# **Wednesdays in Lent**



Wednesdays in Lent are an important time at ULC. Sunday and Wednesday families come together for 6 weeks of worship focused on the Lord Jesus and his cross.

## Ash Wednesday Worship is March 1

Lent begins with one of the most meaningful worship services of the Christian year, Ash Wednesday. This service includes confession of sins and imposition of ashes, as well as Holy Communion. Confession and ashes remind us we are sinful and mortal people, and Communion provides us with grace to receive forgiveness and everlasting life from God. Join us this Ash Wednesday for worship!



## **Wednesday Lenten theme:** *Christ on Trial*

Christ was on trial. Two thousand years ago, Caiaphas and Pilate passed judgment on Jesus in Jerusalem. And though the verdict passed down at that trial was a miscarriage of justice, the result fulfilled God's purpose: to save the world by sacrificing his Son.

Christ is on trial. Today, his saving act, his being in the world, his radical teachings all demand a reaction. Every human heart must wrestle with questions like: Who is this Christ? Is he who he claims to be? What does he mean for me and my living? Daily, Christ is on trial.

Christ is on trial this Lenten season each Wednesday. Through a series of dramatic readings, court will be in session to determine who Christ is. Scriptural evidence is analyzed, and eye witnesses share their encounters with Jesus. The question: Who is Christ for you?

## Ash Wednesday: March 1 – Opening Statements

A lawyer gives the opening statement Bring canned fruit for the Salvation Army Food Pantry

#### Week 1: March 8 - Matthew

Jesus' scandalous association with the seedier side of society Bring macaroni and cheese for the Salvation Army Food Pantry

## Week 2: March 15 – A Woman Healed

A former cripple is evidence of Jesus' loose interpretation of the law Bring peanut butter and jelly for the Salvation Army Food Pantry

#### Week 3: March 22 - Nicodemus

Nicodemus weighs in on whether Jesus is disturbing the peace Bring spaghetti sauce and noodles for the Salvation Army Food Pantry

## Week 4: March 29 - An Adulterous Woman

An adulterous woman shows Jesus is self-appointed judge and jury Bring boxed desserts for the Salvation Army Food Cupboard

## Week 5: April 5 - John

John is asked whether charges of cannibalism are true Bring boxed cereals for the Salvation Army Food Pantry

## **Puppet Plays and Holden Evening Prayer**

Puppet plays will be part of each Wednesday in Lent. The plays this year will feature two fish, Ichy and Angel. They will be sharing their ideas about who Jesus is.



Also, our liturgy for Wednesday Lenten worship will be one of our most popular services, Holden Evening Prayer, by Marty Haugen. You don't want to miss out on this!

## **Wednesday Lenten Suppers**

Each Wednesday in Lent will begin with a delicious supper that costs only \$1 per person. You are cordially invited to come and eat before worship! Here are the menus:



March 1: Taco-in-a-Bag (Served by Youth)

March 8: Chicken Casserole (Served by Seanne and Friends)

March 15: Baked Potatoes and Fixings (Church Council)
March 22: Pizza, Pop and Cookies (Served by WELCA)

March 29: Chicken Hot Dish (Served by Youth)

April 5: Hamburgers and Ice Cream (Served by Calling All Men)

## **Sunday Lenten Theme: Stories from John**

This year our Sunday sermons will focus on great stories from John. Here are the weekly themes, and something for you to bring for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Baskets of Promise:

Please note that week one is not from John but from Matthew.

## Week 1: March 5 - Jesus and the Devil

Jesus is tempted to sin – Matthew 4 Bring a bar of soap for the LWR Baskets of Promise

## Week 2: March 12 - Jesus and Nicodemus

Starting completely over with God – John 3 Bring a bath towel (max 52" x 27") for LWR Baskets of Promise

## Week 3: March 19 – Jesus and a Samaritan Woman

The long arms and reach of Jesus – John 4 Bring a toothbrush for LWR Baskets of Promise

## Week 4: March 26 – Jesus and a Blind Man

Believing is seeing – John 9 Bring a comb for LWR Baskets of Promise

## **Week 5: April 2 – Jesus and Lazarus**

The Compassion of the Christ – John 11 Bring metal fingernail clippers for LWR Baskets of Promise

We don't often get to hear these great stories from the Gospel of John, so you may want to take time to read them before Sunday, and then come and wrestle with them during worship.

