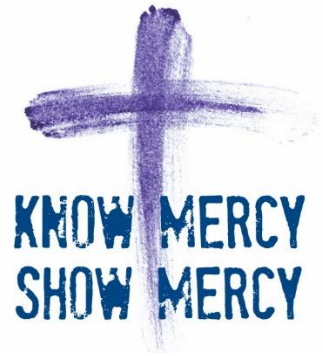


Passiontide and Eastertide 2022

"I will mention the loving-kindnesses of the Lord." (Isaiah 63.7)

Dear friends in Christ,

It is my privilege to offer this thought as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter.



In the Spring of 452, Attila the Hun set his eyes on Italy. For almost twenty years he had been waging wars and conquering lands. And now, his force of 500,000 warriors were riding on horseback towards Rome. But there was more: Balkan refugees were flooding into Italy, beaten and exhausted; and famine was imminent. It sounds a lot like the tragic scenes of Ukraine.

In a huge act of faith, Valentinian III, the Roman Emperor, sent Pope Leo I to meet with Attila. The Bishop began, "The senate and the people of Rome, once conquerors of the world, now indeed vanquished, come before you as suppliants. We pray for mercy and deliverance. ... You have subdued, O Attila, the whole circle of the lands which was granted to the Romans. Now we pray that you, who have conquered others, should conquer yourself. The people have felt your scourge; now as suppliants they would feel your mercy."

As Leo said these things Attila stood, looking silently upon the Bishop, as if thinking deeply. It is believed that, at that moment, St. Peter and St. Paul appeared beside Leo, holding swords and representing the invisible heavenly forces ready to engage. Incredibly, Attila relented, promised peace, and withdrew his troops. Of course, we all wish the same would happen in Ukraine.

Through Russia's aggression, and through the pandemic, a simple lesson has been set before the whole world: we cannot live for ourselves only. As Christians – followers of the Lord Jesus Christ – we have this in His example. He stretched out His arms upon the Cross, not for Himself, but for us. St. Paul said, *"He died for all, that we might no longer live for ourselves but for Him who for our sake died and was raised."* (adapted from 2 Corinthians 5.15)

To live for Christ requires love for God and for one another. True Love always involves sacrifice -- a cross, of some sort -- for He calls us to be His lips, hands and feet -- channels of His life-giving Love. In one of his Lenten sermons, Leo I said this: "Because the old things have passed away and all things are become new, let none remain in his old carnal life, but let us all be renewed by daily progress and growth in piety.... He that is not advancing is going back, and he that is gaining nothing is losing something. Let us run, then, with the steps of faith, by the works of mercy, in the love of righteousness." (Sermon VIII)

In spite of all our technology and human rights legislation, the world does not seem to be advancing in the Way of Love. But it is not enough for me to stand back and point a finger; as a member of Christ, I must act; not on my own, but with Him. And where to start? Why not the life of prayer? Let us be constant in His Word, and regular attenders at His Table. Let us speak together of Hope and Resurrection and heavenly things. From there, the Risen Lord will help us to conquer ourselves and lead us deeper into His Sacred Heart and the Way of Mercy.

Peace in Christ Jesus,

Chris VanBuskirk +
Chris VanBuskirk +

The schedule for Holy Week and Easter is on the back of this page – hope to see you soon!

Worship Schedule for Holy Week and Easter Week 2022

Palm Sunday, April 10 th	8:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist (blessing of the palms)
	9:15 AM	Morning Prayer
	10:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist (blessing of the palms)
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer
	8:00 PM	Compline
Monday in Holy Week	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong and Holy Eucharist
Tuesday in Holy Week	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong and Holy Eucharist
Wednesday in Holy Week	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong and Holy Eucharist
Maundy Thursday	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer
	7:00 PM	The Holy Eucharist (with the Stripping of the Altar)
	9:00 PM to 7:00 AM	The Overnight Watch in the Chapel
Good Friday	9:15 AM	The Way of the Cross leaves from City Hall
	10:00 AM	Morning Prayer, the Litany and Ante Communion
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer
Holy Saturday	10:00 AM	Morning Prayer and Ante Communion
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer
	8:00 PM	The Easter Vigil (Deanery Service)
Easter Sunday	8:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist
	9:15 AM	Morning Prayer
	10:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist (Easter Egg Hunt for children)
	5:00 PM	Evensong
Easter Monday	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong and Holy Eucharist
Easter Tuesday	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong and Holy Eucharist
Easter Wednesday, Thursday* and Friday	8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
	5:00 PM	Evensong

*The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Easter Thursday at 10:00 AM.

