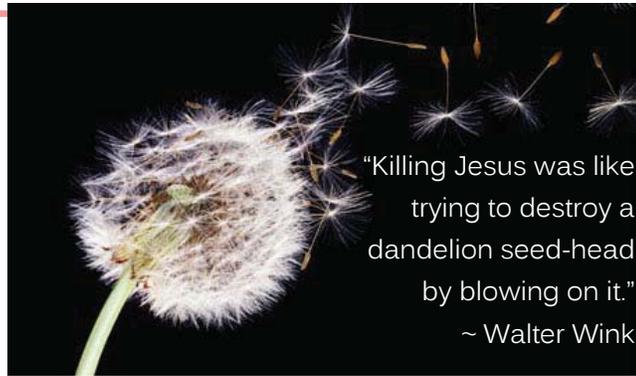


# LIFE @ FIRST

VOLUME 15  
ISSUE 15

APRIL 12, 2022

## Worship Preview



"Killing Jesus was like trying to destroy a dandelion seed-head by blowing on it."  
~ Walter Wink

We Christians  
Celebrate Easter

Sunday. We remember Good Friday, the day Jesus died, and that is important to us too. But we Celebrate Easter. That is the day Jesus rose from the dead, and death was overcome by a much greater power, the power of resurrection.

But there was celebration on Friday of Passion Week, too. The Religious Leaders celebrated. They condemned Jesus to death, and on Friday, they got their way. Finally, they are rid of Jesus' preaching, rid of His

condemnations, rid of His perspectives on God and religion. Now He is gone for good, and they never to have to deal with HIM again! So they thought! And they

celebrated. On Friday it appeared as though they were right. Now, they are vindicated. Their traditions will live on forever! Long live the Law! Their power and status are restored. They are in control once again. The blasphemer got his just reward. God judged him, and with a sentence of death. They were right to oppose him. Oh, he sounded so religious, now didn't he. But they can smell a false prophet from a long way away. How dare He challenge their authority and power? God dealt this man his just judgment - A Roman Cross. You mess with us, this is what you can

(Continued on page 3)

Sermon Title: **On Which Day Will You Celebrate?**

Sermon Text:

**Luke 18:31-34, 24:1-8**

### BIRTHDAYS

Jim Wyse	4/12
Bill Johnson	4/14
Dorothy Miller	4/15
Marge Miller	4/15
Shari Graber	4/16
Lavera Hooley	4/17
Bryce Rheinheimer	4/24
Enos Miller	4/30
Jim Schrock	5/3
Patty (Dave) Yoder	5/4
Leah Schwartz	5/7
Carol Johnson	5/9
Liz Mast	5/9

**First Mennonite Church**  
**PO Box 508**  
**Middlebury IN 46540**  
**574-825-5135**

*Our mission is to extend grace, build peace, and share love within & beyond our faith community*

*Worship Service*  
*Sunday 9:00 am*  
*Sunday School 10:15 am*

*Office Hours*

*Pastor Phil*  
*Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p*  
*Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Pastor Tim*  
*Wednesday 2:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office*  
*Monday and Tuesday*  
*8:00a—5:00p*

### SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

Worship Leader - Tim & Malinda Eash    Music - Tom Miller  
You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11 AM.



April 14th  
Maundy Thursday Service with meal  
and communion service, begins at  
6:30p.

April 15th  
Community Good Friday Service here  
at First Mennonite, April 15 at Noon

April 17  
9a Carry In Easter Breakfast  
10a Worship  
No Sunday School



April 19th 2022  
All Commission Chairs Meeting  
6:30 pm

May 18th 2022  
The Spring Business Meeting is  
scheduled for Wednesday 5/18/22.  
There will be a meal served at 6 pm  
followed by the  
business meeting at 7 pm

## Administration

### Stewardship Report for April 10, 2022:

Money Given to Budget  
\$ 3,800.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget  
\$ 5,047.52

Year-to-Date Money Given to Budget  
\$ 154,184.44

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for  
Budget \$ 161,520.94

## Outreach

### FMW Sewing March Project is for CAM Mutual Aid

- 1 bar soap ~ 1 tube toothpaste
- 1 toothbrush ~ 2 washcloths
- 1 bath towel (dark color)
- 1 bottle shampoo
- 1 bottle deodorant (roll-on or stick)
- 1 comb ~ 1 nail clipper with file
- 1 large handkerchief

Please note expiration dates—they  
must not expire for 18 months

Please put your donation items in the  
collection box by April 21st.

### **Publishing deadlines!!**

All **newsletter** submissions need to be in to  
the church office by **12 noon on Monday**,  
**Bulletin** submissions are due by **10 am on  
Tuesday!**

I'm generally pretty prompt about having  
everything ready to go Tuesday mornings!  
Don't miss getting your items published in the  
newsletter or bulletin.

## Worship Preview (cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

expect, because we are God's chosen people! God is with us. Tip your glass for a toast! Have some more Matza! Sacrifice another lamb! Lift up your heels, and let's dance. Our day has come! And celebrate they did!

And on Friday, Satan celebrated. Satan had lost his bid to take over heaven and make himself equal with God, many, many years before. In the Wilderness, Satan lost his bid to persuade the Son of God to alter His Kingdom and settle for some cheap imitation of God's Kingdom. Satan lost his attempt to get the Son of God to bow down to him and worship him, to sell God's eternal Kingdom for a mess of worldly pottage. During the time of Jesus' ministry, Satan lost his control over people's lives, as demons were expelled, people were healed of incurable diseases, people replaced their fears and hopelessness with faith in God. But on Friday, Satan finally had his day to celebrate. He had killed the Son of God, or so he thought.

There was celebration on Friday, but it was short lived. The greater celebration came on Sunday, when an angel came down from heaven, and rolled the stone away, and the world was invited to come and see that the tomb is empty. Jesus has risen from the dead! On Sunday, it was revealed to those with faith, that God is still in charge, that God's plan to redeem the world is right on schedule, that love is stronger than hate, that death has been overcome, and those who belong to God will live! On Sunday, Mary's tears of sorrow were

in an instant, turned into tears of joy, and the disciple's fears turned to faith. Even the earth celebrated by quaking to wake up the world to the good news that Jesus has risen, and the world will be redeemed from the curse.

There is a tiny picture of eternity in these celebrations as well. The celebration on Friday, when evil seemed to be in charge and rule the world, and people of faith questioned, and doubted, and floundered in fragments of faith, lasted only a few hours. They were fearful and dreadful hours to be sure. But the celebration on Sunday soon took over, and continues even today, 2,000 years later, and will continue for all eternity. JESUS IS ALIVE! It is also significant that half of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances were on Easter Sunday. Jesus couldn't wait to celebrate with His disciples and bring them to the party!

Related Scripture: Matthew 28:1-4, John 20:1-29



### Baptismal Instruction

Have you been considering baptism and membership here at FMC? Pastor Phil will be conducting baptismal instruction weekly during the Sunday School hour starting May 1st. Please contact him if you need further information before May 1st.