



The Ivy Vine

2024

April



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivy-chapel.org

The Holy One

Prophecies abound regarding God's Messiah. Since the 8th Century B.C.E. or earlier, there have been prophecies foretelling of One who will be sent by God. The Messiah is given many names, including: the Holy One; the Promised One; the Royal One; the King of kings; the Lion of Judah; the Lamb of God; the Holy Child; the Beloved Son; God's Only Son; the Chosen One; the Redeeming One (Redeemer); the Saving One (Savior); the Coming One; the Everlasting One; the Christ; the Messiah; the Anointed One. So many titles, so many synonyms, for the same person. This One will be the single human being fulfilling all of God's messianic prophecies! The majority of what we receive through Holy Scripture (God's Holy Word) are future-oriented proclamations of the arrival of this God-sent One. Psalmists, prophets and biblical narrators foretell Christ's much-anticipated, approaching holy birth and saving ministry. Ancient prophecies were given as messages from God concerning what is to come. To this day, we continue being invited to receive these messages from God about as yet unfulfilled events. This can be difficult for us to do from where we live now looking back on the birth, the ministry, the life, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus. This is challenging. You and I are invited to imagine receiving these 'Messiah alerts' as Divine words of prophecy which were proclaimed before Christ in anticipation of the future.

What does all of this have to do with the times in which you and I are living at present?

As you receive and read this month's reflection, God's Church is riding the wave of "Eastertide!" (a.k.a. *The Great Fifty Days of Easter*). This is high tide for Christianity! These are the days of euphoria celebrating the miracle of Christ's Resurrection and, consequently, the fulfillment of Christ's universal promise of life eternal! Praise to God! Hallelujah!

During Eastertide, we continue to live with amazement and joy over the supreme sacrifice given to all humankind by Christ. Submitting himself to arrest, abuse and crucifixion, Jesus exhibits pure strength and compassion for others. The Apostle Paul marvels over this as he writes, "...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,... because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves God's love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:1, 5-8)

Jesus of Nazareth had been ministering to people, healing, and working miracles for quite some time. He had gained a highly favorable reputation in the region. Then John the Baptist sent some of his disciples to speak with Jesus. When they came to Jesus, John's disciples asked him, "... Are you the One who is to come? Or are we to wait for another?" Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive sight; the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed; the deaf hear; the dead are raised; the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." (Luke 7:20, 22-23) Friends in

(Continued from page 1)

Christ, if you and I have ears to hear, then the autobiography of Jesus of Nazareth speaks to us this astonishing blessing! 'The Promised One' becomes 'The Coming One' who then becomes 'The Crucified One.' In his superb work, Jurgen Moltmann calls our Savior, The Crucified God. Ultimately, 'The Crucified One' becomes 'The Risen One!'

The lyrics of one well-known Christmas carol include:

"Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings."

(Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, Charles Wesley)

Jesus Christ is risen! What a wingspan! *Risen with healing!*

Decades ago, an Anglican minister named J. B. Phillips composed a short, provocative work, entitled Your God Is Too Small. The whole book is based on Phillips' premise, "We can never have too big a conception of God." My experience is that many times, our Easter also is far "too small!" I submit that true Easter Joy lasts more than just one day. This joy endures longer than an entire season of 50 days. Living as God's "Easter People" is a life-long, joyful blessing. "... this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:21-23) In his anthology of inspiring hymn stories, Kenneth Osbeck comments, "If all of our eternity is to be realized on this side of the grave, we are hopeless and to be pitied (1 Corinthians 15:19). But for the Christian, the resurrection assures us of God's tomorrow. This anticipation makes it possible to live today..." (Amazing Grace, Kenneth Osbeck)

Christ is risen! Today, and for all time! Cut loose! Live Resurrection Joy! Celebrate what Jesus promises from cross, "You will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43) May you live your life with faith in the "Big, Big God of the Risen Christ," and may you allow yourself to be astonished again and again by the joy of God's unlimited, immeasurable, eternal life!

The Holy One is the Resurrected One!
Rejoice!
Pastor Dan



Scripture ^{for} Worship

7 Apr 2024, Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1:1—2:2,
John 20:19-31

14 Apr 2024, Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48

21 Apr 2024, Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24,
John 10:11-18

28 Apr 2024, Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts: 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21,
John 15:1-8

5 May 2024, Sixth Sunday of Easter: Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu//index.php>

Souper Bowl of Caring

A huge thank you to Ivy Chapel congregants for their generous contributions totaling \$346! The youth were able to go over spring break and purchase a variety of food and household goods to donate.



The Ivy Chapel youth truly appreciate all of the continued support of their efforts to raise money to help feed the hungry.

THANK YOU!



SAVE A LIFE, DONATE BLOOD

Please join us for our Spring Blood Drive.
We are once again pairing with Impact Life to help save lives.

Where: Ivy Chapel UCC, Fellowship Hall

When: Thursday, May 9, 2024 from **4:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

Please note, the time has changed!

You can schedule your appointment by following the link below or contacting Sue Wilson at (314) 324-3765 or online at [Impact Life Scheduling-Ivy Chapel](#)

Or scan here



Thank you for signing up and giving the gift of life.

Easter Word Search

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ANGELS
 APOSTLES
 BETRAYAL
 BLOOD
 CALVARY
 CROSS
 CROWN OF THORNS
 CRUCIFIXION
 DARKNESS
 DEATH
 EARTHQUAKE
 EASTER
 GOLGOTHA
 HIGH PRIEST
 JESUS CHRIST
 JOSEPH
 JUDAS ISCARIOT
 KING
 LAMB

MARY
 NAILS
 PASSOVER
 PIECES OF SILVER
 PIERCED
 PILATE
 RESURRECTION
 ROBE
 ROMANS
 SACRIFICE
 SIMON OF CYRENE
 SOLDIERS
 SON OF GOD
 SPEAR
 STONE
 TEMPLE
 THIEVES
 THREE DAYS
 TOMB

Trustees

The Trustees have been kept busy this spring trying to keep the upper lot clear of gumballs. As the weather warms up for good, we will be getting ready for mowing and cleaning out the last of the leaf piles.

In the Memorial area outside Fellowship Hall, the Cross has been “resurrected”. Indoors, Fellowship Hall has been prepped for numerous rentals as well as the Easter Family dinner and Egg Hunt.



Be sure to check out the Fellowship Hall bulletin board throughout each month to see news and events from our sister churches and organizations we partner with and support.

If you would like to have a flyer placed on the bulletin board please contact the office for more information at 314-434-4991 or ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org.



March Council Lifted Up:

- Everyone who helped with the Chili Supper and made it a success! You know who you are and a big “thank you” goes out to you! Also, we lift up friends of Ivy Chapel, Cheryl and Mike Baalman, who were a very big help with clean-up afterwards.
- Julie McAllister for subbing to play music at the Sunday March 10th worship service, on short notice.
- Linda Lowry for stepping in as Recording Secretary at February’s Council Meeting, also on short notice.
- Kara White, Office Administrator, for putting together a couple good new facility rental packages.
- Gary Lindhorst for making the sign for “Russ’ Garden”



February Council Lifted Up:

- John Weiland for all of his hard work. It is greatly appreciated.
- Sarah Wilson for leading the effort for Ivy Chapel UCC becoming an Open and Affirming Congregation
- Ivy Youth for coordinating the Souper Bowl of Caring offering. The group raised \$346 to be donated to local food missions.

Mary^{and}MarthaWmnsGrp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Mar. 12th and had a Lenten Devotion with Pastor Dan. He spoke of the "emotional climate" in our lives, our country and our world. There is a book, Living Gently in a Violent World by Stanley Hauer and Jean Vanier which addresses this and talks of being flexible, having hands open and giving (not clenched into fists), and speaking with a gentle tongue. In Matthew 10, v. 16, Jesus sends his disciples into the world as sheep in the midst of wolves and tells them to be as wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

An Easter Basket was planned for the residents of Seven Pines Emmaus Home and will be assembled and delivered on Palm Sunday.

The M&M Group is collecting kitchen towels, dishcloths and hot pads for Lydia's House. There will be a box in the Narthex from April 7th to the 20th to collect these items if anyone would like to add these items to the collection.

On April 21st we will have Fellowship Hour after worship.

WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS

Happy Birthday to...

April

- 1 Elizabeth Carr
- 6 Marilyn Gulotta
- 7 Rod Hertenstein
- 10 Ashton Wilson
- 22 Myrna Weiland
- 30 Donna Grote



Happy Anniversary to...

Tom and Debbie Glenn
4/11/1987

Jason and Kristine Lowry
4/26/2008



**THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH
2:30 P.M.**

8240 St. Charles Rock Road
St. Louis, MO 63114

RSVP: Mike Zolessi
314.427.3755 ext. 231
michael.zolezzi@everychildshope.org

After a successful Capital Campaign raising over \$7.1 million and two years of perseverance during construction and reconstruction after last summer's fire, we hope you will join us for this momentous occasion.

Thank You!

Ivy Chapel Congregation—
How can I thank you enough for
inviting me into your community and
all the support you have shown
Caring For Kids over the years?
We are immensely appreciative! I
enjoyed my time in your lovely space
as well as the message and how
welcoming and supportive the
congregation was.

Thank you!
Bet Stapleton
Caring For Kids Program Manager

E-KYP (E-KEEPING YOU POSTED)

By end of any Wednesday
Send your news to Ivy Chapel
ivychapelucc@ivy chapel.org
for the weekly e-KYP (e-Keeping You Posted)

GIVING AT IVY CHAPEL

If you cannot attend the Sunday Worship service,
you can send your offering gift to the church:
Ivy Chapel UCC,
620 North Woods Mill Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
REGARDING RENTING SPACE
AT IVY CHAPEL
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE
AT 314-434-4991 OR
IVYCHAPELUCC@IVYCHAPEL.ORG**

Serving God's People

Greeter/Ushers

7 Apr	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele communion server Sue Wilson
14 Apr	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
21 Apr	Pat and Carl Winship
28 Apr	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
5 May	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux communion server Pat Winship

April Schedules

Liturgists

7 Apr	Rod Hertenstein
14 Apr	Sue Wilson
21 Apr	-----
28 Apr	Jo Ann Moody
5 May	Diann Sheahan

CARE CORPS

- APR Julie Mc Allister 314-576-4946
- MAY Valerie Waterman 636-391-9886

Assisting in Lay Ministry:

Please find your Name to see the date you are scheduled to help.
If you're unable to attend please switch with others serving on another date
AND let Gail Thoele know
314-576-0091/314-591-0057.



God has called us to our positions, and we rejoice when we are able to serve God in these places of ministry. If there is some way in which our staff may be of help to you, please contact us at the numbers below.

Pastor Dan Wilson: pastordan@ivychapel.org / 314-580-4564

Office Administrator-Kara White: ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org / 314-434-4991

Office hours: Monday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 9:30AM–2:30PM

Charities we serve: Please place items on the designated shelves in the cloak room or otherwise designated.

CIRCLE OF CONCERN—Shopping and monthly needs List is on FH bulletin board. Place on TOP SHELF.
636-861-2623 <https://www.circleofconcern.org/>



Isaiah 58 Ministries Bag of Blessings list on FH bulletin board. Place on 3rd-4th SHELVES: food items, egg cartons, clothing, plastic bags, glass cases. <https://i58ministries.org/>



Every Child's Hope <https://everychildshope.org>
Lydia's House <https://www.lydiashouse.org>
UP—Unleashing Potential <https://upstl.org>

INSTITUTO EL REY: Explore the website how YOU can help students in rural northern Honduras pursue their dreams. www.ierschool.org



RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY: Place food and personal care items on 2nd SHELF. Rccfoodpantry.org

Getting new eyeglasses? Ask your eye doctor if they will take your old pair to recycle or go to this web site <https://allaboutvision.com/resources/donate.htm>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
	1 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Easter Monday	2 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	3 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	4 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	5	6 AA 10:30am #350
7 1st S of Easter wht 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	8 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Council Mtg 7pm	9 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Deacons-7pm Zoom	10 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	11 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	12 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	13 AA 10:30am #350
14 2nd S of Easter wht 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	15 TKD 5:30-6:30pm The Ivy Vine Articles DUE	16 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	17 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Men's Luncheon 11:30am Harpo's <small>136 Hilltown Vllg Cntr Chstrfld</small>	18 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	19	20 AA 10:30am #350
21 3d S of Easter wht 10am Worship Dessert for a Dollar AA 6pm YR	22 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	23 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	24 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	25 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	26	27 AA 10:30am #350
28 4th S of Easter wht 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	29 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	30 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	May 1 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	May 2 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	May 3	May 4 AA 10:30am #350 Work Day

**AHEAD IN MAY: 4TH– WORK DAY 9TH–BLOOD DRIVE 2:30-6:30 12th –Mother's Day
13th–Council Meeting 7pm 15th–Men's Lunch 11:30am @ The Country Club
19th– Ivy's 60th Anniversary 21st– Mary& Mary Grp 1pm 27th–Memorial Day**

LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED M&M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP	FH = Fellowship Hall EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion SY=SANCTUARY	AA=Alcoholics Anonymous JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL TKD= INERTIA MARTIAL ARTS
Monday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Tuesday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Wednesday JRWP 8:30-3:30
Thursday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Friday JRWP 8:30-3:30	

Ivy Chapel UCC
620 North Woods Mill Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017
ivy chapelucc@ivy chapel.org
314-434-4991
twitter@ivy chapel
www.facebook.com/IvyChapel
www.ivychapel@ivy chapel.org



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