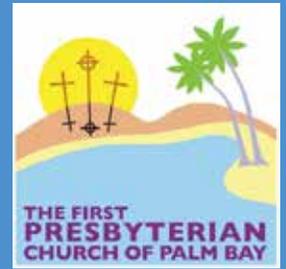




The CHIMES Newsletter

MARCH 1, 2023



Pastor's Thoughts



When I was younger, I remember seeing signs up this time of year that pronounced March to be a month that came "In like a lion

and out like a lamb." I realize that the reference was to the weather, with the beginning part of the month having potential for late-season winter storms before transitioning to milder, Spring weather. Now, however, any time I see that expression, it strikes me that lions and lambs are both Biblical images for the people of God.

The "lion of Judah" is a national and cultural symbol, symbolizing the tribe of Judah, from which the royal line of kings is drawn. It is based on scripture both in Genesis, when Israel blesses his son Judah, calling him a "young lion." The reference is picked up in the book of Revelation, where Jesus is called the Lion of Judah, and pronounced the only one worthy.

Lambs, on the other hand, can represent both obedient followers (remember they are the "good" guys in the lambs and goats passage) and also are connected to purity and sacrifice, as in the Passover, the sacrificial system in the temple, and also the sacrifice of Christ (John the Baptist calls Jesus the "lamb of God who has come to take away the sins of the world").

If we were to make March a month of lions and lambs in the church, what might that look like? It might begin with having pride in who and whose we are, remembering that we are the children of God in Christ, and that we follow the conqueror of sin and death. And as lambs, well, that is a reminder to be diligent in living out our obedience to Christ and willingness to follow where the Spirit leads us. Even though we do not have to be perfect or "earn" God's love, the ways in which we follow the example given to us in Christ and live under the authority of God help us to be purer people, and the obedience of the flock points to the care and diligence of the shepherd who guides us all.

I hope that during March, you might have an opportunity to do something that helps you to feel like a lion or a lamb, to participate in something that helps you feel like a part of God's family and a follower of Christ. Consider joining us for the Lenten Bible Study on Wednesdays. Volunteer to help with something going on in worship or a mission project of the church. Pray with someone who is struggling. Take confidence in knowing that you are loved by God, saved by Christ, and guided by the Spirit every day. Make your best effort to be bold in proclaiming Christ's grace, and humble in following his ways.

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 12!



Worship on March 12th will be on the move!

8:45 a.m. Sunday School Potluck and Discussion

10:00 a.m. Devotion and Prayer in our Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Caravan to Presbyterian Church of the Good Shepherd.

11:00 a.m. Special Worship with the Imani Milele Choir.

2023 Special Offerings Calendar



The Sharing Center is once again accepting donation of non-perishable food, clothing, and items for their thrift shop. We have a donation box in the sanctuary and office.

Easter Lilies

Easter this year is on April 9th, and we will begin taking orders for Easter lilies on Sunday, March 12th. You can



dedicate a lily in memory or honor of someone, and a special insert will be included in the Easter bulletin and April/May newsletter to share all the dedications. Lilies will be \$10.00 and can be picked up after the 10:00 Easter service or in the office the following Tuesday. Please contact the office to place your order at 321-725-8484, email office@palmbaypres.org, or keep an eye out for order forms in the bulletin and sanctuary in March!

Shingles Vaccine

Several members of the church have dealt with shingles cases in the last year. We thought it would be helpful to let everyone know that the shingles vaccine is now available to Medicare recipients with Part D (Prescription Plan) for free as of January 1st. It is 2 injections, 2 months apart, and available at most pharmacies. A recommendation from Barbara Musgrave: "We got ours at Publix, no waiting. Sure beats getting shingles!"

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|---|
| January | 29 | 5¢ per meal |
| February | 5 26 | Colombia Kids 5¢ per meal |
| March | 5 26 | Shoe Mission 5¢ per meal |
| April | 9 30 23+30 | One Great Hour of Sharing 5¢ per meal Mother's Day Goods (Op. Hope) |
| May | 7 28 28 | Mother's Day Goods (Op. Hope) Pentecost Offering 5¢ per meal |
| June | 4 & 11 25 | Op. Hope – Father's Day fans 5¢ per meal |
| July | 16 & 23 30 | Op. Hope Back-to-School supplies 5¢ per meal |
| August | 13 27 | Shoe Mission 5¢ per meal |
| September | 3 24 | Children's Backpack Program 5¢ per meal |
| October | 1 29 | E.C.H.O. 5¢ per meal |
| November | 5 12 (to 12/3) 26 | Thanksgiving Baskets Offering Christmas Tag Tree gifts 5¢ per meal |
| December | 3 17 31 | Christmas Baskets Offering Joy Offering 5¢ per meal |

Dates are subject to change and will be informed to the Session.

St. Patrick's Breastplate

Christ with me,
 Christ before me,
 Christ behind me,
 Christ in me,
 Christ beneath me,
 Christ above me,
 Christ on my right,
 Christ on my left,
 Christ when I lie down,
 Christ when I sit down,
 Christ when I arise,
 Christ in the heart of every man
 who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of everyone
 who speaks of me,
 Christ in every eye that sees me,
 Christ in every ear that hears me.



Medicines and Supplies for Cuba Needed

On March 14th, a team of volunteers from Central Florida Presbytery will be visiting our partners in ministry in the Central Presbytery of Cuba. John Yust will be part of the team that will be visiting churches to check in with churches, hearing stories of the work and worship of our brothers and sisters in Cuba. As part of this trip, the team hopes to bring suitcases filled with over-the-counter medications and craft supplies that are difficult to obtain in Cuba due to the embargo. If you are able to donate a suitcase or any of these items, please bring them to the church by the week of March 5th so that John bring them where they are needed.

- Aspirin (Adult & Children)
- Ibuprofen
- Acetaminophen
- Excedrin
- Multi vitamins (Adult & Child)
- Vitamin B6, B12, B Complex
- C, E, & Zinc
- Anti-Allergy (i.e. Benadryl, etc.)
- Glucosamine w/chondroitin
Ranitidine, Zantac, Tagamet
- Omeprazole, Prilosec-stronger than above
- Probiotics
- Antibiotic Ointment, Clobetasol,
- Ketoconazole, etc.
- Analgesic Ointments (Menthol)
- Anti Scabies Ointments
- Antacids
- Hemorrhoid Ointment & Wipes
- Large & Small disposable Syringes
- Electric Heat Pad
- Craft/school supplies: yarn, crochet thread, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, glue sticks, etc.
- Powdered milk

Special Offering for March

The Shoe Mission is our signature mission. Each year we work with the guidance counselors in as many as a dozen local elementary schools to identify students who need assistance in obtaining new shoes for school. In making this possible, we partner with Shoe Carnival, which helps us get the gift cards and provides a special 30% off coupon to program participants. Last year we were able to provide new shoes for more than 100 through the generosity of the congregation.

Over the years we have heard many stories from the families who received shoes and gift cards - stories of the child's pride in their new footwear and stories of how the love shown by unknown strangers helped them believe that God could love them too.

Sunday, March 5th, we will be taking up an offering to support this wonderful mission. Please consider supporting this great cause!

Special Offering in April: One Great Hour of Sharing



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

We will be taking up an offering on April 9th, Easter Sunday, for One Great Hour of Sharing. This offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Project, and the Self-Development of People program. These three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Thank You from Operation Hope

My friends, what can I say? Your support means the world to the families we serve. We are celebrating another very successful year! Your generous and important gifts make it all possible. Together, we truly are changing our corner of the world. In 2022 children received Easter Baskets, Mother's Day and Father's Day was celebrated, backpacks were given to hundreds of children. Thanksgiving was great! Despite a turkey shortage, we supplied holiday food for thousands! Regular food distributions continue to be very successful. Our team of volunteers has increased, making all the events easy and fun. The Christmas festival was awesome with face painting, dancing, piñatas, wonderful toys, and bikes made hundreds of children happy. The Indian River Sheriff, Eric Flowers, was a tremendous help again this year. Many families come to me expressing appreciation, but all the thanks goes to you. I'm looking forward to a great 2023. Wishing you health, love, and happiness in 2023! God bless you! Jesse Zermano



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School Class is concluding their study of three minor prophets by looking at Nahum. On March 12th, there will be a pot-luck celebration and discussion of a new topic of study for the class to pursue. If you are interested in being part of this Sunday morning discussion class, please join the March 12th class and keep an eye on the bulletin! All are welcome at this class, which meets at 8:45 a.m. on Sundays in the Library.

BIBLE STUDY

Lenten Studies: Savior

Lenten Bible Study begins this week. We will meet at noon and 6:00 p.m. in the CE building library. Copies of the book are available – see Pastor Debra to pick up your copy. All are welcome, book or not – hope to see you Wednesday!

Flower Chart Sign-Up Calendar



Do you enjoy the flowers we have in the sanctuary each Sunday? Are there special people or occasions in your life you wish to honor with flowers? There are still dates available in March, April, June, July, and October. Please sign up on the new chart in the sanctuary or call the office at (321) 725-8484 to reserve your desired spot(s).



Mike & Susan Allison
March 6

Robert & Joanne Ritter
March 24

Lewie & AnnaBelle Schaaf
March 26

Ronald & Georgia Shane
March 28

John & Monia Yust
March 30

The Senior Luncheon

Senior Luncheon for March will be held Thursday the 30th, 11:30 a.m. at Ciao Italian Grill, 1400 N. Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne, 32935. Please contact Marsha Carter at macarter1950@yahoo.com for more information. Last day for sign up will be March 27th.

Thank You to those who blessed us in worship in February

Elders of Month: Judy Irvine

Ushers: Judy Rutter, Jim Corton,
Jack & Ronnie Dayton, Marsha
Carter, Terry Twardzik, Mike
Nardelli, Evelyn Cox

Flowers Donated By: Marsha
Carter, Cheryl & Grady Evans, Vicki
Cather, Terry Twardzik



James Corton
March 4

Bill Phillips
March 7

Brian Young
March 10

Vicki Cather
March 11

Sheri Phillips
March 12

Ernie Wohlenberg
March 12

Neil Carlon
March 21

Fredricka Hopkins
March 24

Kathleen Kemp
March 25

Drew Woods
March 26

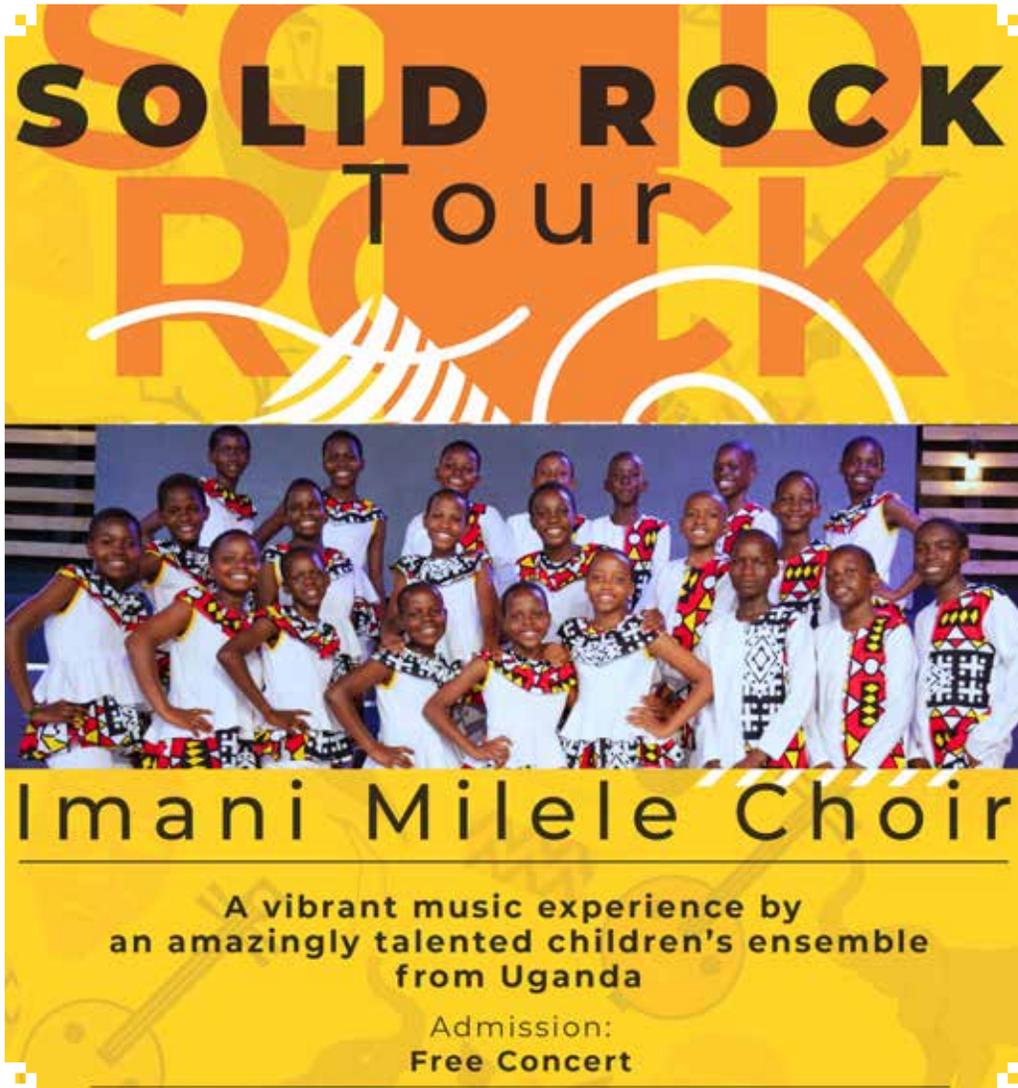
Anna Wood
March 18

Sam Musgrave
March 31

Marlin Fausey
April 2

Worship on March 12th will be on the move!

We have been invited to join Presbyterian Church of the Good Shepherd for a special worship event with the Imani Milele choir from Uganda. On March 12th, Pastor Debra will hold a brief time of prayer and devotion here at 10:00 a.m. and at 10:30 all are welcome to carpool to Good Shepherd for their 10:55 service. You can meet us there as well. There will be a love offering taken at that service to support the work of the Imani Milele orphanage.



SOLID ROCK
Tour

Imani Milele Choir

A vibrant music experience by
an amazingly talented children's ensemble
from Uganda

Admission:
Free Concert

Word from the Herd

Please help us keep our prayer list updated! The Sunday bulletin includes a collection of prayer requests for members, family, and friends. If you would like someone to be prayed for, please let the office know. Also, if someone's name can come off of the prayer list, please update us!

Joe Brubaker, long-time treasurer of BIRP and friend to many in that organization, recently went into Hospice care. He is at Solaris Healthcare on Merritt Island (500 Crockett Blvd).



Session Summary

The session met on February 21st. Matters discussed included the following:

- † Session scheduled a tentative date for training on March 25th.
- † Session approved a motion to confirm the email vote on approving the 2023 Special Offerings Calendar.
- † Session approved a motion from the Worship committee to hold the March 12th worship service at Presbyterian Church of the Good Shepherd in order to participate in a special event. The Imani Milele Choir from Uganda will be singing and sharing testimony. Pastor Debra will lead a meditation at 10:00 a.m. and then carpool with others to PCGS at 10:30.
- † Copies of a Performance Review document for Pastor Debra were distributed to Session members.
- † Session approved commissioners and alternates for Presbytery meetings this year.
- † Session approved the 2023 Statistical Report for General Assembly.
- † Treasurer's Report: The end of the year had a strong finish, which puts the church in good standing for the coming year. In all areas, expenses were kept under control and the quarterly reviews are helpful in this area.

- Average Monthly Expenses: \$19,718.35
- Actual Expenses in January: \$15,328.31
- Contributions in January: \$28,434.82
- Income for 2023: \$28,434.82
- Expenses for 2023: \$15,328.31
- Surplus year-to-date: \$13,106.51



March 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
|  5 10:00 am WORSHIP COMMUNION SUNDAY SHOE MISSION | 6 12:00 noon AL-ANON 6:00 pm AL-ANON— LADIES ONLY | 7 12:30 pm DAILY BREAD 6:00 pm CUB SCOUTS 7:00 pm BOY SCOUTS | 1 12:00 & 6:00 pm LENTEBIBLE STUDY 7:00 pm BAND | 2 6:15 pm NA | 3 5:00 pm LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY | 4 |
| 12 10:00 am SPECIAL WORSHIP DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME SCOUT YARD SALE | 13 12:00 noon AL-ANON 6:00 pm AL-ANON— LADIES ONLY | 14 11:30 am CHOIR PRACTICE 6:00 pm CUB SCOUTS 7:00 pm BOY SCOUTS | 8 1:30 pm CHOIR 12:00 & 6:00 pm LENTEBIBLE STUDY 7:00 pm BAND | 9 6:15 pm NA | 10 5:00 pm LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY | 11 SCOUT YARD SALE |
| 19 10:00 am WORSHIP DEACONS MEETING WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING | 20 CHIMES DEADLINE 12:00 noon AL-ANON 6:00 pm AL-ANON— LADIES ONLY | 21 11:30 am CHOIR PRACTICE 6:00 pm CUB SCOUTS 7:00 pm SESSION 7:00 pm BOY SCOUTS | 15 12:00 & 6:00 pm LENTEBIBLE STUDY 7:00 pm BAND | 16 6:15 pm NA | 17 HAPPY ST. PATRICKS DAY 5:00 pm LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY | 18 |
| 26 10:00 am WORSHIP 5 PER MEAL | 27 12:00 noon AL-ANON 6:00 pm AL-ANON— LADIES ONLY | 28 11:30 am CHOIR PRACTICE 6:00 pm CUB SCOUTS 7:00 pm BOY SCOUTS | 22 12:00 & 6:00 pm LENTEBIBLE STUDY 7:00 pm BAND | 23 6:15 pm NA | 24 5:00 pm LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY | 25 SESSION TRAINING  |
| 5 10:00 am WORSHIP 5 PER MEAL | 6 12:00 noon AL-ANON 6:00 pm AL-ANON— LADIES ONLY | 7 12:30 pm DAILY BREAD 6:00 pm CUB SCOUTS 7:00 pm BOY SCOUTS | 29 12:00 & 6:00 pm LENTEBIBLE STUDY 7:00 pm BAND | 30 11:30 am SENIOR LUNCHEON 6:15 pm NA | 31 5:00 pm LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY | |

IN THE WORD

First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay Weekly Devotional

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>March 1 Read Matthew 4:5-6 Satan's next challenge is for Jesus to show his mastery over the forces of heaven and impress the people on earth - what do you think he is trying to accomplish? What is the trick?</p> | <p>March 2 Read Matthew 4:7 Jesus chooses not to use his divine nature, power, or authority to force his will, but to only use his miraculous power when it will reveal something about God's kingdom and his power.</p> | <p>March 3 Read Matthew 4:8-9 Satan now offers Jesus power in the way that the world views it - adulation, riches, political power, armies and kingdoms. What makes this a trap?</p> |
| <p>March 4 Read Matthew 4:10-11 Jesus is the Savior, but he still sees his purpose as pointing back towards God rather than glorifying himself, so this last temptation of Satan is rejected.</p> | <p>March 5 Read John 3:1-2 Nicodemus, as a leader of the Jewish people, wants to be nearer Jesus, but doesn't want to risk being seen with him. What makes people hold back from committing to Christ fully?</p> | <p>March 6 Read John 3:2-3 Nicodemus wants to know how Jesus is performing these miracles, but Jesus answers with an enigma - you must be born "from above" to wield the power of that kingdom.</p> |
| <p>March 7 Read John 3:4 Nicodemus' answer shows that he does not understand that Jesus is both human and divine, and gets a bit sarcastic imagining how that is possible.</p> | <p>March 8 Read John 3:5-8 Jesus firmly states his words are true and offers an image that Nicodemus can understand - the Spirit of God is involved in our Spiritual birth.</p> | <p>March 9 Read John 3:9-11 Nicodemus is now ready to learn, but Jesus is frustrated that, as a teacher, he does not already understand, and has previously refused to listen to Jesus, who does have this knowledge.</p> |
| <p>March 10 Read John 3:12-15 Jesus explains why he is the only one who can teach about heavenly things, and in imagery, predicts his death as a means by which others will be saved, like in Number 21:4-9.</p> | <p>March 11 Read John 3:16-17 Jesus states clearly his presence and God's plan are based in God's love and desire that there might be salvation instead of condemnation for all who believe.</p> | <p>March 12 Read John 4:5-8 This will be a story of surprises. When Jacob met a woman at a well, he later married her. There is a lot of imagery about to be turned upside-down as Jesus speaks to this woman.</p> |
| <p>March 13 Read John 4:9-10 The woman is well aware of the cultural expectations and barriers. Jesus points out there is something more important happening she should be focusing on instead.</p> | <p>March 14 Read John 4:11-15 As Jesus engages with the woman, it is clear she is still taking his comments literally rather than grasping that Jesus is speaking of spiritual / eternal matters rather than earthly ones.</p> | <p>March 15 Read John 4:16-26 As Jesus speaks directly to her situation, the woman calls him a prophet. She is then open to understanding who Jesus really is and accepts that he is the Messiah.</p> |

Prayer is the breath, the watchword, the comfort, the strength, the honor of a Christian.

First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay Weekly Devotional

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>March 16 Read John 4:27-30 The disciples return and they don't know how to react. They don't question Jesus' actions, but neither do they understand them. Meanwhile, the woman evangelizes.</p> | <p>March 17 Read John 4:31-37 Now it is time for the disciples to get a lesson. Jesus places doing the work of the Father on an equal level as basic needs like food and invites them to see themselves as workers for God.</p> | <p>March 18 Read John 4:39-42 The epilogue of the story reveals that many came to believe and that they welcomed Jesus into their town to stay and teach them. The Samaritans do better than the Jewish people.</p> |
| <p>March 19 Read John 9:1-7 The disciples are interested in a theological debate. Jesus is interested in healing the blind man. How can contemplation of the "why" get in the way of actually helping others?</p> | <p>March 20 Read John 9:8-12 Is this comedy or tragedy? The man with sight is nearly unrecognizable. He is eager to share his experience and help others, but he doesn't know where Jesus is to point him out.</p> | <p>March 21 Read John 9:13-17 The officials now enter the story, and are divided on whether Jesus is good or evil. How do our perceptions and priorities twist shape the way we interpret events for good or evil?</p> |
| <p>March 22 Read John 9:18-25 The man's parents are now dragged into the picture, but they don't want to get involved in this debate. The leaders want him to praise God and denounce Jesus - best of both worlds?</p> | <p>March 23 Read John 9:26-34 The man proclaims Jesus' actions and asks if others wish to follow him. The man can see clearly that any who follow Moses should follow Christ, but he is driven out for his answer.</p> | <p>March 24 Read John 9:35-38 Jesus goes and finds the man, helping him to know who has healed him and who he actually is. The man worships Jesus and is reassured that he has done nothing wrong.</p> |
| <p>March 25 Read John 9:39-41 Jesus offers a teaching on these events, and the Pharisees pick up on the criticism aimed their way. Jesus pronounces them the sinners rather than the man born blind.</p> | <p>March 26 Read John 11:1-6 Jesus is hiding out from authorities when he receives word his friend is ill. He waits before returning - why do you think he did this? Prior knowledge? Letting things cool off?</p> | <p>March 27 Read John 11:7-16 When Jesus sets course for Bethany, he tells the disciples Lazarus is dead. Notice the devotion of Doubting Thomas, who is ready to die with Jesus as he makes his way to Lazarus.</p> |
| <p>March 28 Read John 11:17-27 Lazarus' sister Martha (the worker) reacts with faith to Jesus' appearance, believing that even now Jesus can petition God to save her brother, even though he is four days in the tomb.</p> | <p>March 29 Read John 11:28-32 Mary (the listener) is told of Jesus' arrival, and rushes out to see Jesus, but she doesn't make a profession of faith, merely stating that if Jesus were here, Lazarus wouldn't have died.</p> | <p>March 30 Read John 11:33-37 When Jesus reaches the tomb, he weeps. Even though he knows what he is going to do, he takes a moment to share in the grief of the people around him for his friend.</p> |
| <p>March 31 Read John 11:38-42 Jesus walks up to the tomb with authority and orders it opened. He makes sure that his prayer is overheard so that all might understand what is happening.</p> | <p>April 1 Read John 11:43-45 Jesus commands Lazarus to come out, and he does! Now they must "unbind" him - touching him to remove the grave cloths and, symbolically, welcoming him back.</p> | <p>April 2 Read Matthew 27:11-14 Jesus refuses to answer questions and accusations. It is enough that he knows who he is, anyone else may believe or not and act according to what they believe about him.</p> |