

Worship Preview

This week we are entering the season of Lent, and we will once again pay special attention to the end of Jesus' earthly life. So much of the Gospels are dedicated to the events and teachings of Jesus that last week He was on the earth. We make a big deal about Jesus' birth, and rightly so. God took on human flesh and came to earth to live and minister among His creation. And Jesus' arrival on the earth is cause for celebration! We give roughly the same amount of attention in the church calendar to Jesus' birth as we do to His death. But the Gospels, which tell the stories of Jesus, give 4 chapters to the birth of Jesus, and 28 chapters to His death and resurrection. There was something so significant

He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the just. Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord
Proverbs 17:15

Sermon Title:
The Three Trials

Sermon Text:
John 19:1-16

that happened that last week, something so overwhelming and earth shattering, that the Gospel writers found it hard to put it into human language.

God began to take His creation back and recreate it. The kingdom of Satan and the reign of Satan are coming to an end. As Jesus put it in John 12:31, "Now is the time for judgment on this world, now the prince of this world will be driven out..." On Easter Sunday, Believers got their first glimpse of the New Creation, as their beloved Lord Jesus come out of tomb alive with a new kind of body and a new kind of life. It took a few days, actually a few weeks, for

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Sunday Worship - 9:00 am

Worship Leader - Dave Graber

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.

Sunday School - 10:30 am

Music - Worship Team

BIRTHDAYS

Edith Herschberger	2/24
Gert Kauffman	2/29
Ron Yoder	3/1
Mildred Ritchie	3/5
Virginia Hershberger	3/8
Gordon Kauffman	3/8
Vera Miller	3/10
Selena Kurtz	3/10
Ethon Tepen	3/14
Ruby Bontreger	3/15
Jake Schwartz	3/23

First Mennonite Church
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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 9:00a
Sunday School 10:15a

Office Hours

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

Pastor Tim
by appointment

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

Outreach

FMW Sewing next project is for the Middlebury Food Pantry Shut-Ins

Small Pkgs of Bisquick Mix
Sugar-free Syrup
Sugar-free Jelly
Canned Collard Greens
Jiffy Mixes ie; muffins, corn bread, brownie or cake...
Applesauce Cups - Unsweetened
Mandarin Oranges
Canned 3-Bean Salad
Canned Potatoes
Diced Tomatoes
Easy to Heat & Serve meals ie; Chunky soups, Chicken-n-Dumplings, Beef Stew, Cup of Soups...
Cooking Oil
Foil pkgs of Salmon (no bones)
Spam

Please place your items in the tote in the lobby by March 9th.

Still Missing...

February 5th, someone grabbed the wrong mid-length grey wool coat off the coat racks! If the coat you took home just doesn't look or feel quite right, please bring it back to the church and/or contact Martha Weirich to exchange it for yours!

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!**

Office Volunteer

Thank you to Betty Graber for helping again this week with envelope stuffing! If you would be willing to pop in for an hour or so, usually on Tuesday afternoon, to help out with stuffing envelopes (and there might be other things not yet identified) please sign up on the bulletin board so I know who to reach out to for that week when things are ready for you to help!

Discipling

The Psalms:

A Traveler's Guide for Walking on the Earth
5:00 – 6:00 PM (here at First Mennonite)

There are 150 chapters in the Psalms. Rather than looking at each one of these, we will notice major themes that emerge in the Psalms. Plan to come and be blessed as we explore this Book and join the countless multitudes who have come here over the centuries to find refuge in life's storms, solace in grief, hope in trouble, an outlet for anguish and anger, a guide for travelers on the earth, and expressions of worship, praise, and faith.

February 26 Lesson 7: In Praise of God (Psalm 103, 148, 150)

Administration

Stewardship Report for February 19 2023

Money Given to Budget YTD Money Given to Budget
\$ 2,905.00 **\$ 119,987.69**

Amount Needed Amount Needed Year
Weekly for Budget to Date for Budget
\$ 5,047.52 **\$ 126,188.00**

Worship Preview (cont'd)

it to begin to settle in what had happened, but when it did, Jesus' followers were drawn toward that new creation that was beginning to break into this old world. God would begin to transform those Believers into something they could never have imagined. The image of God was being refined and restored, and began to be displayed on this earth in a way that it had not been since Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden.

But for all this to happen, the system of this world needed to be judged. In the Passion of Jesus, we find three Trials. In the first two, we find Caiaphas and Pilate putting Jesus on trial. And they correctly concluded that Jesus did not fit into the kingdoms they had erected and were now defending. So, they both condemned Jesus to die. Get rid of Him! Whatever it was that Jesus was trying to do, it didn't fit into their system. But there was a third Trial. Caiaphas and Pilate were themselves put on trial by Jesus, the Son of Man, who was given a Kingdom that will never end (Daniel 7:13-14). Both the Religious and the Civil governments were established by God, but do they fit into the everlasting Kingdom Jesus is now establishing, and will they find a place in the New Creation?

Background Scripture: Matthew 26:57-68, Proverbs 17:15

Worship

LENT - 2023 "Revealed Secrets in the Passion of Jesus"

Feb 26 – <i>"The Three Trials on Good Friday"</i>	Matthew 26:57-68, John 19:1-19
March 5 – <i>"The Three Crosses"</i>	Luke 23:32-43
March 12 – <i>"Peter's Three Denials of Jesus"</i>	Matthew 26:69-79, Luke 22:31-34
March 19 – <i>"The Three Signs at Jesus' Death"</i> <i>Natural, Spiritual, Cosmic)</i>	Matthew 27:45-54
March 26 – <i>"Jesus' Three Trips into Jerusalem"</i>	Luke 19:28-48, 22:7-20
April 2 (PALM SUNDAY)	
April 6 (MAUNDY THURSDAY) – <i>"The Three Sacraments"</i>	Matthew 26:26-29, John 13:1-17
April 9 (EASTER) – <i>"Jesus' Three Days in a Tomb"</i>	Matthew 27:57-28:6
April 16 – <i>"Three Appearances of Jesus on Easter"</i>	Luke 24:13-49, John 20:10-18
April 23 – <i>"The Three Phases of the Human Body"</i>	Luke 24:1-6, I Corinthians 15:1-57
April 30 – <i>"The Three Phases of God's Salvation"</i>	Genesis 12:1-3, Revelation 19:9, 21:1-8