

Holy Week 2021: We see Jesus...

Our Lenten plea – “We want to see Jesus!” – culminates in Holy Week, when we do see Jesus. We see Jesus honored (Palm Sunday); gathered with friends and commanding us to love (Maundy Thursday); crucified (Good Friday) and resurrected (Easter Sunday). **As we observe Holy Week as a community this year, we want to see Jesus in all of these ways – not only through a screen in our homes, but in tangible signs and practices throughout the week. Read below to learn more about the plans for the week so you can be ready to take part! *NOTE: Some activities require planning ahead, so don’t wait to read this!***

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28 – We see Jesus honored as Lord, a threat to those in power and all who long for the peace of the status quo. But in Jesus, God has torn open all boundaries between God and the world, even the boundary of death. (Mark 11:1-11 and Mark 14:1-15:47)

Join the Palm Processional: Worship on Palm Sunday traditionally begins with processing around the worship space, waving our palms, singing “All Glory, Laud and Honor.” Take part in this joyful procession by sending in a photo or video of your household waving your palm branch ([download a copy here](#)). We’ll create a “parade” across our screens as part of worship and see Jesus in the faces of our beloved BLC community! **Photos and videos should be submitted by March 21 through our Media Submissions folder in Box (contact the church office if you need access).** Contact Pastor Hoffman (pastor.hoffman@blcfairport.org) with any additional questions!

Bring your palm to worship: Cut it out so you are ready to wave it as part of the opening procession! Be ready to wave your palm and process around your living room (or wherever you find yourself worshipping that day)!

Worship will be livestreamed at the usual time on Sunday morning (8:30am) and available to watch anytime afterwards.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 29-31 – The wonders of creation reveal God’s promise for life, even when death seems final. Engage the events of Jesus’ Passion with the included Nature Scavenger Hunt. (Contact the church office for details if you did not get a Holy Week kit!)

Maundy Thursday, April 1 – We see Jesus with friends and remember his command to love and serve.

Worship at the table: As Jesus gathered with friends for the Last Supper, we gather in worship this evening around a meal with our households, so plan to eat in a place where you can view worship! Worship will be available any time after noon on this day. View it on our BLC YouTube channel, Facebook page, or visit <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> so you can participate in worship at a time that is convenient for your household. **Include candles and something to light them as part of your table this evening.** At the end of the meal, there will be an opportunity to pause worship and clear your table before we resume worship with the stripping of the altar in anticipation of Good Friday.

Share a meal with another household! Does the thought of *not* having to prepare dinner for your household bring tears of joy to your eyes? Do you love to cook but don’t want to eat a pot of chili for a week? Do you miss the soup and bread suppers throughout Lent that we had in our pre-COVID life? We can’t physically break bread around the same tables, but we can break the same bread around different tables. One household will prepare enough of a simple meal (like

soup and bread) to share with another household. We'll pair the households, and the paired households are responsible for arranging the details (making plans for a contactless drop off/pick up). Visit <https://blcfairport.org/maundy-thursday/> to sign up by March 25 if you'd like to be part of a pairing! Just let us know if you'd like to:

- a) offer a meal to another household OR
- b) receive a meal from another household OR
- c) give or receive – you are just happy to take part!

Prepare (part of) the meal. Look up instructions about how to make butter from scratch or [find soup and bread recipes here](#). Engage your household in this activity, remembering the preparations necessary for Jesus' last supper with his disciples, and all that goes into acts of loving service – including feeding one another! Then enjoy the freshly churned butter as part of your household's dinner/worship.

Good Friday, April 2 – We see Jesus crucified and gather at his cross to pray for this world that God so loves. In worship and prayer we bring the cross to the many places we spend our days.

Prepare your worship space with a cross and a candle.

Worship will be available any time after noon on this day. View it on our BLC YouTube channel, Facebook page, or visit <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> so you can participate in worship at a time that is convenient for your household. The worship is led in collaboration with nearby Lutheran churches. Together, we will follow the "stations of the cross" as we see Jesus in various parts of our community and in the faces of the people we meet there.

Walk your neighborhood in prayerful reflection of Jesus' journey to the cross, keeping your eyes open so that you might see Jesus in your midst.

Easter Sunday, April 4 – We see Jesus resurrected just as he promised! How will we respond? Will our voice cry Alleluia? What will the rest of the story be? (Mark 16:1-8)

Prepare your worship space by finding/unearthing the Alleluia coloring page that was hidden away on Transfiguration Sunday. ([Find it here](#) if you missed it at the start of Lent!) Make sure to color it vividly, giving thanks for the good news of the resurrection! In your kit is a small baggie full of jingle bells. Be sure to shake it every time you hear the word Alleluia in the service.

Worship will be livestreamed at the usual time on Sunday morning (8:30am) and available to watch anytime afterwards.

Celebrate communion on April 4... Following the communion liturgy (online!), you are invited to make your way to Bethlehem before 11 am to receive the Sacrament. Enter by the front main entrance to the sanctuary (the Perrin Street accessible entrance will also be available for those who need to use the lift). Ushers will direct you once you arrive. We ask all participants to wear a mask and practice physical distancing. We have taken every precaution to limit physical contact in our communion practice. *If you or a loved one would like to commune but can't make your way to BLC, please let Pastor Amy know.*