



Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Matthew 21:9

From the Heart...Special Edition for Lent

“Easter just seems so empty,” she said to me as she reflected back on the day. “I’m not sure why, but it has lost its surprise and joy.” I find this lady’s comment interesting, but I think I have a solution to her problem. Easter is not quite Easter without Lent. Easter is not quite Easter unless we spend time with Holy Week. Easter IS rather empty until we visit Calvary and the cross.

Lent is a season to prepare for the Celebration of Easter, calling the church to identify with Christ. It is a time to look at the horror of the cross and to know that it was cruel, unjust, and evil. But it was not the end. Unless we look there, the empty tomb will only be an empty cave. May you be blessed, as well as stirred, as you look toward Calvary during Lent.

May Your Easter Be Full,

Wednesday, February 6

11:30 a.m. in the Chapel
Rev. Tom Jones

6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Dr. Steve Winter



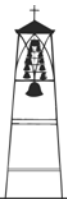
GAINESVILLE

First

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Listening to Lent

By Robert Hereth

This personal devotion booklet will bring daily insight, warmth, and humanity to the Scripture messages through the 40 days of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Copies will be available on Ash Wednesday.



MISSION POSSIBLE:

Changing People's Lives

During the season of Lent, we will be looking at actual biblical characters whose lives changed as they encountered Jesus. Is it still possible for us to change for the good when we encounter the love of God as found in Jesus? The sermon series for Lent will focus on the possibility of change in our lives. What does God desire for us in this Lenten journey through the cross to the empty tomb? Can God really change our lives? This theme will be carried through all services, traditional Sanctuary and contemporary Living Waters, during the season of Lent.

Sunday, February 17

Nicodemus: From Leader to Follower, John 3:1-17

Sunday, February 24

A Samaritan Woman: From Sinner to Winner
John 4:5-42

Sunday, March 2*

A Blind Man: From Dark to Light, John 9:1-41

Sunday, March 9

Lazarus: From Death to Life, John 11:1-45

Palm Sunday, March 16

Malchus: From Agony to Ecstasy
Matthew 26:36-56

Holy Thursday, March 20*

Matthew: From Greed to Generosity
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Easter Sunday, March 23

Mary Magdalene: From Fact to FACT
John 20:1-18

Sunday, March 30

Thomas: From Doubt to Belief
John 20:19-31

**Holy Communion will be served.*

COMMUNITY

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays at 12 noon during the Season of Lent

A light lunch will be served following each worship service for a suggested donation of \$3 per person. Loving childcare will be provided for infants—children 5 years of age. Each location features a guest preacher as listed below.

Wednesday, February 13

First Baptist Church of Gainesville
Rev. Doug Dailey, Grace Episcopal Church

Wednesday, February 20

St. Paul United Methodist Church (Washington Street)
Dr. Bill Coates, First Baptist Church

Wednesday, February 27

Gainesville First United Methodist Church
Dr. David McDonald, First Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 5

St. Michael Catholic Church
Dr. Terry Walton, Gainesville First UMC

Wednesday, March 12

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville
Dr. Jim Bocian, St. Paul UMC (Washington Street)

Wednesday, March 19

Grace Episcopal Church
Father Fabio A. Sotelo, St. Michael Catholic Church



Experience the True Miracle of Easter

Walk Through Holy Week

Wednesday, March 19

6—7:30 p.m.

Begins in the Chapel

A multi-generational event featuring our children's choirs, Mary Magdalene, Jesus, and a special four-legged friend.

*A Lenten Experience:
 The Road to Jerusalem*

**Wednesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.
 In the Gathering Room**



Join us **Wednesday, February 13** through **March 12**, as we use different Christian practices to creatively encounter people who experienced transformation in the presence of Jesus. This Pastor's Bible study will provide you with a wonderful opportunity to grow your faith and learn in new ways. Each week will follow the same theme as the Sunday morning sermon series *Mission Possible: Changing People's Lives*. Facilitated by Rev. Wendy Cordova and Rev. Debby Fox.

**Thursday, March 20
 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

A dramatic monologue from Matthew, a disciple of Jesus, entitled "**From Greed to Generosity.**"
Holy Communion will be served.



Easter Sunday, March 23



6:30 a.m.

Sunrise Service at Lakeside

Rev. Tom Jones

Please join us for a breakfast of biscuits, coffee, and juice in the Scout Cabin immediately following the Sunrise service.

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 10:55 a.m.

Sanctuary Services

Dr. Terry Walton

10:55 a.m.

Living Waters Worship Service

Rev. Wendy Cordova



Lunch will be served in the GREAT Room following each service.

Monday, March 17

12 Noon in the Chapel
Rev. Wendy Cordova

Tuesday, March 18

12 Noon in the Chapel
Rev. Tom Jones

Good Friday, March 21

12 Noon in the Sanctuary
Dr. Bruce Morgan, Ret. Pastor and member of First Baptist Church