

# WERE YOU THERE?

*Lent Sermon Series - Helpful Resources - Upcoming Services*



## UPCOMING SERVICES

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**FEB 25 - ASH TUESDAY, 7PM**

**MAR 1 - COMMUNION, 10AM**

**APR 5 - PALM SUNDAY, 10AM**

**APR 9 -  
MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7PM**

**APR 10 - GOOD FRIDAY &  
COMMUNION, 10AM**

**APR 12 -  
EASTER MORNING, 10AM**

## Sermon Series: Were You There?

During the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter, our sermons will ask the question: *Were you there?*

We'll be following Christ to the cross and take a look at some of the people who were at Jesus's side. In all the stories of scripture, we may find ourselves in the place of the characters in the story and we may find the grace or word of healing they also did. So in this series you'll have the opportunity to put yourself in their shoes, to follow Jesus, to know suffering and healing.



## Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

We will have Stations of the Cross coloring pages available after our services, to work on as a congregation. We encourage you to take some time after the service to sit in quiet reflection on the week's station.

Visit [www.illustratedministry.com/stations-of-the-cross](http://www.illustratedministry.com/stations-of-the-cross) for more information.

## Resources

Music:

This is a version of Were You There that may help your reflections during Lent.

<https://youtu.be/fpSScICWJ9M>

There are singer-songwriters who have created full albums devoted to Lent, including the artists Bifrost Arts, Audrey Assad, Ordinary Time, The Brilliance, the Shiyr Poets, and The Welcome Wagon.

Write your own lament with help from this organization:

<https://annarborvineyard.org/participate/spiritual-formation/writing-a-psalm-of-lament/>



## **Reordering the Services**

During the 6 weeks of Lent, you will notice a change in the order of our services. We will be moving the Congregational Prayer, Offering and Announcements to before the sermon, and moving the Song of Response, Prayer of Confession and Assurance to after the sermon.

### ***Here's why:***

Confession and Lament will be an appropriate response to the sermons this Lent, which ask the question, "Were you there?".

This change allows us to highlight confession and lament and teach people intentionally about these two pieces of our walk with Christ.

A bi-product of this move is that Sunday school kids get to see our communal expressions of prayer and giving.

## Scripture Passages:

**Mar 1** | Communion | Were you there when Jesus was Anointed? (The story of a woman): Mark 14:3-9

**Mar 8** | Were you there when Jesus had Passover? Mark 14:12-25

**Mar 15** | Were you there when Jesus was sold? (The story of Judas): Mark 14:10-11, 14:43-52, Matt 27:27-31

**Mar 22** | Were you there when Jesus was betrayed? (The story of Peter): Mark 8:27-33, 14:27-31, 14:66-72

**Mar 29** | Were you there when Jesus was falsely accused? (The story of the religious leaders): Mark 14:53-65

**Apr 5** | Palm Sunday | Were you there when Jesus received no justice? (The story of the one in between—Pilate): Mark 15: 1-15, John 18:28-38, Luke 23:6-16, Matt 27:15-19

**Apr 9** | Maundy Thursday | Were you there when Jesus was beaten? (The story of the oppressed—the soldiers) Matt 27:27-31, Mark 15:16-20

**Apr 10** | Good Friday | Communion | Were you there when Jesus died and was buried? (The story of Joseph of Arimathea) Matt 27:15-26; Mark 15:21-47

**Apr 12** | Easter Sunday | Were you there when Jesus rose from the dead? (The story of the Marys and Salome) Mark 16

**During Lent, the cross will slowly move from the back of the church to the front. Our hope is that this will be a physical reminder for us that we are on our way to the cross, walking the journey with Christ. As it sits in different parts of the sanctuary, we invite you to sit and ponder where or who you are in the story, and what words of grace you need to hear as we contemplate Christ's journey to the cross.**