

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Lent & Holy Week Preaching Schedule, 2017
WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe In ...*

Wed., March 1, 2017: Ash Wednesday – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching

FIRST READING: John 11:1-27

SERMON TITLE: “*Do you Believe?*”

HYMNS:

THEME:

In times of despair we find it hard to have hope – even our faith is shaken. Jesus offers each of us what we need but we must believe. Do you believe? Lent is a time of reflection – a time of getting right with God; this Lent we will look at the Apostles Creed to reaffirm what we believe about God and God's grace known in Jesus and to be comforted by these words of hope that have been proclaimed for over 2000 years!

Sunday, March 5, 2017: 1st Sunday of Lent/Communion: Rev. Geoff Ross preaching

FIRST READING: Acts 17:16-34

RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed

SEE&HEAR: “ ”

SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in God the father, Almighty*”

SUGGESTED HYMNS: 313, 196v.1, 534, 321

THEME:

We believe in THE eternal God of creation, life, all that is, the God of hope; not in the lesser gods of ‘just-in-case’ that dwell on our fears. This gives us the hope and courage to live our lives without fear as we were created to do.

SPECIAL NOTE: This will be a service with Communion by distribution – make every effort to keep elements short.

Sunday, March 12, 2017: 2nd Sunday of Lent – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching

FIRST READING: Romans 1:1-7

RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed

SEE&HEAR: “ ”

SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.*”

SUGGESTED HYMNS: 685, 196v.1, 474, 482

THEME:

Paul helps to explain the foundation of what we believe about Jesus – the incarnation (His birth), the extraordinary (divine) nature of how God's promises of a Messiah unfolded, and why He alone is the one, true, Son of God – our Lord. Believing this changes everything – it offers us hope that that God is both loving and in charge.

SPECIAL NOTE: Rebekah will be in Israel – at Caesarea Philippi, the site where Peter first proclaimed Jesus to be the Son of God and Lord – maybe we can work something out to have her ‘preach’ from there....

Sunday, March 19, 2017: 3rd Sunday of Lent – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching
FIRST READING: John 12:44-50
RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed
SEE&HEAR: “ ”
SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in Jesus Christ who sits on the right hand of God*”
SUGGESTED HYMNS: 267, 196v. 1, 373, 372

THEME:

I cannot imagine a truth more comforting – a hope more important – in this upside down and backwards crazy world of sin than the reality that THE Lord – our Lord – Jesus Christ, sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty, where He defends us by rendering a very different judgment on us.

Sunday, March 26, 2017: 4th Sunday of Lent - Rev. Rebekah Mitchell preaching
FIRST READING: John 14:15-27
RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed
SEE&HEAR: “ ”
SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in the Holy Spirit.* ”
SUGGESTED HYMNS: 300, 196v. 1, 398, 290

THEME:

With this phrase we proclaim our belief in the third member of the Trinity – the Holy Spirit – who exists to intercede between us and God, offering us hope that we have an Advocate (as Jesus names the Spirit) before God. The Holy Spirit also provides us with gifts and animates God’s plan and purpose for us through them.

Sunday, April 2, 2017: 5th Sunday of Lent – Rev. Mitchell preaching
FIRST READING: Ephesians 2:11-22
RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed
SEE&HEAR: “ ”
SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in Holy Catholic Church.* ”
SUGGESTED HYMNS: 528, 196v. 1, 479, 472

THEME:

The word “catholic” in the Creed doesn’t stand for the Roman Catholic Church – it means universal, global, all-inclusive: when we say that we believe in this we mean a Church for all of God’s children in all our brokenness – and that the hope of the Good News is for everyone (supplemental texts: Matthew 16:13-19; Phil 2:1-11; 1 Peter 2:4-10)

Sunday, April 9, 2017: Palm Sunday – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching
FIRST READING: Hebrews 11:29-12:2
RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed
SEE&HEAR: “ ”
SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in Communion of Saints.* ”
SUGGESTED HYMNS:

THEME:

As we enter into Holy Week we are reminded that the Apostles’ Creed that our faith is the same faith of generations upon generations of people who have gone before us. Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promises – when He entered Jerusalem the people who had waited all their lives in hope proclaimed He was the One come to save them.

SPECIAL NOTE: This will be a Palm parade at the start of this service.
The Matthew reading we be read as the call to worship.

Thursday, April 13, 2017: Maundy Thursday – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching

FIRST READING: 1 John 1:5-2:2

RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed

SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins.* ”

HYMNS: 224, 456, 528 CH, 556

THEME:

The message of Jesus’ actions during His final meal with his disciples gives us hope: it is through the love of God and the forgiving power of that love that we are forgiven and restored before God. The power of love – of a love that sacrifices itself for others – washes us clean and accepts us.

SPECIAL NOTE: This service will be in the Great Hall with Communion by Intinction.

Friday, April 14, 2017: Good Friday – Rev. R. Mitchell & Rev R. Doran

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 15:42-57 (52-57)

SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in the Resurrection of the Body* ”

SUGGESTED HYMNS:

THEME:

Why is it called ‘Good Friday’? Through the power of God death loses it’s sting – because of God’s love which reaches beyond the grave death is no longer the last word. By faith and grace we are released from sin/death: this is why, even in the face of the events of Good Friday, we proclaim the wonder/hope of the resurrection!

Sunday, April 16, 2017: Easter Sunday – Rev. Geoff Ross Preaching

FIRST READING: John 3:1-17

RESPONSIVE READING Apostles Creed

SEE&HEAR: “ ”

SERMON TITLE: “WORDS OF HOPE: *I Believe in Life Everlasting.* ”

SUGGESTED HYMNS: 243, 250, 258, 410

THEME:

The words of hope offered to us through the Apostles’ Creed began with the God of creation and ends with our relationship with God restored – a life everlasting! On Easter we proclaim that “He is Risen!” – and so are we!

SPECIAL NOTE: Special Communion – early service; Hymns: 243, 410
Easter “Sunrise” Breakfast between Services; Easter Flower Cross.

Sunday, April 23, 2017: Geoff Away/Camp Sunday

THEME:

This will be our annual camp Sunday – details to come.