

Three Days: One Worship Service

**Portage Lake United Church and Good Shepherd Lutheran
— and others who want to come and are most welcome —
will be observing Holy Week together this year.
Join us for the full Three Days!**

Maundy Thursday

March 29, 7:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran, Houghton

With nightfall Lent comes to an end, and we begin the Three Days, honoring Jesus' passage from death to life. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another, which we see at work in forgiveness of sins, foot-washing, the Lord's Supper, and our Christian service. Today's liturgy continues on Friday.

Good Friday

March 30, 7:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran, Houghton

At the heart of Good Friday worship is the passion story from John, proclaiming Jesus as the triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day "Good" reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn but to celebrate Christ's life-giving Passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life. In the ancient Bidding Prayer we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died. Today's liturgy culminates in the Easter Vigil tomorrow evening.

Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 31, 7:00 p.m. Portage Lake United, Houghton

This is the night! This is our Passover with Christ from darkness to light, from captivity to freedom, from death to life. Jesus' resurrection is proclaimed as we first gather around a fire, in candlelight listen to the ancient stories of our faith, and affirm our baptisms. The service ends with the Lord's Supper. Raised with Christ, we go forth into the world, aflame with the good news of the resurrection. The Easter Vigil does not take the place of Easter Sunday. It helps put Easter Sunday in the broadest and deepest Christian context.



**The Center of the Christian Year:
The Three Days —
An Ecumenical Liturgy for all Christians**

The Three Days liturgy happens literally over three days: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday night before the Day of Resurrection, Easter Sunday.

This one worship service covers the whole of Jesus' witness in his commandment to us to love one another, the gift of his own body and blood in the bread and cup, his example of serving others, his suffering and death on the cross, and, finally, his resurrection. The Easter Vigil invites us to anticipate and contemplate all of this.

We want YOU to be a part of it. What is this three-day worship like?
It really is a matter of "you just have to be there."

