

Our Mission
“To rejoice in, and share
the good news of Jesus Christ “
with all people”

Rejoice Voice

Rejoice! Lutheran Church
7855 Stow Road
Hudson, OH 44236

Brian Suntken, Vicar

Contact Rejoice!
330-653-5980
office@rejoicelc.org
www.rejoicelc.org

Church Council
Jake Biltz
Chris Wisbar
Tim Boebel
Pete Moore
Mike Procop
Glenn Fasnacht

**Bulletin and
Newsletter**
office@rejoicelc.org

Sunday Worship
10:30am
(In-person, Face Book Live,
or posted later on our
website)

Adult Formation Class
9:30am on Sunday

Bible Studies

Tuesday afternoon Bible
Study, 1:00pm

Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays
8:00pm
on zoom

Thursday
7:00pm
on zoom

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are about to enter into the most holy, solemn, and important week of the Church year. Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Holy Saturday, comprises liturgies, readings and rituals that commemorate the words and actions of Jesus' final days before his crucifixion. Each year is different as we come to "Jerusalem" after another year of life experience, joys, failures, spiritual growth, health concerns, and the like. Yet, each year, Holy Week offers us time *to ponder anew* the actions and ultimate teachings of Jesus.

Some Background

The earliest known record of any Holy Week observance, which includes a description of Palm Sunday, is found in the travel diaries of a woman named Egeria. Egeria, also known as Etheria, was a nun who documented her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the late 4th century CE. In her account, she wrote of the scene in Jerusalem on that day, when Christians celebrate Jesus' entry into the city of Jerusalem:

"...as the eleventh hour approaches, the passage from the Gospel is read, where the children, carrying branches and palms, met the Lord, saying; Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, and the bishop immediately rises, and all the people with him, and they all go on foot from the top of the Mount of Olives, all the people going before him with hymns and antiphons, answering one to another: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. And all the children in the neighborhood, even those who are too young to walk, are carried by their parents on their shoulders, all of them bearing branches, some of palms and some of olives, and thus the bishop is escorted in the same manner as the Lord was of old." (George E. Gingras, *Egeria: Diary of a Pilgrimage* (Ancient Christian Writers), 1970)

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, weather permitting, we will gather outside for the traditional Blessing of the Palms and then walk into the church reciting psalms, waving our palm branches and pussy willows, and singing once inside. The service on this day is solemn with an air of concerned anticipation. We know the story and yet there is something inside each of us that wonders: "Why?" The Gospel lesson will be taken from the writings of Saint Luke and examine some of the teachings of Jesus in the Temple during his last days (Luke 19:47 – 20:26).

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Maundy Thursday

The next day in Holy Week with major observances is Holy Thursday, also known as Maundy Thursday. This is the day Christians remember the Last Supper, when Jesus gave his disciples bread and wine to establish the Eucharist, and washed their feet. The term “Maundy” comes from the Latin word **mandatum** — meaning command — and references Jesus’ words to the disciples in the Gospel of John: *“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”* (John 13:34)

We will gather at 7:00 pm that night for worship and a community meal consisting of soup, salad and bread (which will be part of the liturgy). This year, after a long hiatus, there will be the opportunity for you to have your foot washed and, if you feel so moved, to wash someone else’s feet. The practice has its roots in biblical passages describing Jesus washing his disciples’ feet. There is something very compelling about the image of a community washing one another’s feet. As one of my seminary professors used to tell us: “It’s an example of a symbolic rebellion against the powers of this world for Jesus is servant of all.”

Following the celebration of Eucharist, the Altar will be stripped, as a reader leads those gathered through Psalm 51. The Reserved Sacrament will be taken to the Altar of Repose in the large Conference Room where people can stay and pray as long as they wish.

Good Friday

At 9:00 am that morning, there will be a short service of Morning Prayer during which the Reserved Sacrament will be consumed.

The Good Friday liturgy will begin at 7:00 pm that evening with special prayers, the reading of the Passion Gospel according to Saint Luke, the veneration and hymns to the Cross, and closing prayers.

Holy Saturday

A short service of readings and prayers will be offered at 9:00 am to remember Jesus’ crucified body lying in the tomb and resting on the holy Sabbath. In addition, those who bring their food for Easter dinner will receive a special blessing. The custom of blessing food for Easter arose from the discipline of fasting throughout Lent and the special Easter fast during the Triduum (the Great Three Days). Easter was the first day when meat, eggs, and other foods could again be eaten. Those persons present that morning will also receive a leaflet with special prayers for the Easter meal, for those who prepare the food, and an Easter Table Blessing as a gift.

The Observance of Holy Week is indeed the most important week of the Christian year. If done well and with intention, those participants will experience an Easter to remember. I look forward to being in ministry with you.

Brian

Easter Sunday

There will be a potluck breakfast served between 9:15-10:15 on Easter Sunday. Please sign up at the Welcome desk. Worship will be held at 10:30am, as usual.



Below are a couple of prayers shared by Millie Carr...

A Morning Prayer by Helen Steiner Rice

Good morning, God. You are ushering in a new day, untouched and freshly new and so I come to ask you, God, if you will renew me too. Forgive the many errors I made yesterday and help me to try and walk closer in thy way. But, Father, I am well aware I can't make it on my own, so please take my hand and hold it tight for I can't walk alone.

Thank God for Little Things

by Helen Steiner Rice

Thank You, God, for little things
that often come our way—

The things we take for granted
but don't mention when we pray—

The unexpected courtesy,
the thoughtful, kindly deed—

A hand reached out to help us
in the time of sudden need—

Oh make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces

That come to us with "Sweet Surprise"
from never-dreamed-of places.



ALTAR FLOWERS

There is a Flower Chart on the bulletin board where you can sign-up on any available Sunday to provide fresh flowers for Sunday Worship. They may be offered in Honor or in Memory of a Loved One, for an Anniversary, Birthday, Baptism, Graduation, or any special occasion.

Obtain your flowers from any source: from a florist, any flower provider, your garden, or even the grocery store.

Just deliver your flowers to Rejoice's Church Kitchen on *your* Sunday by 10:15 AM. An Altar Guild Member will place your flowers in the Altar area, and you may take them home after worship. You may have your dedication listed in Rejoice's Sunday Church Bulletin. All the details are on the Welcome Desk.



Tuesday's at Rejoice at 1:00pm

In the Steps of Saint Paul

Bible Study with Dave Denes. Please bring:

- A copy of *In the Steps of Saint Paul*
- A Bible

Please plan to join as we read and discuss this book, the Book of Acts, and sections of his letters.



April Birthdays

5	Chris Wisbar
11	Elizabeth Schafer
15	Juliet Jaeger
15	Mike Procop
19	April Yanda



Women's Bible Study –via Zoom

Currently using a 4-week study on Lent. After that, the group will be studying "Images of the Spirit," a Life Guide book.

No pressure, no homework!

Just fellowship time with Christian friends studying God's Word.

Join us **Wednesdays at 8:00pm on Zoom**

<https://johnncarrolluniversity.zoom.us/j/628894291>

Contact Lisa Ramsey with questions/problems at lisaruns1969@gmail.com or 234.380.2090

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, or it is incorrect, please help us update our info. Contact Carla Maurer at office@rejoicelc.org

Brian's Zoom Bible Study

Thursday Evenings at 7:00 pm

"A Zoom study led by Brian Suntken. Meet friends from Ohio, North Carolina, Florida, and California.

Zoom ID#3222400299 Password: COSJ2020 .



Financial Report - February 2025

2025	Feb Actual	Feb Budget	Feb Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2025 Budget
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$6,960	\$12,708	(\$5,748)	\$31,570	\$25,417	\$6,153	\$152,500
Capital Revenue	\$2,095	\$2,833	(\$738)	\$5,610	\$5,667	(\$57)	\$34,000
Other	\$544	\$567	(\$23)	\$1,183	\$1,133	\$50	\$6,800
Total Income	\$9,599	\$16,108	(\$6,509)	\$38,363	\$32,217	\$6,146	\$193,300
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$10,398	\$9,433	(\$965)	\$19,037	\$18,867	(\$170)	\$113,200
Capital Expense	\$5,546	\$5,583	\$37	\$11,092	\$11,167	\$75	\$67,000
Total Expenses	\$15,944	\$15,016	(\$928)	\$30,129	\$30,034	(\$95)	\$180,200
Net Total	(\$6,345)	\$1,092		\$8,234	\$2,183		\$13,100

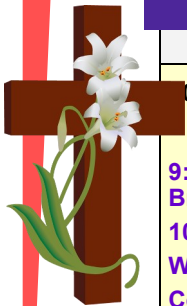
Benevolence Giving	\$0	\$667	(\$667)	\$0	\$1,333	(\$1,333)	\$8,000
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April 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 		1 1:00 PM Bible Study With Dave 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting	2 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	3 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Study	4	5
	LENT					
6 5th Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	7	8 1:00 PM Bible Study with Dave 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting	9 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	10 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Study	11	12
LENT						
13 PALM SUNDAY 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	14 6:30 PM Rejoice Quilting Group	15 1:00 PM Bible Study with Dave 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting	16 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	17 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service Altar of Repose	18 9 AM Prayer / 7 PM Good Friday Service	19 9 AM Prayers
HOLY WEEK						
20 EASTER SUNDAY 9:15 Potluck Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	21	22 1:00 PM Bible Study with Dave 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting Earth Day	23 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study Administrative Assistant's Day	24 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Study	25	26 12 - 2 PM Hudson Food Pantry Distribution
27 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	28	29 1:00 PM Bible Study with Dave 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting	30 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study			



10:30am SERVICE	06-Apr	13-Apr Palm Sunday	20-Apr Easter Sunday	27-Apr	04-May
COMMUNION PICK-UP COMMUNION SET UP	Procop's Jenn Lue	Wisbar's Dana Biltz	Boebel's Kathy Jacobsen	Klukow Diane Procop	Wisbar's Jenn Lue
LAY READER	Pete Moore	Becky Hogue	Bill Holman	Jenn Lue	Brian Pillsbury
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Sue Holman	Dave Denes	Francine McBride	Robyn Crane	Russ Ackerman
GREETER / USHER	Paul Mallott	George Arnold	Paul Mallott	George Arnold	Paul Mallott
COUNTERS	Dave Denes/ W Klukow	Stacy Shanley/ C Maurer	W Klukow / Brian Pillsbury	C Maurer/ N Fasnacht	W Klukow/ K Jacobsen
POWER POINT PREP	Judi Boebel	Carla Maurer	Judi Boebel	Bethany Bryant	Nancy Fasnacht
SOUND BOOTH	Wisbar	Tim Boebel	Dan Jacobsen	Wisbar	Wisbar
VIDEOGRAPHER	AJ Stokes, D Jacobsen or E Hogue	AJ Stokes, D Jacobsen or E Hogue	AJ Stokes, D Jacobsen or E Hogue	AJ Stokes, D Jacobsen or E Hogue	AJ Stokes, D Jacobsen or E Hogue
FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes Or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes Or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes Or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes Or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes Or Ellen Wisbar

Communion Assistant – help with distribution of the Sacrament holding the wine and juice “The blood of Christ shed for you!”

Communion Set-up – cube bread and place in cups/basket, Pour wine into cups using sanitized hands and minimize touch of the communion elements.

Usher – make sure everyone has a bulletin, a chair, or any other assistance. Light the candles prior to the worship and extinguish them after worship.

Offering Counter – count the Sunday offering and prepare it for deposit.

Altar Guild members take care all things concerning the altar, including communion preparation (bread & wine), altar linens, candles, paraments, banners, and flowers. They make sure that the altar is set up appropriately for the times and seasons of the church year.

Power Point Prep – using the weekly bulletin as a guide, copy/paste the Order of Worship into a Power Point presentation (can be done at home in advance and emailed to the soundbooth).

Videographer – each week we live-stream the worship service. A new system is in place that is user friendly and training is available.

Sound booth tech and PowerPoint – sit at the sound booth, advance the power point slides when appropriate, and run the equipment.

Fellowship—ensure that someone is signed up to bring a snack, make coffee and clean-up

Help is needed in all Worship Help areas. Please see Carla to volunteer!

If you are unable to serve on the scheduled date, please make every effort to find a replacement and contact the church office no later than Wednesday, prior to the date you are scheduled. 330-653-5980

REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

7855 Stow Rd.

Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980

E-mail: office@rejoice!lc.org



Matthew, Mark, Luke, and (beers with) John

Schedule through June 2025



This is a casual fellowship opportunity with our friends at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in Stow.

4/3 The Brew Kettle 11 Atterbury Blvd. Hudson, OH 44236 V

5/1 Bell Tower Brewing Company 310 Park Ave. Kent, OH 44240 V, GF, Vegan

6/5 Lock 15 Brewing Company 21 W. North St., Suite TL 1 Akron, OH 44304 V, GF

