

Friday, March 19, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of Desert Hills Lutheran,

We are moving down the home stretch; the Lenten season will soon be complete. Our thanks again to Rev. Dennis Nelson for his excellent Lenten Services. Palm Sunday Weekend is March 27-28. Palm/Passion weekend is the start of Holy Week. I'll be speaking about how during Holy Week, "The King has Arrived." Over Holy Week, we will worship on Maundy Thursday at 5 pm. This night remembers the institution of Holy Communion. Pastor Ken will preach, and I'll assist with liturgy and Communion. We will have Holy Communion at this service, though, done a little differently. It will be done almost as a self-serve, but you will be invited forward. At the close of the service, we will strip the altar to symbolize the stripping of Jesus' power. Good Friday, we will have one service at 5 pm. I'll preach and Pastor Ken will have the liturgy.

For Easter we will have three services on Saturday, 1, 3, and 5 pm. All will be country gospel Easter services. Easter Sunday we will have an online 6:30 am Sunrise Service and then 8 am, 9:30 am, and 11 am worship services.

My devotion verse for today is 2 Corinthians 5:17 "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" This would be a good verse for Good Friday. On the cross victory was won. Jesus did die for our sins and rise again to put the world and ourselves right and by his Spirit we are new creations, heaven-on-earth people right now. The old has passed away and all things have become new. There can be healing, and forgiveness, and self-giving love offered. Just something to remember as we go through this day the lord has made.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin