



HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN

795 NORTH ROSE STREET, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027
(760) 745-3738 FAX (760) 745-4769 www.houseofprayerlutheranchurch.org

Pastor Christina De La Cruz



April 2022

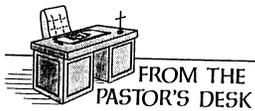
Glad Tidings

**Of Jesus' Redemption and Release
A Monthly Publication**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES
10:00AM**

Wednesdays 10:00 AM Bible Study in-person and on Zoom

**Worship Services also available at
www.houseofprayerlutheranchurch.org**



Pastor Christina De La Cruz

Every year, since I was a young child, my family has kept up the tradition of gifting one another ceramic or glass eggs for Easter. Each one is more ornate than the last, collected from various stores throughout the year. As such, my collection has grown, with one differently colorful Easter egg for each year of my life. Last week, I felt a wave of sentimentality and joy as I pulled the collection out of the decoration box and displayed them in our new home. It's special to see them all in their proper place and be reminded of all of the memories that they represent.

This is a familiar feeling as we approach Holy Week this year. We are finally gaining a bit of normalcy after years of uncertainty, cancelled plans, and virtual services. We are reviving traditions, in all of their colorful glory, and we are putting them back in their proper places. The jubilant procession of Palm Sunday, followed by the solemn events of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and finally the culminating event in the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

As I stare at the colorful eggs on my shelf, I smile to myself at their beautiful colors and the memories that they evoke. At the same time, I find myself double checking them each day, worried that they might tumble off of their shelf and shatter. I wonder if you can relate to this feeling, caught between celebration and tentative vigilance.

As excited as we are for Easter, there are still many questions for the future. What will the church look like as we continue to grow together? How will we heal from the traumatic events of our time? How will we create a new normal in which we embrace the traditions of yesterday while also open ourselves up to the developments of tomorrow? All of these questions take place in a world that still seems to be shifting underfoot. There is still uncertainty; people are still dying from Covid-19 each day; and the images coming out of Ukraine are horrific to say the least.

I am reminded of the disciples in their own time of uncertainty. When Jesus conquers the grave, the disciples are overjoyed. Their tears are turned to laughter and their sorrow is transformed into joy. But at the same time they face challenge after challenge. Roman soldiers and religious leaders begin to hunt and kill those who believe in Christ. The world becomes more and more oppressive. And the trauma of the crucifixion is ever present. The disciples are challenged to step forward into the amazing reality of the resurrection, while still contending with the challenges of their time.

We may not face persecution or martyrdom in our world today. But we do face our own challenges. Still, as followers of Christ, we are called to face those challenges, and live as people of the resurrection. This is a new reality. A new way of being church. A new way of being House of Prayer. It is not going to be easy. We must transform and adapt to the everchanging world. But I strongly believe, with the Holy Spirit guiding us, that we may live up to this call. Like the collection of Easter eggs, our future is full of colorful and unique possibilities. We only need to be open to those possibilities.

There are a lot of events happening this month at House of Prayer. We have two funerals, a workday, the typical services of Holy Week, a vaccination clinic, and a tree-planting volunteer opportunity. I want to encourage everyone to step forward where they can. Show up boldly and participate in the life of the congregation. Celebrate the light of the resurrection. And when the worries bubble up, or when the challenges threaten to overwhelm, then lean toward your community of faith. Trust in the Holy Spirit that leads us and in one another.

God's Peace,

Pastor Christina De La Cruz



Our journey through Holy Week begins this month. On Palm Sunday (April 10) we celebrate Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem with palm branches and shouts of "Hosanna". The journey will continue through Maundy Thursday (April 14) as we commemorate the Last Supper. On Good Friday (April 15) we will hear the narrative of Jesus' crucifixion in a very meaningful service, reminding us of the most precious and undeserved gift we have been given. He died for ME. He died for YOU. And finally, we will move to that glorious Easter morning (April 17) when we declare "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!" It feels overwhelming to know that God gave His only Son to die for us, taking our sins to the grave, then to be raised 3 days later bringing life to God's grace.

Holy week and the season of Easter include some really beautiful music. I'm confident that the wonderful melodies and lyrics you will hear and sing will leave a lasting impression. Thank you to Henry, the choir, and hand bells for bringing us this music. I am grateful to share in this ministry with these amazing people, and to be singing and ringing live together again.

Do you have a favorite Easter hymn? One of my favorite hymns to sing on Easter morning is ELW #365 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today". The words ring out as a song of victory in a glorious melody...

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

Happy Easter! I pray that you are able to appreciate the wondrous signs of spring and new life around you. I am grateful to be celebrating this year gathered together in person.

Carol



Jesus welcomes home two members of our House of Prayer Family:
Don Portis
June Stillwell

June Stillwell went to be with the Lord on March 31, 2022. June and her husband Norma (Deceased) were long time member of House of Prayer. Please pray for comfort and peace for the family.

The Celebration of Life for **June Stillwell** is Saturday, **April 9, 2022 at 3:00 PM** at House of Prayer Lutheran Church. All are welcome.
Reception to follow the service.

Don Portis joined with Jesus on March 3, 2022. Don was an active member of the community and House of Prayer. Please pray for comfort and peace for his wife Pat and their family.

The Celebration of Life for **Don Portis** is Saturday, **April 30, 2022 at 2:00 PM** at House of Prayer Lutheran Church. All are welcome
Reception to follow the service.

Luther's Morning Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept me safe from all evil and danger last night.
Save Me, I pray, today as well from every evil and sin, so that all I do and the way that I live will please you.
I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have.
Let Your holy Angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me.
Amen

Luther's Evening Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You have protected, by your grace.
Forgive, I pray, all my sins and the evil I have done. Protect me, by Your grace, tonight. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have.
Let Your holy angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me.
Amen

4/4 Earl and Cathy Curtis 24 years

Congratulations!!!

If you would like yourself, friend or relative on the prayer list, there is a form that needs to be filled out. (See next page).

You can mail or email the request back to the office, or call the office.

This is **separate from the Prayer Chain email Group**. If you have a prayer request for the email prayer chain, please email Kitty Wiebe (hopyouthesc@gmail.com) or call the church office.

Happy April Birthdays

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| 4/2 | Manuel Chico |
| 4/4 | Royce Williams |
| 4/10 | Bacilides Lopez |
| 4/12 | Evelyn Puebla |
| 4/14 | Lupita Marquez |
| 4/22 | Mike Erno |
| | Harlan Gruenstern |
| 4/23 | Mike Williams |
| 4/25 | Erik Engelbrecht |
| | Jonathan Wiebe |

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Members of House of Prayer:

Tom Kristensen, Inge Frese, Rosalind Mattern, Matt Madsen, Pat Portis, Mike Erno, Charlotte Beutlich, Rick Baker, Lynn Carlson, June Stillwell, Dorothy Keck, Janet Dopp



For Comfort: Family and Friends of Don Portis, June Stillwell, Rosemary and Al Ball.

Relatives and Friends of HOP:

Michelle Mensen, Lena Pauley, Bethany Barratt, Aiden Beutlich, Gary Johnson, April Stark, Doyall Sams, Jennifer Harcos, Bruce Buddenhagen, Rob Steiner, Rob Wiebe

For protection and safety in the military:

Vince Erno, Justin Wilson

Thrivent Choice Dollars

For Thrivent Members: Please check to see if you have available choice dollars that can be designated to House of Prayer.

If you have any questions, contact Harlan Gruenstern

City of Escondido Arbor Day Event

Tree Planting in our neighborhood

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2022

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The city is looking for **volunteer to help plant trees** in honor of Arbor Day.

All the planting will be in the Mission / Rose area.

The City plans to use the Church parking lot from 6am—12:30pm.

There is a person in the office

Monday-Thursday from 8:30 -1:30.

If you have an emergency and you are in need of pastoral care outside of those hours, please leave a message with your name and number. **Phones are monitored during off hours** and your call will be returned in a timely manner.

Thank you



Church office will be closed on April 18th.

Prayer Request Form

Date: _____

I would like to add _____
to the prayer list.

HOP Member: _____

Friend/Relative: _____

Protection in Military: _____

Prayers requested for: _____

Please add to the list for # _____ weeks (If prayers are still needed after this time frame,
please submit another form)

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Thank you!
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Prayer Request Form

Date: _____

I would like to add _____
to the prayer list.

HOP Member: _____

Friend/Relative: _____

Protection in Military: _____

Prayers requested for: _____

Please add to the list for # _____ weeks (If prayers are still needed after this time frame,
please submit another form)

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Thank you!
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday Calla Lilies

On sale April 3rd for \$15.
Help us decorate the altar rails for Easter

see Shelli Ellison



Council Meeting

Time: 11:00 on April 24th
Meeting in Social Hall



Upcoming Dates
Articles For May Tidings Newsletter
Due: April 25

Financial Stewardship

| <u>General Fund:</u> | <u>February 2022</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Budgeted Revenue | \$16,308 | \$32,488 |
| Actual Revenue | \$16,783 | \$31,283 |



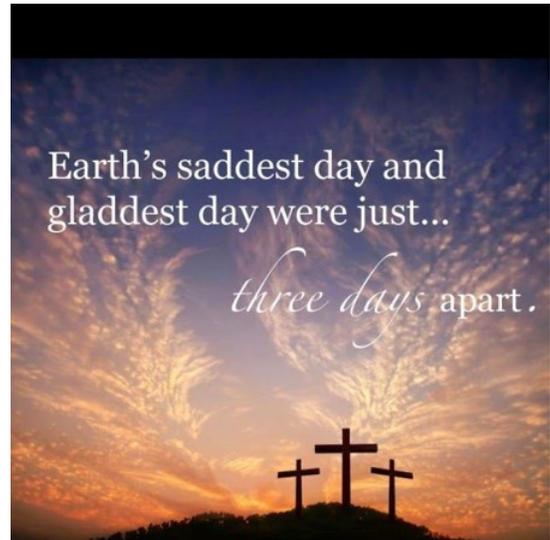
April 9th starts at 9:00 AM
Everyone is welcome to participate



Soup Supper & Study

Wednesdays April 6th

6:00pm Lenten Worship
6:30pm Soup Supper
With Lesson
7:30pm Choir Practice



- + April 10 Palm Sunday 10:00am
- + April 14 Maundy Thursday 6:00pm
- + April 15 Good Friday 6:00pm
- + April 17 Easter Worship Service 10:00am

Holy Week

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE FOR MARCH
10:00 AM Sunday Service and 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service

- 4/3 **Ushers:** Darrell Maus, JoEllen Maus, Harlan Gruenstern
Reader: Shelli Ellison
Communion Assistant: Shelli Ellison
- 4/10 **Ushers:** Mike Smith, Mike Kendall, Glen Foss
Reader: Glen Foss
Communion Assistant: JoEllen Maus
- 4/14 **Ushers:** Mike Erno, Lawson Ellison
Reader: Shelli Ellison
Communion Assistant: JoEllen Maus
- 4/15 **Ushers:** Mike Erno
Readers: Mike Erno, Laurie Holtz
- 4/17 **Ushers:** Dan and Patti Engelbrecht, Trina Watson, Harlan Gruenstern
Reader: Mike Erno
Communion Assistant: Sandy Erno, Cheri Kendall, Kitty Wiebe
- 4/24 **Ushers:** Mike Erno, Alfredo Alvarado, Ramiro Acosta
Reader: Laurie Holtz
Communion Assistant: Laurie Holtz

Altar Guild: Patti Engelbrecht

***If for any reason you are unable to keep your commitment,
please contact your scheduler.***

Flower Donations for March

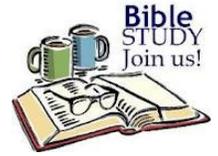
- 4/3 Ann Radspinner
In Honor of Family
- 4/10 Dan and Patti Engelbrecht
In Honor of Rosemary and Al Ball
- 4/17 Easter
Calla Lilies
- 4/24 Jan Este
In Loving Memory of Bill Este



**House of Prayer's
Wednesday Morning Bible Study**
10:00am meets in-person in the Social Hall
with on-line zoom available

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81848590237?pwd=WTNtdlNGR1hWQj85TmJvUC9oNFVpQT09>

or by phone Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 818 4859 0237
Passcode: 479904



No Bible Study on April 13th and April 20th
Please join us for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services.



If you have a **celebration to share**
with your HOP family,
please call or email the church office
and it will be placed in the
Heavenly Happens and/or Tidings.

Phone # 760-745-3738
houseofprayeradmn@gmail.com



Do you have an Amazon account?
If you do, please login to Amazon Smile and add
House of Prayer Lutheran Church Escondido
as your charitable organization.
By doing this, every time you order from Amazon,
House of Prayer will receive a donation.
Click on the link below to begin.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3360279>

for eating...shopping...or filling your tank
Order Scrip Gift Cards!



1. Do you go to the grocery store?
2. Do you buy gas for your car?
3. Do you shop at department stores...drug stores...etc?
4. Do you go out to eat? Restaurant's....fast food?
5. Do you go to the movies?

There is so much more you can purchase through the SCRIP program. You can buy gift cards in different monetary amounts and use them anytime!!

Hey...buy Amazon Cards and then use them on Amazon Smile!! Everyone benefits!!

A lot of people purchase SCRIP at Christmas time, but SCRIP is good **ALL YEAR** long.

There are forms in front of Carol's office, in the main office and in the Narthex. Return the form with cash or a **check made out to House of Prayer Youterans** to the church office. If you've never tried it before, now is the time. You will be amazed how simple it is. Buy them as gifts or use them for yourself.

SCRIP will be order on April 11. The office will contact you when it comes in.

A percentage of what you order goes to our Family Ministry.
If you have any questions, call Kitty in the church office.

The ELCA and the Pacifica Synod wish to thank the Member of House of Prayer for the contributions to their ministry.



THANK YOU

To the members of
House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Escondido
from the
Pacifica Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
In grateful appreciation for giving

\$14,582.00

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Alle A Taylor
Synod Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elizabeth C. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

FREE Moderna/Pfizer/Johnson & Johnson
1st dose/2nd dose/Booster/Pediatric 5-11 dose



Saturday, April 23 2022 10:00am - 6:00pm



House of Prayer Lutheran Church, ELCA
795 N Rose St
Escondido, CA 92027

House of Prayer is hosting a Vaccine Clinic here at the Church.

To schedule your vaccine visit:
Myturn.ca.gov
or call: **1(833) 422-4255**

There will be a **Food Truck** on site for individuals and families who receive a vaccine at this clinic!



April 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 10:00am Worship Service Calla Lilies on Sale | 4 | 5 9:30am Quilters 3:30pm Staff Meeting | 6 10:00am Bible Study w/Zoom 6:00pm Lenten Service 6:30pm Soup Supper 7:30pm Choir Practice | 7 | 8 | 9 9:00am Church Work Day 3:00pm June Stillwell Celebration of Life |
| 10 Palm Sunday 10:00am Worship Service | 11 8:00am Scrip Orders Due | 12 9:30am Quilters 3:30pm Staff Meeting | 13 No Bible Study 6:30 Choir Practice | 14 Maundy Thursday 6:00pm | 15 Good Friday 6:00pm | 16 |
| 17 Easter 10:00am Worship Service | 18 Office Closed | 19 9:30am Quilters 3:30pm Staff Meeting | 20 No Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice | 21 | 22 | 23 10am-6pm Covid Vaccine clinic |
| 24 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Council Meeting | 25 | 26 9:30am Quilters 3:30pm Staff Meeting | 27 10:00am Bible Study w/Zoom 6:30pm Choir Practice | 28 | 29 | 30 6-12 City Arbor Day event 2:00pm Don Portis Celebration of Life. |

- ◆ In-person services start at 10:00am, On-line service available on Sunday afternoon on the **website: www.houseofprayerlutheranchurch.org**
- ◆ Council Meeting will be in-person on April 24.
- ◆ Wednesday Bible Study is in-person with Zoom available. Zoom information on page 9
- ◆ See page 7 for Lenten and Holy Week Schedule