

Lent and Easter Schedule and Services

4/14: Palm Passion Sunday

4/18: Maundy Thursday Communion: 5:00 pm: Swords; 7:00 pm: Fork Chapel

4/19: Good Friday Tenebrae Service: 7:00 pm, at Fork Chapel

4/21: Easter Sunday:

9:00 am; Swords Easter Service beginning with Worship at Cross

11:00 m: Fork Chapel Easter Service

Green County Food Pantry - March Food Items

Rice or Instant Potatoes, - Bring to Church by March 17. Thanks.

Prayer Leaders Next Sunday, March 10

Swords: Jameson Swords; Fork Chapel: Jackie Copelan

Unshakeable Hope - Small Group Study - Wednesday. 7:00p.m.

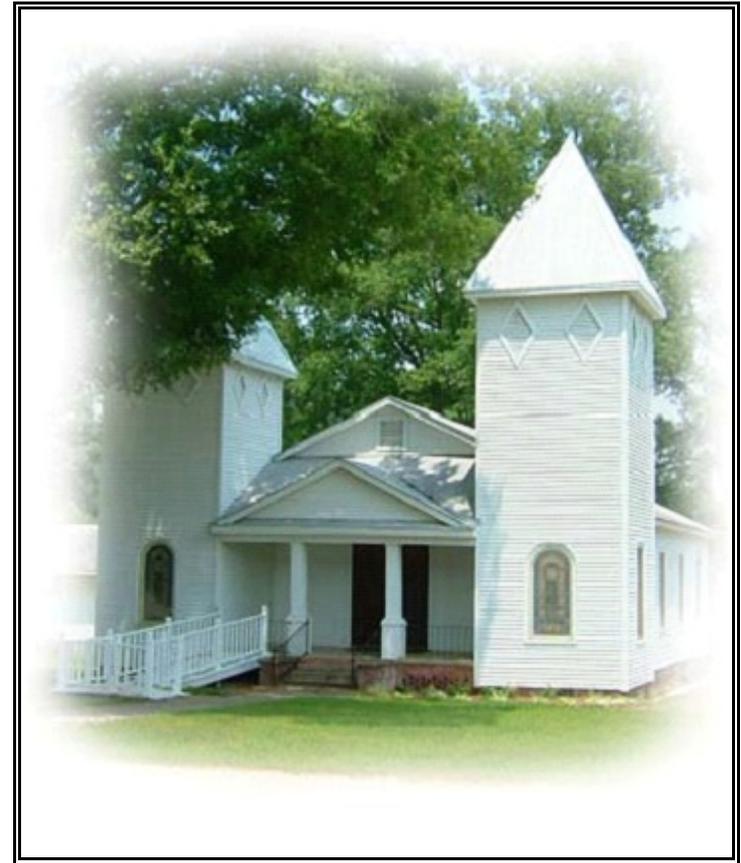
God's promise: "Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). Come this Wednesday night and learn how joy overcomes all darkness and hurts in life. Dr. Gavalas will lead the study.

St. Andrew Lenten Devotions and Giving Program for Hunger in America

During this Lenten season, we are challenged by the Society of Saint Andrew to remember our desperate 42 million children and adults in America who suffer from the trauma of hunger, and struggle to put enough food on the table each day. Does your daily spiritual focus this Lent include giving? Every \$3.00 you put aside for the Society of St. Andrew will put 20 meals of healthy food on the plates of those who need it most, giving both you and them a blessing. Please use the coin box (for use daily at meal time) and/or offering envelope (for a one time gift) that are provided to make your gift. Pick up your box or offering envelope today. They are located at the entrance to the church. We will dedicate our gifts at the Maundy Thursday Service on April 18. Thank you.

C. S. Lewis on God's "Severe Mercy"

"God loves us, so He makes us the gift of suffering. Through suffering, we release our hold on the toys of this world, and know our true good lies in another world. We're like blocks of stone, out of which the sculptor carves the forms of men. The blows of this chisel, which hurt us so much, are what makes us perfect. The suffering in this world is not the failure of God's love for us; it is that love in action. For believe me, this world that seems to us so substantial is no more than the shadow lands. Real life has not begun yet."



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March 17, 2019

2nd Sunday in Lent

The Service for the Lord's Day

Welcome, Celebrations and Concerns

Opening Prayer

*Hymn Sing

*Apostles' Creed No. 881

Special Music

Scripture and Prayers Swords: Ron Hess; Fork Chapel: Janet Copelan

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35 - Jesus sorrows over Jerusalem

Pew Bible: Swords, p. 796; Fork Chapel, NT p. 77

Intercessions

Generous, loving God, we heard that you seek us out like a mother hen seeks out her chicks; that you offer us the protection and the safety of your strong wings. Help us to allow your warmth and your wisdom to overwhelm us: Loving God, as a hen protects her chicks with her wings,

Father and Mother of us all, you have been compared to a hen seeking out her chicks, to a rock which cannot be moved, to a mother suckling her child, to a woman seeking out a lost coin, to a king who invites everyone to his wedding feast. In each of these images we learn more about you. **Help us love as you love and to serve as Jesus served.**

Loving God, we hold before you those whose cups are filled with bitterness ; those who have lost their way. Give them new hearts - that are filled with goodness and with faith. Loving God, as a hen protects her chicks with her wings, **protect us today under your golden wings.**

Loving God, lift the burdens that are upon us for those around us: here in our church, our community, and our world. We name these burdens and we hold these people before you now in the silence of our hearts and the words of our lips [pause for personal prayer] Loving God, as a hen protects her chicks with her wings, **protect us today under your golden wings.**

Confession

In the words of scripture and the rituals of community, we know your desire to be a mothering, nurturing God. You yearn for us to make a home in the

shelter of your love, God forgive us: **forgive us when we push you away** [silent confession.]

We find ourselves belonging in soul-less places and merely existing in the chaos of our scattered lives. God forgive us: **forgive us when we push you away** [silent confession]

In still moments, when we become aware of our deepest selves again, we come to know our own longings to be enfolded in the wings of your love. God forgive us: **forgive us when we push you away.** [silent confession]

God, like a Mother hen you hatched us from the heart of your imagination and you sustain us with your constant presence. Surround us as we pray and draw near to you. **Help us to live always in the shelter of your love.** [silent confession]

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Pastor's Prayer with the Lord's Prayer

Pardon and Peace

The Offering with the Doxology

Scripture: Psalm 27 "The Lord is my light and salvation"

+Hymnal 810

Sermon

"The Big Question"

+Dr. Gavalas

*Hymn 130: God Will Take Care of You

Charge and Blessing

Dismissal Chorus

God be with you till we meet again..."

Welcome to All Who Worship with Us Today

We welcome you to worship today. No matter who you are, or what your lifestyle may be, whether you are high on the "hog" or low down in the pits, we welcome you with open hands, open hearts, and open minds. We invite you to join with us in church membership. If you desire to join with us, please meet the