATED TIME!!!!** Pr. Nathan and Pr. Mark invite you to join them for a weekly bible study at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Millersburg @1:00 PM on Tuesday's. Pr. Nathan and Pr. Hoffman have a weekly study of the upcoming bible texts for Sunday worship and anyone is invited to join them as often as you are able. There are several lay persons from St. Paul's who join them, and you are welcome to as well!

## *Sunday School for everyone!*

Our Sunday School has been a huge success for both the young and "older" ones in our congregation. Please join us every Sunday at 10:10 AM in the Sanctuary for the opening Sunday School services and then depart to your designated Sunday School room. We have 3 groups of Sunday School – Adult, Middle, and Children.

## **BOOK DISCUSSION:** Jesus of Nazareth

Pastor Nathan is planning an evening book discussion for us for the EASTER SEASON. Please sign up in the NOTEBOOK in the narthex so he can order enough books. We will plan to meet in APRIL and in MAY for this exciting look at WHO Jesus is, and the details of his life!



# Committee information



Next monthly meeting: **March 8th**, Thurs., @ 7 PM

## Evangelism & Worship

**PLEASE HELP US!!!** *There are baskets created for each of our shut-ins and we need your help to make them feel remembered and missed. Just because they cannot be with us in person, doesn't mean they are any less a part of our family.*

*We need MANY things, puzzle books, snacks, personal hygiene items, etc. Check the east wing and also drop them a handwritten note!*

## Salem's Shawl Ministry Group

Meeting Dates: March 13th and April 10th @ 1 PM



## *Worship & Music:*

The choir rehearses every Wednesday in the Choir Room of the Education building at 7:00 PM.



## Filled Easter Eggs for Daycare:



Salem will be collecting small candies and trinkets to fill large plastic Easter eggs for the children of the Kiddiegarden Daycare.

You may place your donations in the box in the east wing.




# March 2012 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<b>4 – PURPLE</b> <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:10 am Sunday School	<b>5- SOCIETY OF THE HOLY TRINITY RETREAT</b> (anyone is welcome! See Pr. Nathan for details)	<b>6-</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg
<b>11 – PURPLE</b> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am Service of the Word 10:10 am Sunday School & <i>Fellowship</i>	<b>12-</b>	<b>13-</b>  <b>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg
<b>18– PURPLE</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:10 am Sunday School	<b>19-</b> <b>Eve. Svc. 7:30 PM</b> <i>Joseph, Guardian of Our Lord</i>	<b>20-</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg <i>Spring Begins!</i> 
<b>25– PURPLE</b> <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am Service of the Word 10:10 am Sunday School	<b>26-</b>	<b>27-</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg

# March 2012 Calendar

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1-	2-	3-
7- Lenten Svc @ St. John's 6:15pm <b>Choir @ 8PM</b>	8-  7 pm	9-	10- <b>TURN CLOCKS AHEAD!</b> 
14- Lenten Svc @ Trinity UM 6:15pm <b>Choir @ 8PM</b>	15- <b>Church Council 7PM</b>	16-	17-  Happy St. Patrick's Day !
21- Lenten Svc @ Salem Lutheran 6:15pm <b>Choir @ 8PM</b>	22-	23-	24-
28- Lenten Svc @ Peace UCC 6:15pm <b>Choir @ 8PM</b>	29- Growing Through Grief—7pm (Human Svc. Ctr)	30-	31-

# April 2012 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<b>1 - RED</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:10 am Sunday School 	2-	3- 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg
<b>8— WHITE: Resurrection of Our Lord</b> <b>6:30 am Sunrise Svc.</b> Easter Breakfast to follow <b><i>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</i></b> 	9-	<b>10- <i>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry</i></b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg 
<b>15 — WHITE</b> <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Service of the Word 10:10 am Sunday School <b><i>Fellowship</i></b>	16-	<b>17-</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg
<b>22 — WHITE</b> <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:10 am Sunday School	23-	<b>24-</b> 1:00 pm Bible Study at St. Paul's Mbg
<b>29 — WHITE</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Service of the Word 10:10 am Sunday School	30	

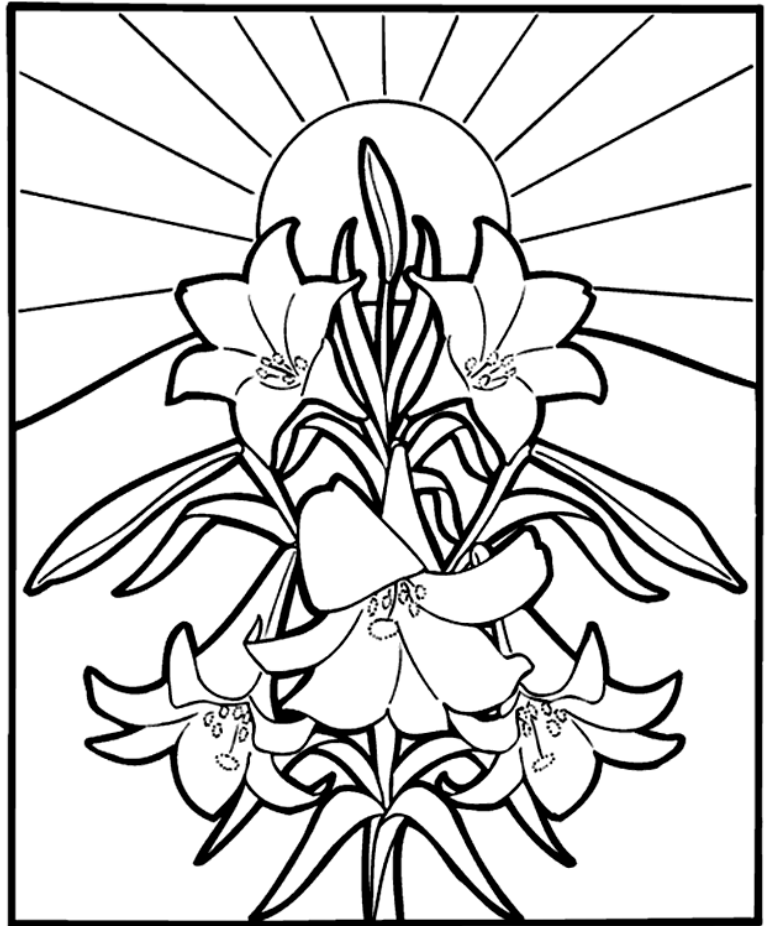
# April 2012 Calendar

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4-</b> Choir @ 7PM	<b>5- Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30 PM Evening Svc. 8:30PM Prayer Vigil	<b>6-Good Friday</b> 7:30 PM Eve. Svc.	<b>7-Holy Saturday</b> <b>THE VIGIL OF EASTER</b> 7:30 PM Eve. Svc.
	<div> <div>←</div> <div>Continuous PRAYER VIGIL</div> <div>→</div> </div>		
<b>11-</b> Choir @ 7PM	<b>12-</b>  7 pm	<b>13-</b>	<b>14-</b>
<b>18-</b> Choir @ 7PM	<b>19-</b> <b>Church Council 7 PM</b>	<b>20-</b>	<b>21-</b>
<b>25-</b> Choir @ 7PM <b>Evening Svc. 7:30 PM</b>	<b>26- Growing Through Grief—7pm</b> (Human Svc. Ctr)	<b>27-</b>	<b>28-</b>



# Kids & Family

The popular Easter lily we use today to celebrate the holiday is referred to as 'the white-robed apostles of hope.' These beautiful trumpet shaped white flowers were brought to the United States in 1875 from Japan by an American tourist and named after the florist who made it popular. The flower retells the resurrection



story with its life cycle. These snow white flowers symbolize new life and hope. The bulb of these flowers buried in the ground represents the tomb of Jesus and the glorious white trumpet-like fragrant flowers which grow from the bulbs symbolize His life after death. The snowy white color stands for the purity of the Divine Savior and the joy of the resurrection while the trumpet shape signifies Gabriel's trumpet call to rebirth and new life.

***Ways to Give:*** Consider this... giving is our response to the blessings we have been given. This is the way the church can grow... we help other through our gifts, both financial and PRESENCE.

***NEWS: new altar vases are here and given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marian Renn. They are larger and will include larger***

*arrangements. The price for 2012 will be \$17 per vase (\$34 per set).*

## *March - April Birthdays & Anniversaries*

*(If there are any errors or someone has been missed, please call Chris at the church office 362-9222. Thank You)*

### **March Birthdays**

Mary Jane Witmer – 6th

Dennis Reitz – 6th

Caileigh Witmer – 7th

**Brian Ingbritsen – 8th *HAPPY 25<sup>th</sup>!***

Judy Paul – 13th

**Rich Reed – 14th *HAPPY 80<sup>th</sup>!***

Melva Jane Reinhard – 17th

Cindy Ayers – 25th

Chris Paul – 21st

### **March Anniversaries**

(No anniversaries this month)

### **April Birthdays**

**Pam Ramer – 7th *HAPPY 50<sup>th</sup>!***

Mary Ellen Paul – 11th

Lori Paul – 17th

Robert Ramer – 19th

Brandy Ayers – 23rd

Beverly Witmer – 25th

### **April Anniversaries**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ramer – 7th

Mr. & Mrs. Roger (Jake) Witmer –  
25th

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Reitz – 27th

## **Missions:**

*REACH OUT!!! help us reach out in mission work around us... by sharing the many ways in which you reach out personally. We are able to make a difference when we do mission work as a congregation and new blessings can abound when we remember that we live with great abundance and when we recognize that abundance we can easily teach others to see the abundance that already exists around them... and sometimes WE ARE the abundance! We continue in March and April to collect things for the Bethesda Mission, the Linda House, our own Shut-Ins, and for the Daycare!*

*Many Thanks... to Pastor John Schaertel for joining us in February! We hope you'll join us for worship soon!*

## Monthly Record of Sponsorships — March 2012

Date	Bulletin Sponsor	Altar Flowers
4	Jake & Bev Witmer in honor of Caileigh's 4th birthday!	Andy & Brenda Leitzel in memory of Lawrence Leitzel.
		The Matter Family in memory of Bud Matter.
11	Jake & Bev Witmer in honor of Rich Reed's 80th birthday!	Judy Paul in memory of her mother.
		Stan & Arleah Buehler in memory of loved ones.
18	Jake & Bev Witmer in honor of Richelle (Reed) Beard's birthday!	Bev Brooks in memory of loved ones.
19 Eve.	SPONSOR NEEDED	Gerald & Dottie Hoffman in memory of Gerald's brother, Bob Hoffman.
25	Peg Massari in honor of grandson, Dennis Engle, Jr.'s. birthday!	Richard & Winifred Reed in honor of the birthdays of Richelle Beard, Richard and in memory of Frank Reed's birthday.
		Scott & Rachael Deitrich in memory of loved ones.

Our **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns always as a physical reminder to us of God's constant presence among and through His people and as the embodiment of our prayers, even when we are not in our worship space.

**The lamp is sponsored for the month of March by:**


*Caitlin Witmer in memory of Carol Myers.*

**The lamp is sponsored for the month of April by:**



*Fred Renn in memory of Marian Renn.*

## Monthly Record of Sponsorships — April 2012

Date	Bulletin Sponsor	Altar Flowers
1	<p>Fred Renn in Loving Memory of his wife Marian Renn</p> 	<p>Mabel Weida – in memory of Loved Ones Sarah Challenger – in memory of Jim Challenger</p>
5		<p>Carol &amp; Robert Long: in memory of his mother Mary Long (Maundy Thursday)</p>
6		<p>No Flowers (Good Friday)</p>
7		<p>Vigil</p>
8		<p>Melva Reinhard: in loving memory of her husband Jack Natalie &amp; Paul Lyter: for the Glory of Christ's Resurrection</p>
15		<p>Rich &amp; Winifred Reed: celebration of daughter Beverly's birthday Deb &amp; Tom Scheib: in memory of loved ones</p>
22		<p>Connie Troutman: in honor of Children &amp; Grandchildren Irene &amp; John Lehman: in memory of loved ones</p>
25 Eve.	Jake & Bev Witmer in honor of their anniversary.	SPONSOR NEEDED
29	Donald & Jan Ayers 40th Wedding Anniversary!	The Challenger Family: in honor of Sarah's Birthday

**Fellowship Sponsors: April 15th** (Easter – 8th), **May 6th** (Mother's Day – 13th) *For a \$35.00 donation, Parish Life will handle arrangements.*

## Schedule of Worship Assistants

*March Altar Guild Representatives:* **Sarah Challenger & Connie Troutman**

**Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday in Lent**



Lector:	Dennis Reitz
Head Usher:	Mark Ingbritsen
Communion Assistant:	Chris Paul
Greeters:	Scott & Rachel Deitrich
Acolyte:	Michael Paul

### **Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday in Lent**

Lector:	Rich Keeney
Head Usher:	Arleah Buehler
Greeters:	Richard & Winifred Reed
Acolyte:	Kyle Ramer

### **Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Lector:	Jim Prince
Head Usher:	Chris Paul
Communion Assistant:	Dennis Krause
Greeters:	Dennis & Susan Krause
Acolyte:	Jessica Spacek

### **Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> Eve. Svc.** *"ST. JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF OUR LORD" (7:30PM)*

Lector:	Michael Paul
Communion Assistant:	Kristal Dressler
Acolyte:	Michael Paul

### **Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> The Annunciation of Our Lord**

Lector:	Carol Reitz
Head Usher:	Jill Liles
Communion Assistant:	Mark Ingbritsen
Acolyte:	Michael Paul

## **Schedule of Worship Assistants**

*April Altar Guild Representatives: Arleah Buehler & Lois Kratzer*

### **Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> Palm Sunday/Passion**

Lector:	Tom Scheib
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Head Usher: Rachel Zimmerman  
Communion Assistant: Dennis Reitz  
Greeters: Phyllis Weaver & Janice Gransbury  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> MAUNDY THURSDAY (7:30PM)**

Lector: Paul Lyter  
Head Usher: Linda Deibler  
Communion Assistant: Chris Paul  
Greeters: Robin Hoffman & Chris Paul  
Acolyte: Jessica Spacek

**Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY (7:30PM)**

**Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> VIGIL SERVICE (7:30PM)**

**Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> The Resurrection of Our Lord – Sunrise Svc. (6:30 AM)**

Lector: Mark Ingbritsen  
Head Usher: Mark Ingbritsen  
Communion Assistant: Tom Scheib  
Greeters: Crystal Schade & Judy Paul  
Acolyte: Michael Paul

*SUNRISE BREAKFAST TO FOLLOW  
THE SERVICE – A “BIG” THANK  
YOU TO PARISH LIFE!*

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Easter**

Lector: Ben Margerum  
Head Usher: Arleah Buehler  
Greeters: Cindy Ayers & Sarah Challenger  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Third Sunday of Easter**

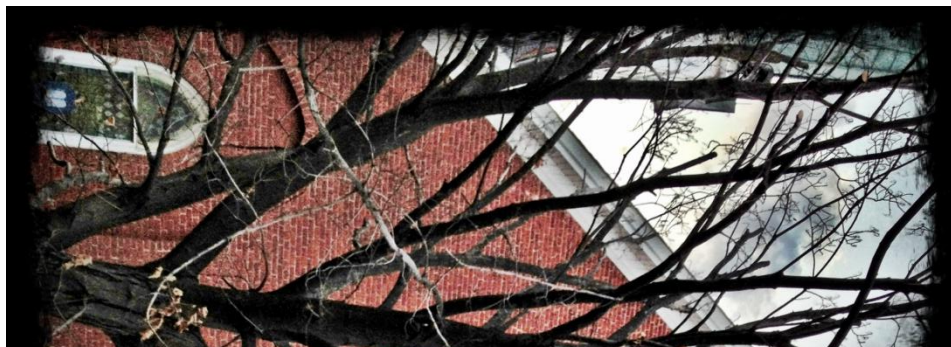
Lector: Michael Paul  
Head Usher: Caitlin Witmer  
Communion Assistant: Dennis Krause  
Greeters: Richard Reed &  
Bev Witmer  
Acolyte: Jessica Spacek

**Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Evening Service @ 7:30 PM  
ST. MARK, EVANGELIST

**Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Lector: Natalie Lyter  
Head Usher: Jill Liles  
Greeters: Janice Gransbury & Jean Hoke  
Acolyte: Michael Paul



*Even in the cold and grim days of winter the  
promise of Glory Shines Through...  
Thanks be to God!*