

# ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"The Little Church With the Big Heart"*

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

**Parish News**

**April 8, 2022**

## A Note from Pastor Craig

### Worship Live streaming on Palm Sunday

Earlier this week we created an Ely UMC YouTube channel and made several successful test livestreams. Our YouTube channel is "Elyumc1." You will see the test broadcasts there.

This simplifies things on the camera end, so our plan is to make YouTube the sole platform we livestream from.

We want to make the transition as uncomplicated for our viewers as possible, so we will broadcast on both Facebook and YouTube this Sunday. The YouTube livestream will originate from the camera and the Facebook livestream from my laptop.

If you wish to join us from your Facebook account, simply repeat what you've been doing each week. To join from YouTube, click on the link in the body of this Parish News email message or go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), enter "Elyumc1" in the search box, and select "Palm Sunday service."

Over the past several weeks I've been keenly watching weather forecasts, searching for signs of Spring. I know it's only the beginning of April and we live in northern Minnesota, but Spring has to come sooner or later, right? I remember hiking at the muskie rearing ponds off the Wolf Lake Road during the first week of April last year. There was no snow on the ground in the open areas - none!

So, I've been keeping my eyes peeled. And there have been a few signs. For instance, bird watchers report sightings of bird species who winter south of here. Tasha, one of the bears at the North American Bear Center here in town, has been out of her den moseying around. There have been other black bear sightings. And we've had a few days of bright sunshine and temperatures solidly in the 50's. It feels so good, doesn't it?

But, so far they've all been teasers of a sort, because then a few days later here comes another wave of snow, cloudy skies, and below normal temperatures. People out ice fishing report the ice is still so thick they almost come to the end of their auger-length by the time they hit water. The weather forecast is so dreadful between now and Easter I don't even want to look. It seems as though the weather is stuck in March while the calendar says it's April.

However the church season of Lent keeps moving onward regardless of the weather. Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter will arrive right on time. Or as a bluegrass gospel song says: "God may not come when you want him, but he's right on time."

We enter Holy Week on Palm Sunday, two days from now. A large percentage of each of the Gospels is devoted to the events of the last week of Jesus' life. Time slows down as we witness up close the events of our redemption; when Jesus' offers himself up for the sins of the whole world. In doing so, he defeats the powers of sin and death and opens up to us the gifts of salvation.

God's blessings to you and your family.

Pastor Craig

## Events between Now and Easter

We have just turned the calendar to the month of April, which means that Easter is just around the corner, but between now and then are the most important worship services of the year, Christmas Eve aside.

**Sunday, April 10** is Palm Sunday, when we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. People in the large crowd lay cloaks on the road for him to pass over, wave palm branches, and shout "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!" This is a day of joyous celebration as the people recognize Jesus as the Messiah, God's Chosen One.

**Thursday, April 14** is our Holy Week service at 7:00 p.m. Traditionally churches would have services on Thursday and Friday. Both are solemn services commemorating stark events with great meaning. The service on Thursday recalls the Last Supper Jesus spent with his 12 disciples and the service on Friday commemorates his arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and burial.

We will combine both services together, first with the Scripture reading from the Gospel of John describing Jesus' washing his disciples feet. Then we will partake of Holy Communion together. Finally we'll hear the account of the last hours of Jesus' life, again from the Gospel of John.

The Confirmation class and teachers will assist Pastor Craig in leading the service as they did on Ash Wednesday. We invite you to join us for both our Palm Sunday and Holy Week worship service.

## Scripture Readings for Sunday

This Sunday, April 10th, is Palm Sunday, an event of great joy for Jesus' followers and for us as well. The day also has solemn overtones because it ushers in Holy Week, the last week of Jesus' life. Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are celebrations, but in between we see Jesus betrayed by Judas, denied by Simon Peter, deserted by his disciples, arrested, brought before Jewish and Roman authorities, tortured, and crucified.

The two Scripture readings for Palm Sunday are both profound and startlingly different from one another. In Luke we see Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where the joyful crowd waves palm branches and breaks into spontaneous praise with words from the prophet Zechariah: "Hosanna, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+19%3A28-40&version=NRSV>

In the reading from Philippians, the Apostles Paul inserts into his letter to the church in Philippi what scholars believe was a hymn the early church sang about Jesus. The hymn details how although Jesus was in the form of God, he emptied himself completely, taking the form of a servant, and being crucified. Jesus' self-emptying leads to God exalting Jesus and giving him the name above all names.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2%3A5-11&version=NRSV>

# The Ely United Methodist Church

## *Prayer Wall*

*April 8, 2022*

This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.

### **1 John 5: 14-15 (NIV)**



*“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know he hears us – we know that we have what we asked of him.”*

### **We lift up the following in prayer...**

- **Chelsea’s & Kelli’s family & friends; Sarah Mancino & another, college dormmates:** – Chelsea & Kelli both died in an auto accident. Pray for comfort, peace & healing for the families & dormmates. Sarah is Jeanne Tomlinson’s niece.
- **Dave Aldrich** – Lucy Luthens grandfather had shoulder surgery and asked for prayers of comfort, healing and recovery.
- **David Richter** – Amy Fitzsimmons asked for prayers for David who had prostate cancer surgery. Pray for comfort & healing.
- **Lee Bailey** – Erin Moravitz co-worker’s husband, Lee Bailey, has bladder cancer and requires chemo treatments and will eventually have to have his bladder removed..
- **Dee** – Linda Hane’s friend, Dee, had stem cell transplant surgery 4 months ago and is doing well. However, she has contracted pneumonia and on antibiotics and in low spirits.
- **Kevin Richards** – Kevin has been helping friends in Kuwait. He is home but plans to return. Pray for his success and safety.
- **Teri** – Carol Laine’s daughter, Teri, has been hospitalized in Grand Rapids with a very serious sepsis infection that is not improving. Carol is very close with her daughter and is hoping to have her moved to the cities for new treatments.
- **Michelle** – Janice Tessier’s daughter, Michelle, has been diagnosed with MS. Pray for effective treatment and comfort.
- **Tim Donovan’s family & friends** – Tim’s wife passed away recently. Tim is friends of the Nelson’s.
- **Dave & Kris** – Dave’s Parkinson’s Disease symptoms, Lisa Porthan’s father, are getting far worse and Lisa’s mother, Kris, is exhausted trying to care for him. She has her own health issues as well. Please keep Dave & Kris in your prayers.
- **Marilyn Brandau’s family & friends** – Mike Brandau’s mother, Marilyn, passed away after being hospitalized with pneumonia in Arizona. Please keep her family in your prayers.
- **Dylan** – Anna Urbas’s roommate’s cousin, Dylan, is diagnosed with cancer, and was in a serious snowmobile accident breaking his spine in two places, his ribs, and several other bones.
- **Marla Dusich – Update:** Marla still has some back pain, but is now back home from the ER. Pray for healing and comfort.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.
- **Mike and Gail Haney family** – Mike is facing end of life struggles.
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus and the Delta & Omicron variants**

We include all the United Methodist Churches and Pastors, both active and retired, in our MN UMC Annual Conference as we work in extraordinary ways to keep our congregations and communities free from infection by the COVID-19 virus.

*Prayer requests are compiled from our church prayer chain, from our Sunday morning church congregation using the prayer request forms located in the pew welcome pads, and the North Star District Prayer List. Prayer requests will remain on the Prayer Wall through four weeks unless removed earlier because the prayer is known to be no longer necessary.*



# April 2022

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						1	2
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>6:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Pastor Craig at Range Clergy Cluster Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 PM Trustees Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Craig at Ely Ministerial Association at the Ely UMC</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>5:00 PM Visioning Committee</p> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 PM Holy Week Service</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Pasties Veggie Prep</p> <p>1:00 PM Dough Ball Prep</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Pasties Production &amp; Sales</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10:00 AM United Methodist Women</p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>5:00 PM Administrative Council</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>11:15 AM Light Meal Served &amp; I'll Push You</p> <p>Movie to follow</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>6:00 PM I'll Push You</p> <p>Movie discussion</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	