

The Living Last Supper Maundy Thursday

April 18

Leonardo Da Vinci's "The Last Supper" is one of the best known paintings of the Renaissance. He captures the scene at the very moment Jesus said, "One of you will betray me."

The surprise, sorrow and dismay of the disciples is clearly seen on their faces and by their action. Each one wonders who among them could do such a thing. Mark's Gospels tells us each disciple asked, perhaps only of himself, "Is it me."

On Maundy Thursday our actors will assume the positions of Da Vinci's painting and offer the thoughts of the disciples about Jesus' life and ministry, and the thought they could be his betrayer. It is a dramatic way to meditate on the night when Jesus gave himself up for us, and gave us the sacrament of communion.

The service begins at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in Asbury Hall so we can use the stage. The congregation will share in hymns, experience the Last Supper and receive communion.

Palm Sunday

April 14

Our worship on Palm Sunday will be scriptures read by different worship leaders telling the whole story of Holy Week, with music provided by the Children's and Sanctuary Choirs, and hymns of the day. By hearing the account of the full week we will have a better idea of the events of the last week of Jesus' life, and be better prepared for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Worship begins at 10:45 a.m.

Invite a Friend to Easter Services

Many people are more open to an invitation to church on Easter than any other time. It is a special day, and many are interested in the story of Jesus. This openness makes Easter the perfect time to invite family, or friends. Even those you've invited unsuccessfully before may be open to a renewed invitation on Easter.

- Start thinking about who you can invite. Perhaps your family could invite another family.
- Offer your guests a ride to church, or tell them you will meet them at the door, and sit with them. They will feel more at ease if you do.
- Pray that they will accept. Pray about follow-up. You don't have to do follow-up on Easter Sunday. Give them some space. But perhaps by mid-week tell them at work or school that you were glad they came.
- Ask them what they liked, what was most helpful or most appreciated. If anything funny happens (like the pastor igniting his pulpit robe) make sure you talk about that so they know church isn't a stuffy place.
- Tell them what part of the sermon meant the most to you and why (this may give you a chance to share the gospel more fully).

If those you invited didn't come with you, tell them you missed them. Tell them why you appreciated the service.

In any case, your invitation and follow-up might help them come to Christ.

