

From the Pastor...

Reaching Easter

In the season of Lent, it almost feels like we don't know the rest of the story. To use a term from literature, the "suspension of disbelief" is how we operate. We want the Pharisees to show mercy toward Jesus instead of trying to trap him. We want the Romans to let our Lord escape the punishment of crucifixion. We desire that Pilate release him instead of Barabbas. We almost hope Judas and Peter won't betray and deny him. We want the crowd from Palm Sunday's triumphal entry to continue shouting "Hosanna" instead of turning away and allowing the trials to transpire.

But then we arrive at Easter – and it feels almost surprising. The stone was rolled away, and the tomb is found empty! What joy is ours as we celebrate that victory! The emotions of Good Friday give way to the celebration of the resurrection and the praise resonates in churches around the world.

It is a well-known story that has been told for two thousand years. It's hardly a surprise to anyone; even many non-Christians know what Easter is about. Even with all the distractions of bunnies, eggs, and the coming of Spring, Jesus still gets enough attention to make the story known.

Doubters question if he died. Skeptics second guess the whole story. Plenty of false narratives try to avoid the reality that Jesus was crucified, died and was buried. Maybe it was someone who looked like him... maybe he only swooned... maybe... But we know the actions that led up to the crucifixion. We know Jesus was really dead, we know the Pharisees, Pilate, Herod, the Romans, Judas and Peter all played their parts in the story. It really happened!

But perhaps our joy is fuller because we ignore what we know. We also know that what happened in Holy Week was not by accident or by chance. It had to go that way for our salvation! Jesus had to suffer and die to redeem us from death. Satan had to be defeated through the death of the Son of God.

Once we reach Easter, we can return to what we know to be true. Jesus' sacrificial death paid for us. His resurrection defeated death. We are heirs of salvation through all that he accomplished!

You are encouraged to attend our times of worship all through the year, either in person or through other means. But here's a special invitation to these services:

- **Palm Sunday**, April 13, 10:00 AM – we'll celebrate the Triumphal Entry and enjoy a special program from our school. There will be an Egg Hunt and lunch afterward.
- **Maundy Thursday**, April 17, 4:30 PM – we'll consider the Feast of Unleavened Bread and remember the institution of the Lord's Supper.
- **Good Friday**, April 18, 7:00 PM – we'll remember the death of Jesus on the cross while we think about the Passover Feast of Ancient Hebrew people and how the annual sacrifices gave way to the cross.
- **Easter Sunday**, April 20, Sunrise at 7:00 AM and Worship at 10:00 AM – we'll rejoice in the triumph of Jesus over death and the grave, celebrating the marriage feast of the lamb in his kingdom! (You're also invited to breakfast between services.)

Join us as we mark these special dates. Blessings on your Easter celebration!

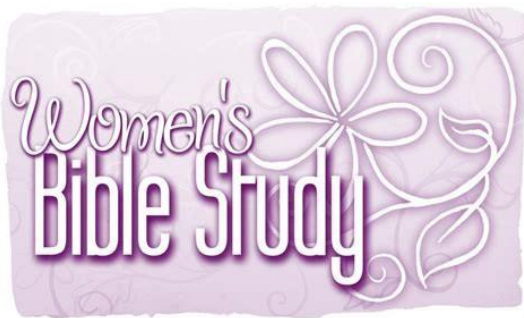


BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT PEACE

Bible Study

Sundays, 8:30 am in the Parish Hall

We are making our way through the Old Testament
with Pastor Metz.



Women's Bible Study

Mondays, 12:30 pm in the Parish Hall

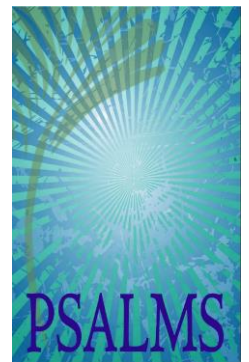
Good studies. Great discussion. Wonderful
fellowship. All ladies are encouraged to attend.

Community Bible Study

Tuesdays, 7:30 am Outside the Red Dirt Café, *near Walmart*

Topic: The Psalm of the Day

We study a selection of Wisdom literature (from Psalms, Proverbs, etc.)
appointed as a reading for the day. After reading the text, we discuss its
meaning and application. Men and women, believer and seeker, all are invited!



LWML April News

Come join us for a blessed day on our field trip on Thursday, April 10th, as we go visit the Steinbeck Paso Robles Vineyard. We will go for a ride through the grapes and learn about how they help our pastors with a beautiful respite cottage for them to refuel and refresh themselves. We will carpool from the church at 10:00 am. Bring a sack lunch. We may even enjoy a glass of wine at the “Voices in the Vineyard.” Sign up at the welcome table. All are welcome.



Attention Peace Church Family!

We have a new phone number to call in and listen to our worship service on Sunday mornings. Our old conference call number is no longer operational. Please refer to the new phone number and passcode below, and please spread the word to anyone you know who calls in to listen to our service.

Phone number:.... +1 (313)-209-8800

Passcode ID: 950095#



*You are invited to join us for our
Holy Week worship services.*



Maundy Thursday Service

April 17th, 4:30 pm

Good Friday Service

April 18th, 7:00 pm



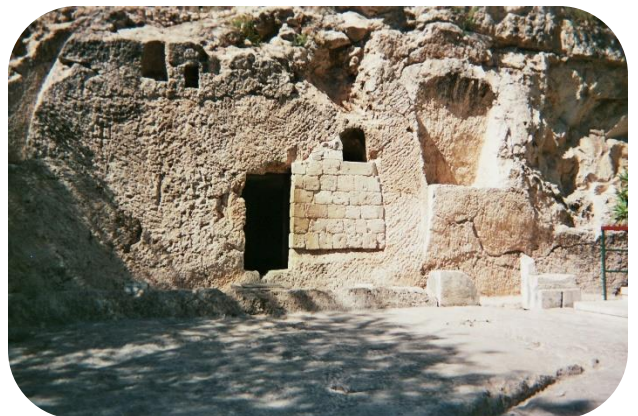
Easter Sunday

April 20th

Sunrise Service: 7:00 am

Church Breakfast: 8:30 am

Easter Service: 10:00 am



Peace Christian Preschool

Doris Angel & Sierra Day/Directors
805-489-9644
director@peacearroyogrande.com
sierra@peacearroyogrande.com

Mark your Calendar

Chapel Every Thursday at
9:15am. Families are
welcome to join us!

April 13: Palm Sunday
Preschool Take over Service
Egg Hunt and Hot Dog Chili
lunch after service.

April 18: **School Closed** for
Good Friday

April 21: **NO SCHOOL**
Teacher In-Service Day

PALM SUNDAY / Preschool Sunday Takeover!

The children will present a program
featuring 6 songs and their
presentation of,

"The Resurrection Eggs."

After the service, we will have an Egg
Hunt and serve hot dogs and chili for
lunch.

Service starts at 10:00. We need the
children here by 9:45 in the Parish Hall



Facility # 401701939

Happy Birthday
4/14 Hudson F.
4/15 Mrs. Angel

**School Closed
On
April 21
Teacher
In-Service
Training**

Hosanna to
the King



We are preparing for the Egg Hunt on
Sunday, April 13th. We need donations
of plastic eggs and candy or small items
that fit inside the eggs.

On **April 9 at 3:30** a team of adults will
gather in the Parish Hall to fill all the
eggs and then separate them into bags
for the different yards. Come and join
us! Many hands make light work!

You are invited to attend these services at Peace Lutheran Church

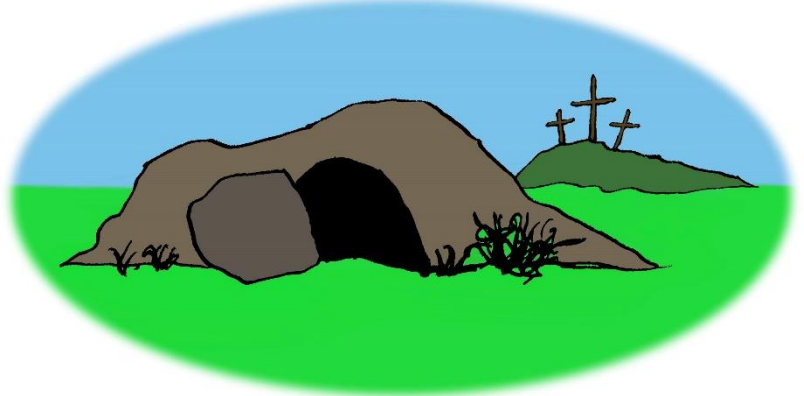
Lent Services: April 2nd and 9th from 4:30-5:30

Maundy Thursday Service: April 17th from 4:30 -5:30

Good Friday Service: April 18th 7:00 - 8:00

Sunrise Service: April 20th 7:00 am / Breakfast: 8:30 am

Easter Service: April 20th 10:00 am



Peace School Easter Program

Sunday, April 13th

During 10:00 am Worship

Egg Hunt and Lunch to Follow





***Peace Lutheran
Church & School***

244 N. Oak Park Blvd.

Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

Church Phone: (805) 489-2708

Church Email: office@peacearroyogrande.com

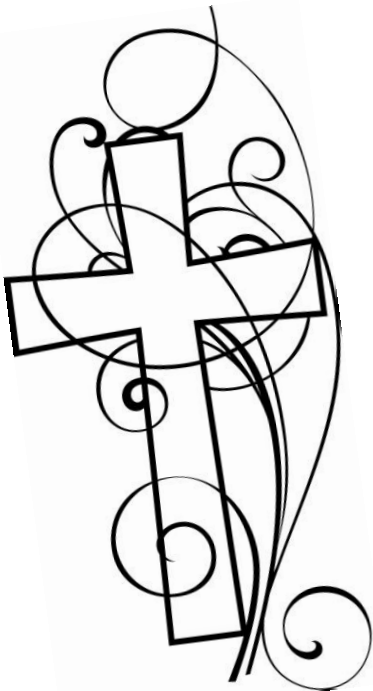
School Phone: (805) 489-9644

School Email: director@peacearroyogrande.com

www.peacearroyogrande.com

April 2025

Church & School Newsletter



**Peace Lutheran Church
Mission Statement**

In loving, caring fellowship, built upon the foundation of Word and Sacrament, we reach out with Gospel ministries to our community.