



*“Christ Our Passover”*

Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School  
Wednesday Worship Service Series  
Lent 2019

**“Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth.”** (1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

“Christ Our Passover” This is the theme for our Wednesday Lenten Worship Services that begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6. The Apostle Paul, in his words above in 1 Corinthians 5, reminds us the strong connection between the Old Testament festival of Passover and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Passover meal was celebrated for generations from the days of Moses until that night when Jesus was betrayed and He celebrated that meal with His disciples in the upper room. There is so much about the Passover meal that points to Jesus Christ and are fulfilled in Him.

This Lenten Season – at our Wednesday services – we are going to get ready for the Easter feast by exploring how the various elements of the Passover Meal point to Jesus and explain what He has done for all people. Our special midweek Lenten liturgies will include parts of the actual Passover meal. We will even get to taste the various foods used. This will culminate on Maundy Thursday, April 18, where we will have a Seder Meal at 5:00 pm before the Maundy Thursday worship service at 7:00 pm.

Don't be surprised by a little Hebrew flavor to our Wednesday worship services! We are going to discover that Jesus is the connection between the Old Testament faithful and those who worship Him today. For He **is** our Passover!

### **Schedule Each Wednesday in Lent**

12:00 Noon – Worship Service

*Bring a sack lunch to enjoy following the service  
in the Fellowship Hall – drinks and desserts provided*

5:30 pm – Worship Service

*Lenten Meal to follow in Fellowship Hall*

The Noon service is designed to be about 30 minutes in length, the 5:30 pm service about 45 minutes (a little longer on Ash Wednesday). Imposition of ashes will be offered before the start of the Ash Wednesday services – come 15 minutes early to receive the sign of the cross in ash. Lord's Supper will be celebrated at both Ash Wednesday services.

These Lenten Worship Services involve all five senses: seeing, hearing, touching, tasting and smelling. The Word of God is heard. Blood is viewed on Ash Wednesday. Water is felt, and each food element is smelled and tasted. We recognize the fulfillment of the Passover Meal in Jesus, the Passover Lamb!

### **March 6 – Ash Wednesday – The Blood Markings**

Exodus 12:21-23      "Marked for Salvation"

Unique images of the blood markings on the screens in the sanctuary. Reminding us of the blood splattered on the door posts of the Children of Israel that first Passover night.

### **March 13 – The Washing of Hands**

John 13:4-5, 12-17      "Cleansed by a Servant"

As we enter into worship we are invited to dip our fingers in a basin of water. Water is a cleansing agent. But we need more than a washing of fingers!

### **March 20 – Bitter Herbs**

Matthew 27:26-31      "The Bitterness of Suffering"

Radishes, while loved by some, are often viewed as a bitter vegetable. The bitterness of its taste recalls the bitterness of the suffering of God's people. Yet there is one who has *fully* suffered God's bitterness on our behalf!

### **March 27 – Unleavened Bread**

1 Corinthians 5:6-8      "Sin Removed"

The Lord instructed the Children of Israel to prepare the Passover with unleavened bread for they were to eat it in haste...and yeast was often viewed as a symbol for sin and its corruptive power.

### **April 3 – Charoseth Sauce**

John 13:21-30      "The Burden of Betrayal"

The Charoseth Sauce was meant to remind the Children of Israel of their feelings of being deserted by God. The sauce reminded them of the heavy mortar they were to carry to make bricks. This was the sauce into which Jesus dipped a piece of bread to give to Judas, His betrayer.

## **April 10 – The Cups of Wine**

1 Peter 1:18-19                      “Redeemed from Wrath”

In the Passover Meal there were four different cups of wine to be shared. It was most likely the third cup Jesus used when He said, “Drink of this all of you, this is My blood of the New Testament, shed for you.” We are Redeemed from God’s wrath at our sin!

## **Looking Ahead to Holy Week and Easter**

### **Palm Sunday – April 13/14**

Regular Worship Services:

Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am

John 12:12-19                      “Has the World Really Gone after Him?”

SBLs Grades 2-4 Sing at the 10:30 service

### **Maundy Thursday – April 18**

Seder Meal at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Worship Service at 7:00 pm

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 “Invitation to Acceptance”

### **Good Friday – April 19**

12:00 Noon Worship

Seven Words of Christ from the Cross

7:00 pm Worship

Isaiah 53:4-7a                      “The Sacrificed Lamb”

### **Easter Eve – April 20**

Prayer Vigil (sanctuary open for private prayer – Noon to 5:00 pm)

5:00 pm Easter Vigil Service

This service is new to the SBL family. It will contain a number of readings, pauses for silent prayer, and culminate with the resurrection account and celebration of the Lord’s Supper. No sermon.

### **Easter Sunday – April 21**

Sunrise Service – 6:30 am

Job 19:23-27 – “I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

Festival Services – 8:00 & 10:30 am

1 Corinthians 15:19-25 – “The Feast of Victory”

Easter Breakfast served 7:30 – 10:15 am