

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the water, and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?” Isaiah 55: 1-2

Throughout the scriptures for this Lenten season, human longing and hunger recur in contrast to the fulfillment God longs to provide for us. God’s people are portrayed enduring difficult times, hungry and thirsty, lost from the safety of home. At the same time, they find their most basic needs met in God’s provision.

“Holy Longing, Holy Feast” articulates both the longing that we experience, and the abundance and care that God longs to bestow on us. This season offers us the opportunity to strip away the layers that distract us in order to pay attention to the desert places of our lives, the spaces where we are most hungry for transformation.

As we return to the familiar stories of wilderness, waiting fathers, and waving palms, may we hear God’s ongoing invitation to turn toward God and receive sustenance. Our 40-day journey to Holy Week will include tastes of that generous care through communion, anointing, water blessing, foot washing, and the Easter feast. It is our hope that these embodied rituals will help us to experience more deeply the mystery of the incarnation and the promise of the resurrection.

More to watch for in worship:

- Stories from Children in Worship.
- Following Children’s Time, children will be invited to choose individual worship materials (like we had last summer.)
- Selections from the Lent section of new hymnal, *Voices Together*.
- Visuals by Kathy Glick Miller.

To deepen your work with the theme, consider these individual and communal options:

Lenten groups: **March 13, March 27 and April 10.** (see purple half sheet for more information on Lenten Groups)

Add a mindfulness practice during Lent, drawing on the Stewardship theme of “Paying Attention.”
Subtract a layer during Lent, extending the Carnival theme of “Enough, Already!”

Additional Lenten and Holy Week Services, at the meetinghouse unless otherwise noted:

March 5: 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday pancake supper

March 6: 7pm Ash Wednesday service with Faith Mennonite

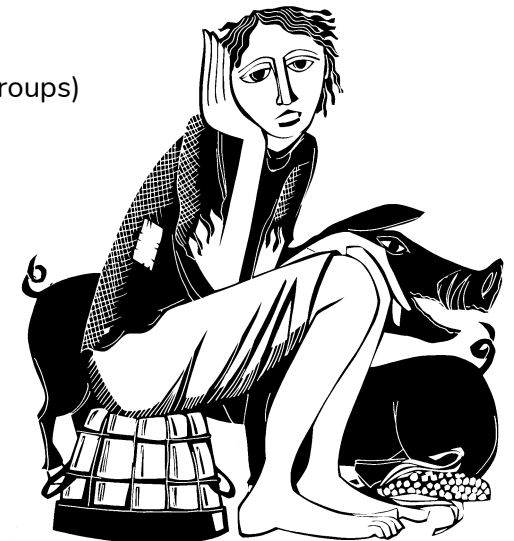
March 20: 6:30pm Intergenerational Lenten retreat evening

April 18: 6pm Maundy Thursday/ Good Friday service with meal and foot washing

April 19: 7pm, Community Good Friday service at College Mennonite Church

April 20: 6pm Easter Vigil

April 21: 7am Easter Sunrise Service, Steve Shantz’ yard (60728 CR 27)



	Lectionary texts - year C	Preacher	Theme	2nd hour (subject to change)	Other info
March 10 Lent 1	Deut 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2,9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13	Lora Nafziger	God calls us into the wilderness	Extended sharing	<i>Communion</i>
March 17 Lent 2	Gen15:1-12,17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35	Marshall King	God longs to gather us	Music of longing/ shelter	<i>Dave and Karen Powell Covenanting</i>
March 24 Lent 3	Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinth 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	Michael Miller	God longs to satisfy our thirst	The Story of Bottled Water	<i>Fellowship Meal</i>
March 31 Lent 4	Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinth 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Anna Yoder Schlabach	God longs to receive us	Extended sharing	
April 7 Lent 5	Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philipp 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8	Tobias Magatti	God longs to heal us	TBD	<i>Anointing</i>
April 14 Palm Sunday	<u><i>Palms:</i></u> Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Luke 19:28-40 <u><i>Passion:</i></u> Isaiah 50:4-9a,Psalm 31:9-16 Philipp 2:5-11, Luke 22:14-23:56	Hearing the story of Holy Week	God's steadfast love endures forever	Lenten/Holy week Hymn sing or musica divina	<i>Palm Procession</i>
April 21 9:30am Easter	Isaiah 65:17-25 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 <i>Acts 10:34-43</i> John 20:1-18	Karl Shelly	Christ is risen, indeed	No Sunday School	<i>Easter Feast</i> (bring festive finger foods to share for the feast during the service)

