

Northfield Presbyterian Church

# The Good News

April 2022

## *Pastor's Pen*

During the season of Lent, we have been looking at *Penetrating Questions From Jesus*. These questions came about from various encounters Jesus had with people which challenged their faith and their understanding of God. We've looked at how these questions are relevant to us as well, as they cause us to reflect on what they mean for us.

Yet, I would wager, the most penetrating question which Jesus asked of all, was not made to his disciples or one of the various people he interacted with, but to God himself. On the night of Jesus's arrest, that is the night before his trial before Pilate and his crucifixion, Jesus went to a place called the Mount of Olives (otherwise known as the Garden of Gethsemane). This occurred just after Jesus had gathered his disciples in the Upper Room and provided the Last Supper, saying to them, "This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me;" then saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." (Luke 22:19-20) The Gospel of Luke then tells us he withdrew from them to be alone, knelt down and prayed these words: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me." (Luke 22:42) While not stated specifically in the form of a question, clearly Jesus is asking: "Father, is there any way possible to fulfill your will than by me dying on a cross?"

Up to this point, Jesus had led the perfectly obedient life. All that mattered to Jesus was obeying and doing the will of his heavenly Father. Nothing else was a priority. Even with all the good Jesus had done throughout his earthly life, his ministry of healing and teaching about the kingdom of God, and his complete devotion to his Father's will, the one last act of obedience would be the hardest: "The Son of man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)

So, the answer to this foreboding question is no. Only the cross could pay for the sins of the world, and only Jesus, the Son of God, could be the one to suffer those sins as the perfect sacrifice. As Jesus throughout his earthly life yielded to the will of God, regardless of the consequences and the suffering this brought upon himself, he would at this critical moment submit himself to what God required him to do. In the verse which Jesus asks that he be spared of the cross – "if you are willing, remove this cup from me" – it concludes with the unbending obedience of Jesus: "Yet, not my will but yours be done." (Luke 22:42) Submission to sacrifice describes the essence of who Jesus was, and the cross was the culmination of that sacrificial life.

See you in church,

*Pastor Peter*

## **WORSHIP FOR APRIL:**

### **APRIL 3:**

For the Fifth Sunday of Lent the question from Jesus is, "Do You See This Woman?" (Luke 7:44). This question occurs after a "sinful" woman anoints Jesus' feet with perfume and wiped them with her hair. We will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

### **APRIL 6:**

The final **Community Lenten Service** will be held at **Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish** in Macedonia. The service begins at **7:00 pm** and Rev. Kathy Dickriede will be providing the message.

### **APRIL 10, PALM SUNDAY:**

The first day of Holy Week marks the triumphal entry of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem. In the days leading up to Palm Sunday, Jesus asked questions which challenged people's faith and discipleship. Now, as Jesus enters the Holy City, people are asking questions of him.

"Who Is This?" (Matthew 21:10)

### **APRIL 14, MAUNDY THURSDAY:**

On this evening we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as we recall the events of the Upper Room when Jesus gathered his disciples and offered them the bread and the cup as a means to remember his sacrifice. Our worship will include a Service of Tenebrae (Service of Darkness), to commemorate how with the death of Jesus it appeared that the darkness had prevailed over the light. **This service begins at 7:30 pm.**

### **APRIL 17, EASTER SUNDAY:**

On this Day of Resurrection, the risen Jesus asks those who came to the tomb where Jesus was buried, "Why Do You Seek the Living Among the Dead?" (Luke 24:5) This is the day we affirm, "Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!"

### **APRIL 24:**

This Second Sunday of Easter, Pastors Peter and Joyce Lawson will be switching pulpits. Joyce is Pastor of the United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls.

### **ADULT STUDY:**

The adult study will resume on Wednesday, April 20, at 1:00 pm. The group will decide whether it will be in person or zoom.

## FROM THE SESSION

The session met for its stated meeting on Monday, **March 14, at 7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was conducted in person at the Northfield Church.

Session actions/discussion included:

1. Pastor Peter reported he has been appointed to an Administrative Commission of the presbytery to consider the way ahead for North Church in Cleveland. He also serves as President of the Trustees of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve.
2. Mission and Evangelism Committee: Karyl Neubauer reported that NPC will provide brownies, Easter cards, and information about NPC to the 105 recipients of the Mobile Meals Program. Session approved \$500 to go to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund to support services to Ukrainian refugees in Europe, using the Mission Local Options Fund.
3. Property and Finance: Steve Brooks reported that the committee met on March 6. Continued focus is on how to improve the church website and the possibility of setting up online giving. Session approved the removal of the old church sign as soon as can be arranged. All were commended for the great turnout for the church workday on March 12. LED lighting installation is almost complete. Also discussing ways to improve the visuals for worship.
4. Christian Education: Michelle Williamson reported that the Adult Sunday School class resumed on March 6. Using the Max Lucado book *He Chose the Nails*.
5. Worship and Music: Maundy Thursday Service will be Thursday, April 14. Session approved pulpit switch for Peter and Joyce on April 24. There will be an Easter Breakfast in the Family Living Area on Easter Sunday. This is sponsored by the Deacons.

Complete minutes are available on the table at the entrance of the sanctuary.

### PRAYER CONCERNS:

Sharon Danko (friend of Renell Noack)

Jeff Cavallo (friend of Ted Kokenos)

John Jackson (on hospice care)

George Hamed

(Donna Hamed's son), heart ailment

Braylon Gallagher

(John and Cindy Gallagher's grandson)

Marlene Hathaway

(Daycare employee whose father died on March 27)

Terri Morilak,

(Daycare employee),  
recently hospitalized

Besselman Family

(Friends of Marcia Alcorn.

Their son died suddenly on March 14)

**SYMPATHY:** Our extend our sympathies to the family of Michael Enczur (Pauline and Richard Enczur's son) who passed away on March 19. We pray they may know the peace of God which passes all understanding in their time of loss.

### Scholarship Applications are due!

Students pursuing post high school and college degrees are encouraged to submit applications for the 2022/23 school year.

Applications are available by emailing:  
[npc7755@roadrunner.com](mailto:npc7755@roadrunner.com)

**Applications are due back to the office by April 30th.**

Please return as an email attachment in case the committee has to meet remotely.

**April 10th Palm Sunday—Worship at 10:15AM**

**April 14, Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service at 7:30am**

**April 17th, Easter Breakfast 9-10am (No Adult Sunday School) Worship at 10:15am**

## EASTER BREAKFAST:

9-10am Easter morning before worship.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex.  
Breakfast provided by the Elders and Deacons.

## April Birthdays



|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Cindy Maxhimer | 1-Apr  |
| Richard Enczur | 1-Apr  |
| Irene Peters   | 5-Apr  |
| Gail Burdis    | 5-Apr  |
| Connor Louis   | 8-Apr  |
| Tom Hall       | 13-Apr |
| Ron Buddie     | 15-Apr |
| Chriss Burdis  | 15-Apr |
| Marcia Alcorn  | 16-Apr |
| Brooklyn Scott | 17-Apr |
| Renell Noack   | 17-Apr |
| Chris Louis    | 18-Apr |
| Travis Scott   | 26-Apr |
| Jennifer Fox   | 29-Apr |
| Jim Anderson   | 30-Apr |

## CHURCH WORK DAY / SPRING CLEAN UP: APRIL 23 starting at 9 am.

Spring clean-up inside and out. Continue the clean up inside, and outside: flower beds, pick up sticks, take down the old sign. Many hands make light work!



We have been receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering during the season of Lent. You may continue to use the envelopes designated for this purpose and are available on the table at the entranceway of the church.

You may also designate this offering on your regular offering envelope.

So far, we have received \$965 toward this offering.



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER DISASTER DEVELOPMENT

## FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Northfield Presbyterian recently received heartfelt "Thank you" letters from RAHAB Ministries, the Emergency Assistance Center, SAMAIR, Bread for the World and North Church. The generous support each of you provide to these ministries is appreciated and acknowledged by our mission partners.

On Thursday April 14, our church will provide brownies and an Easter card to 105 of our Nordonia Hills neighbors who are homebound.

We are providing this special Easter blessing via the Macedonia mobile hot meals delivery program. Hot meals are delivered each Tues/Thurs by local volunteers.

Northfield Presbyterian will add the dessert and greeting to let our neighbors know we all are praying for them and wish them a blessed Easter.



# April 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|                                                                                                                     |                                               |                                            |                                                                                    |                                                                                |                                            |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                                                                                     |                                               |                                            |                                                                                    |                                                                                | 1                                          | 2                           |
| <b>3 Communion</b><br>9am Adult Sunday School<br>10:15 Worship<br>11:30 Property & Finance mtg<br>12:30 VBC Worship | 4                                             | 5                                          | 6<br>9:30am Daycare Chapel<br>7pm Community Lenten Service - Our Lady of Guadalupe | 7<br>7pm Choir<br>8pm AA                                                       | 8                                          | 9                           |
| 10<br>9am Adult Sunday School<br>10:15 Worship<br>11:30 Deacons<br>12:30 VBC Worship                                | 11<br>10am Women's Association<br>7pm Session | 12                                         | 13<br>9:30am Daycare Chapel                                                        | 14 <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b><br>7:30pm Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service<br>8pm AA | 15 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>                      | 16                          |
| 17 <b>EASTER</b><br>9 - 10am Breakfast<br>10:15 Worship<br>12:30 VBC Worship                                        | 18                                            | 19<br>1pm Ministerium<br>7pm Daycare Board | 20<br>9:30am Daycare Chapel                                                        | 21<br>8pm AA                                                                   | 22                                         | 23<br>9am Workday at Church |
| 24<br>9am Adult Sunday School<br>10:15 Worship<br>12:30 VBC Worship                                                 | 25                                            | 26                                         | 27<br>9:30am Daycare Chapel                                                        | 28                                                                             | 29<br>4pm Community Meal Food Distribution | 30                          |

March 20th, we welcomed the North Church Singers: Bruce Grant (piano), Dell Johnson, and Bobby Johnson and also from North, as well as Brenda Nelson - who presented us with a Praise Dance.



North Presbyterian Church is a small vibrant congregation in the urban core of Cleveland, it always includes original music and dance to lift up praise.

## NEWS FROM THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CENTER

TEAC will have a representative from the Veteran's Administration to answer any questions on the 3rd Friday of every month from 11am to 3:30pm.

AND representatives from Ohio Dept of Job and Family Services to help people apply for, or renew assistance on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 9am to 4pm.

You do not need to be a client of TEAC but, appointments are required. Please call 330-467-7945.

Information can be found on the bulletin board and on TEAC's website: <https://teacenter.org>

Please pass this information on to friends and family members who may know someone who could benefit from these services. Thank you!



**VA**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**Ohio**

Department of Job and Family Services



**THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CENTER**  
*Love Your Neighbor*