

THE SPIRE

March 2023



Lent. It is one of those two seasons which is geared towards a moment, a day if you will. An entire season that builds all the way up to one day happens two times in our calendar year. Sure there are other great moments, Pentecost Sunday ushers us into the season of Pentecost. But Advent leads to Christmas, and Lent leads to Easter.

Now in our own ways we prepare and make ready for Christmas. We buy presents and put up decorations. We bake cookies, and plan our get-togethers. We even wrap and exchange presents. All of which get us ready and prepare us for the great celebration.

But Lent is a little different. No one really decorates quite the same during Lent as they do Advent. Part of it has to do with the nature and format of our decorations, but it also has to do with what and how we are celebrating. We don't exactly get together for Easter parties during Lent the way that we gather and celebrate Christmas during Advent. But Christmas and Advent has a very different shape and form than Lent and Easter don't they.

While Advent builds up, up, up to the peak of Christmas, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and make a stop over at Palm Sunday before the austerity and solemnity of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. All of which leads us up to, and in to Easter. There is a format to Lent and Easter which doesn't resemble a steady climb upward, but it instead resembles the sine or cosine waves of trigonometry. With a sort of up and down flow which also builds up like Easter but sort of like a good piece of music.

I've heard Lent described as a roller coaster, a time in the wilderness with little Easters every week, an ordeal and a journey. But none of these really get to all that is the Lenten and Easter seasons. They are a deliberate time set aside where we are supposed to work at getting closer to

God. Sure we get lost in the methodology of adding a spiritual discipline or fasting from something which supposedly was separating us from God, or in the giving up of meat on Fridays. But what matters isn't the result of successfully giving up sports or a food or whatever. It doesn't matter what spiritual discipline we have added to our lives and schedule. All of those things aren't the measure of success. They are a means of achieving it.

The true goal of Lent and the measure of our success or accomplishment throughout these forty days and nights and Sundays, is whether we become closer to God. That is the thing which we should be reaching for as we walk along our path of Lent as it leads to Holy week and Easter. If along the way we fast from something or add a form of discipline whatever it is if we do not grow closer to God as a result have we succeeded? If we give up sweets or whatever and become healthy or lose weight but do not grow closer to God has Lent benefited our relationship with God. If we are able to engage in a new form of prayer once a week for the entirety of Lent but do not grow closer to God has our spiritual endeavors added to anything? The reality is without gaining closeness with God it is all for naught.

Just as Corinthians 13 speaks of how love changes and transforms what we do from a clanging symbol or a gain of nothing to truly something of worth to our faith, so too does a celebration of Lent without gaining a closer relationship, drawing closer to God. May our Lenten journey bear fruit and bear us closer even slightly to our Lord.





March 5,12,19,26	Worship
March 2	Hurley Seniors meeting
March 5	Communion
March 7,14,21,28	Bible Study
March 8	Social Solos
March 12	Daylight Savings
March 12	Women's Ministries Zoom
March 13	Consistory Meeting
March 15	Women's Bible Study
March 6,13,20,27	Tai Chi
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 18	Brandon Inn Quilters
March 24	Easter Flower orders due
March 25	Italian Dinner



**Reach out to those who need your support
in their day to day needs:**

Please keep them in your prayers.

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom)

Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade

Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill

Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster

David Giles

Barbara Sartorius, New Hamshire

Terry Conlin

There is a heavenly garden in which God takes great pleasure, because He's placed within it the loved ones that we treasure.

As we patiently await springtime... Soon the trees will give blessed shade, soon the fragrance of the flowers will fill your nose with sweetness.

The song of birds above in the trees will fill your heart with praise, for God's melodies of springtime.

In this special place, you will feel the peace and love of the Lord.

STICKLEY GARDENS

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

LISA LONGTO (845-532-7570) CHAIRPERSON

JIM PIRRO (845-383-0079) TREASURER

ESTHER STICKLEY (845-331-2919)

SANDIE GREGORY (845-338-7626)

LEE GABLE

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

A SACRED PLACE OF BEAUTY AND CONTEMPLATION.
(LOCATED ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE CHURCH)

Ushers for March

March 5 Glenn Decker & Bob Kindt

March 12 Linda Moon & Aileen Helsley

March 19 Lee Gable & Alan Dumas

March 26 Dino Sumerano & Lisa Longto



Craig Jansen	2
Linda Bognar	3
Dennis Horvers	5
Marianne Mizel	7
Mikayla Decker	8
Barbara Sartorius	10
Julia Wolf	10
Danielle Wolf	10
Kim Burgess	13
Deborah Zuill	14
Allan Masters	14
Jace Provenzano	17
Frank Warren	17
Joyce Pinckney	18
Dino Sumerano	18
Angie Rockwell	19
Justin Nekos	21
William Gaffken	23
David Kent	23
Gretchen Giles	24
Phyllis Bliss	24
Deidre Sills	25
Ellen Morone	31
Logan Brennan	31

Deacon For March
is
Aileen Helsley

Happy
Anniversary

Emily & Art Harder	16
Charles & Sheila Jansen	25

A Message from Women's Ministries

Cards are sent out each month to those unable to attend Church. We welcome you to contact us if there is someone that you feel could use a kind message through a card from The Women's Ministries of The Hurley Reformed Church. Please contact Jane Merrill, Hospitality Secretary, at 914-388-1872 or e-mail her information at janevmerrill@aol.com to send a message through a card.

Mission of the Month is

Hurley Rescue Services

We also will be collecting past and spaghetti sauce for the Bread of Life food pantry. If you are able to help support this need, please drop your items in the basket at the top of the church stairs. Thank you!

If anyone is interested we have a manger set available. It is white ceramic figurines that have not been stained, painted or fired. Please contact the office if you think you could use it!



EASTER PLANTS

_____ 6" Easter lily	\$9.00
_____ 6" Tulip	\$8.00
_____ 6" Daffodil	\$8.00
_____ 6" Hyacinth	\$8.00
_____ 5" Mini Daffodil	\$4.50
_____ 4" Primrose	\$3.50
_____ 4" Pansy	\$3.50



Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please print clearly

Placed by: _____

In memory of:

In honor of:

We encourage you to take your flowers home. The church garden is getting full.

Please make checks payable to: Hurley Reformed Church.

Mail or give your order by March 24, 2023 to:

Doris Alden
236 East Drive
Hurley NY 12443

Hurley Reformed Church — Main Street — Hurley, NY

Italian Dinner!

3-25-23 4:00 - 6:00pm
drive-thru only

*Ziti, Meatballs, Tossed Salad,
Garlic Bread & Dessert* **\$12.00**

Please Pre-Order: **845-331-4121**

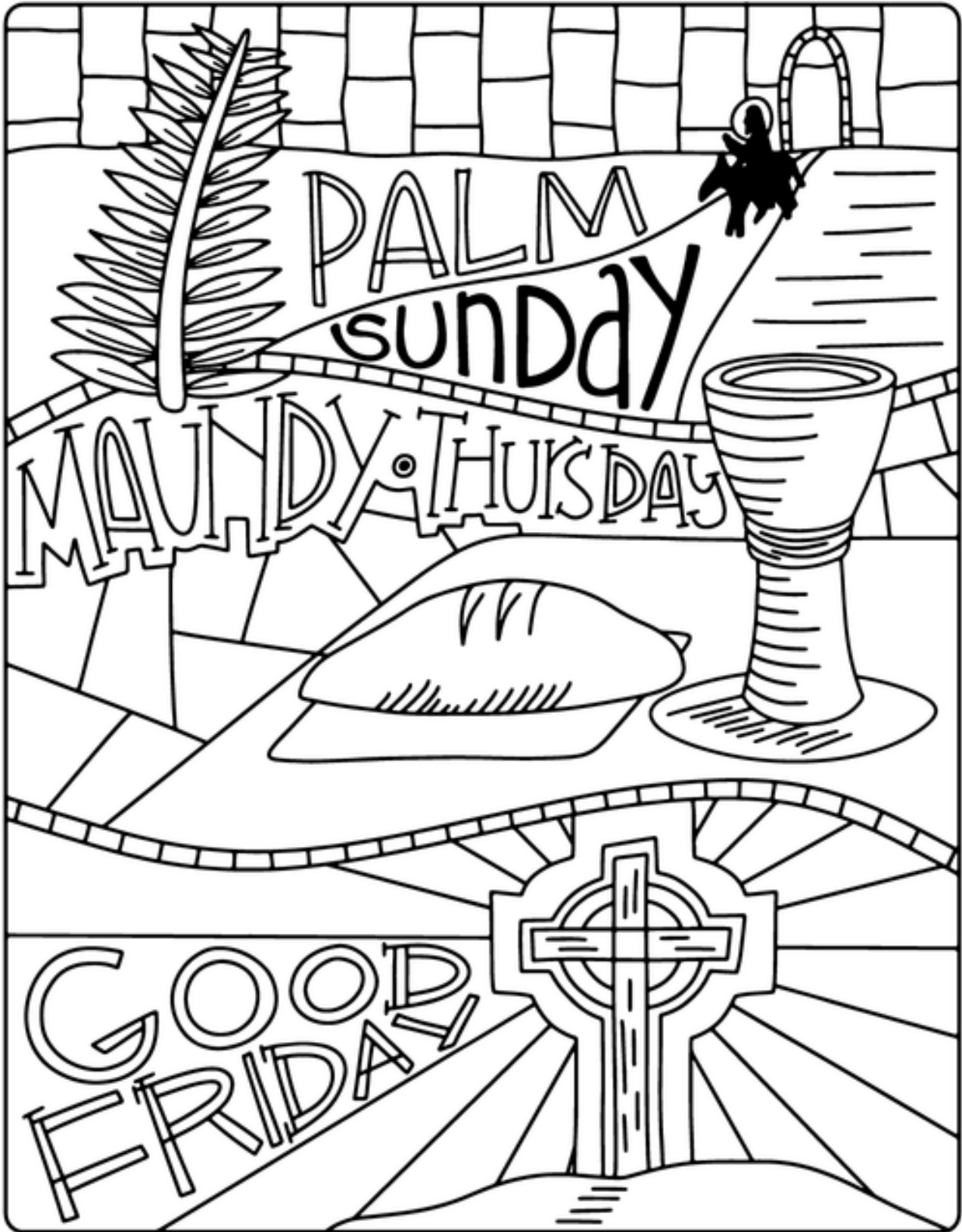
Buon Appetito!



Italian Night



Children's Coloring Page



MAARBOEI

Can Stock Photo

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

10am - Baptism
 10am - Worship by Zoom and
 11am - Baptism

1pm - Tai Chi
 4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 7pm - 1st Capitol Corvettes
 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9

9am - Bible Study @ Dutch
 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall
 4:30pm - PC 101 @ Dutch

12pm - social solos by Zoom
 4pm - Dog Training
 6pm - Pickleball

4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 4:30pm - Karate Class

12pm - Knitters @ Dutch

9:30am - Karate Class @ Hall
 10am - Genealogy @ Room
 12pm - Woodworkers @ Hall

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Daylight Saving Time starts

10am - Worship by Zoom and
 11:30am - Women's

11am - VFW @ Dutch Room
 1pm - Tai Chi
 4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 7pm - Consistory @ Dutch
 7pm - Hudson Valley
 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9

9am - Bible Study @ Dutch
 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall

10am - women's bible study
 4pm - Dog Training
 6pm - Pickleball

4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 4:30pm - Karate Class

St Patrick's Day
 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch
 5pm - BAPS @ Hall

9am - Brandon Inn Quilters
 9:30am - Karate Class @ Hall

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

10am - Worship by Zoom and

10am - Genealogy @ Rooms
 1pm - Tai Chi
 4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9

9am - Bible Study @ Dutch
 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall
 6pm - Nursery School Board

8:45am - HNS-School Play @
 4pm - Dog Training
 6pm - Pickleball

4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 4:30pm - Karate Class
 7pm - Hurley Heritage

Italian Dinner @ Hall, Kitchen & Parking Lot
 8:45am - HNS-snow date for
 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch

9:30am - Karate Class @ Hall

26 27 28 29 30 31

10am - Worship by Zoom and

10:30am - Genealogy @
 4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9

9am - Bible Study @ Dutch
 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall

4pm - Dog Training
 6pm - Pickleball

4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 4:30pm - Karate Class

12pm - Knitters @ Dutch
 4pm - Hurley Heritage

1 2 3 4

First Day of Women's History
 4pm - Dog Training
 6pm - Pickleball

1:30pm - Hurley Senior
 4:30pm - Dog Training @ Hall
 4:30pm - Karate Class

12pm - Knitters @ Dutch

9:30am - Karate Class @ Hall

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Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Pastor

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Pastor

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich

Hurley New York 12443

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

MARCH 2023

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