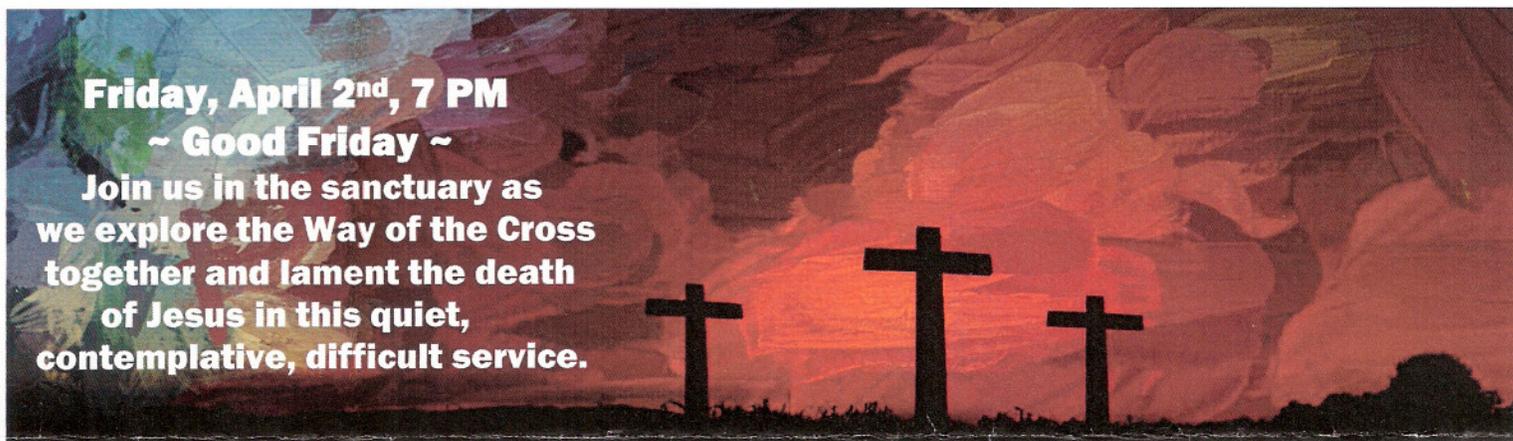


Easter 2021

Dear St Andrew's Family,

On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, we read from John 12:24. In this part of our sacred story, Jesus used a parable to try and help his disciples understand what was going to happen to him. Jesus said, "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Then a few days later, Jesus died on the cross, in a horrific act of state-sanctioned execution. We lament this day each year on Good Friday.



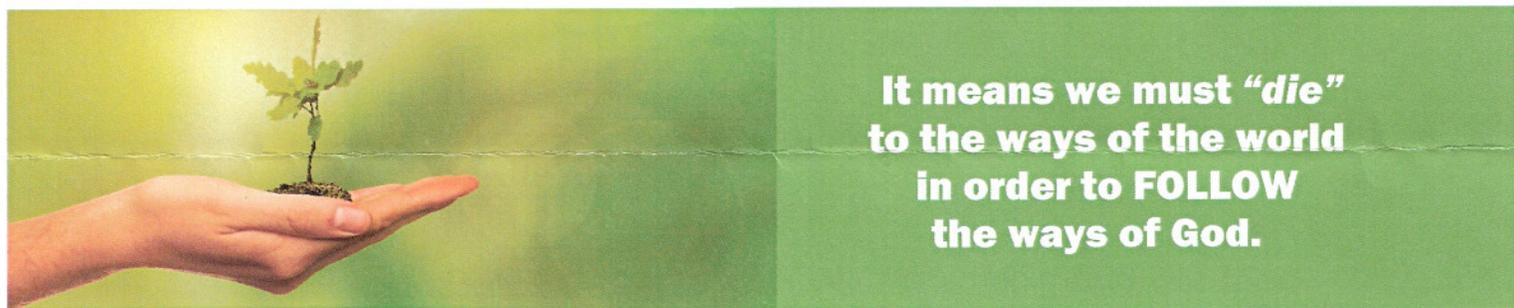
**Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7 PM**  
**~ Good Friday ~**  
**Join us in the sanctuary as we explore the Way of the Cross together and lament the death of Jesus in this quiet, contemplative, difficult service.**

Easter teaches us that even death could not keep LOVE down. In the end it was love that won when Jesus conquered death. **On Easter Morning we celebrate that HE IS RISEN! Hallelujah!**



**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM ~ Easter Worship!!!**  
**Join us as we celebrate new life in the resurrection of Jesus.**  
**We will share in communion at this worship.**

What does this mean for us, as Christians? I think Jesus reminds us that to follow him, means we must die to some of our worldly ways. It means... dying to consumerism, to putting ourselves first, to letting finances, our personal convenience or our culture dictate our ethics.



**It means we must "die" to the ways of the world in order to FOLLOW the ways of God.**

It is through this transformation that we can find REAL life – a new life – a better life. If the last year has taught as anything, it has clarified what *gives us life* ~ and what things are that hold us captive and metaphorically take us down the *path of death*. As the world is starting to return to "normal", we have an amazing opportunity to choose what parts of normal we want to return to and what parts to let go. I invite you to spend some time discerning what it means to follow Jesus. And through this transformation may you find new life that fills you with the gifts of Holy Spirit: Peace, Joy, Hope & Love.

Shalom,  
Rev. Shannon

