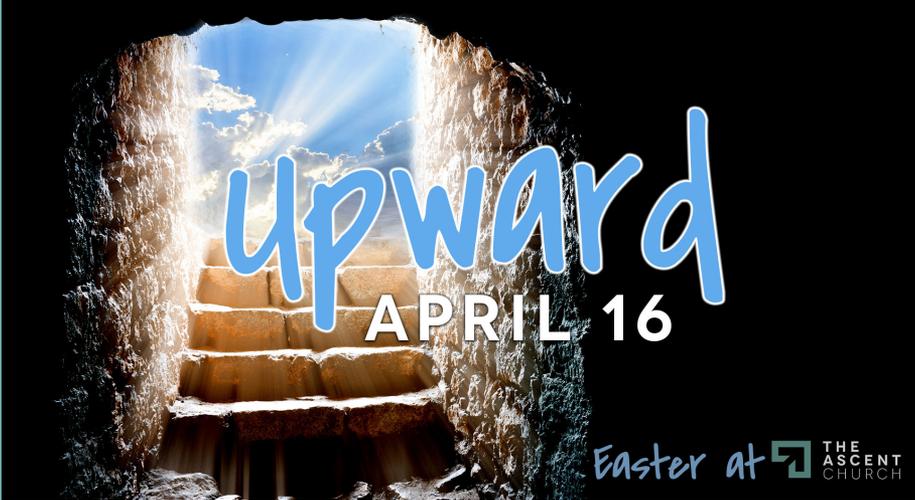


THE
COMPASS

Next Sunday



upward
APRIL 16

Easter at  THE ASCENT CHURCH

April 9, 2017



THE
ASCENT
CHURCH



This Sunday's Message

“The Peaceful Smile” Philippians 4

Sermon Notes:

Four pieces of the peaceful smile:

1. _____.

Philippians 4:4-6 (NIV)

2. _____.

Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

3. _____ .

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

4. _____ .

Philippians 4:8-9 (NIV)

Get Connected

If this is your first visit, welcome! We hope your visit is meaningful, and we are glad you are here. Please fill out a Connection Card and drop it in the offering box or at the Welcome Area. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team.

- Woodmoor Campus: every 1st Sunday, 10:15 am in Room 212.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.

No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and to be involved in God's mission and vision in our region. Explore II includes why and how to become a member, our trail map for each family member, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Explore II classes are held quarterly.



Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at theascentchurch.com/basecamps.



Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's Bible studies. For more information, visit our website at: www.theascentchurch.com/equipping.



Serving Opportunities

How is God calling you to help create a welcoming and inviting Sunday experience for our guests and regular attenders? Serving opportunities are available in many areas from Hosting and Greeting, Service Prep Teams, or Technical and General Set-Up Teams. Training is available for each role.

If you have any questions about hosting or serving roles, please email info@theascentchurch.com.

Community Life



Good Friday

APRIL 14 - 6:00PM
WOODMOOR CAMPUS



April 15

INVITE A NEIGHBOR
LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Gleneagle and Struther's Corridor
Antelope Trails Elementary - 11am

Palmer Lake
Palmer Lake Town Hall - 10am

EGG HUNT



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING APRIL 30

NORTHGATE CAMPUS - 11:30 AM
WOODMOOR CAMPUS - 10:15 AM

upward

APRIL 16

Woodmoor Campus
8am, 9:30am, 11am

Northgate Campus
10:30am

Easter at  THE ASCENT CHURCH

Connection Opportunities *This Week*



Ascent Student Ministry

ASM Tuesday Dates:
April 11, 18, 25 for MS

and HS.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:45pm

ASM Upcoming Events:

www.theascentchurch.com/students

ASM Deep

ASM DEEP Dates: April 9, 23, 30.

- Northgate: 10:15am, upstairs.
- Woodmoor: 11am, upstairs.

Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9am, 11am
- Northgate Campus: 10:15am

Kids' Camp: June 7-9, 2017, La Foret Event Center, Black Forest.

Registration is now open at:

www.theascentchurch.com/kids.

Missions

An interest meeting for BOTH the Ethiopia and Kenya mission trips will be held on April 30 after each service. Information will be provided for those interested in our Africa trips. Woodmoor Campus in Room 212. More information about missions:
www.theascentchurch.com/missions.



Equipping Ministry

Connections Class:
Sundays, 10:45am,

Woodmoor Campus Room 213. The Connection Class will be studying the book of Hebrews. All are welcome!

Parents of Teens Class: Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 210.

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study:

I & II Corinthians, 6:00am coffee; 6:15am start. Join us anytime.

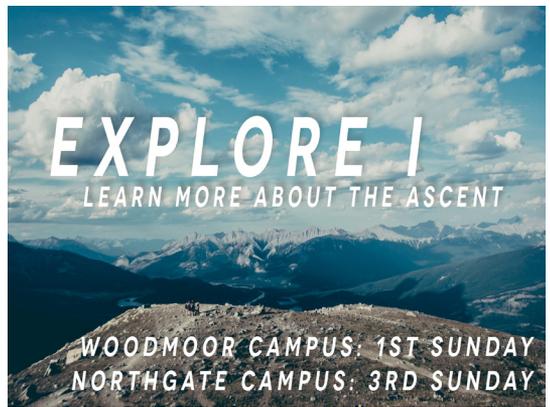
- Woodmoor Campus: Room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza

Women on the Ascent Bible Studies:

- Tuesdays, 9am, Woodmoor Campus, childcare available.
- WOTA Journey: I & II Corinthians, Wednesdays, 6:30pm, Woodmoor Campus, childcare available.

OVERFLOW

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE THROUGH BAPTISM
APRIL 30: ALL SERVICES

A graphic for 'Kids' Camp' featuring a red banner that says 'The Lord is My Banner Kids' Camp.' and a small cartoon figure of a child holding the banner. The background is a textured brown color.

THE ASCENT CHURCH

Kids' Camp

JUNE 7-9, 2017
La Foret Conference and Retreat Center
Register: www.theascentchurch.com/kids



Giving at The Ascent

- Offering boxes in worship
- Online: theascentchurch.com
- Kiosk
- The Ascent Church App

THE COMPASS

Introduction to The Compass Devotions

(on the following pages)

In order to increase overall use of The Compass, the study/devotion pages will change in two ways starting Easter Sunday, 4/16. First, we're updating daily study/devotion pages to a 2-page study for use by groups, such as Base Camps, or individuals. It can be done at one sitting, or extended over the week. Second, the study pages follow the sermon rather than precede it. This allows for groups and individuals to reflect deeply on the passage and focus on application to include what the preacher added. We still encourage each worshiper to read the passages for Sunday prior to worship; we list them at the bottom of the study page for that purpose. Finally, for those who desire individual, daily, devotional reading, we are making Our Daily Bread available through The Ascent Church app. Enjoy this special Holy Week edition as we make this transition.

Yours, The Ascent Church staff and Compass team.

Introduction to Holy Week

The first Christians observed the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth as a tridium—a single three-day event—because they recognized the integral nature of Jesus' faithfulness, His substitutionary death, and His defeat of death through the resurrection. Together, Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection have saving power. The separation of Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter into three distinct movements was a capitulation to more modern schedules. This week's Compass study is provided as a way to try to reunify these elements. May it be a tool for deepening your faith, strengthening your courage, and multiplying your joy as The Ascent Church walks toward shared Easter celebration on Sunday!

As part of your Holy Week devotion, please join with the rest of The Ascent Church for Good Friday service, Friday, April 14, 6pm. Childcare will be available for those under the age of ten, with an RSVP.

Monday, April 10, 2017

Read Zechariah 9:9-12 and Matthew 21:4-17.

Prayer and Questions:

What might the first faithful Jewish listeners have thought of this prophecy from Zechariah? What tools of war were removed? What replaced them? Who are the glad recipients of this prophecy?

On the day Jesus chased out the money changers, who was healed? Who was criticized? Who celebrated what Jesus did? How does this tie into the prophecy of Zechariah?

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, what did the crowds cry out? Who did the crowds say He was?

As you begin Holy Week, what is the expected outcome of all that will take place? Is this a temporal or eternal orientation?

Pray through Psalm 118:19-29 several times to begin the week.

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

Read Mark 11:15-19 and 1 Corinthians 6:19.

Prayer and Questions:

What is your prayer pattern or practice? Are you pleased with your prayer life?

Why was Jesus so angry when He chased out those who traded in the temple?

The temple was the meeting place of God and His people. What did the trading prevent?

As you journey through this week, think about what it is in you that prevents you from meeting God. Imagine what Jesus went through—could He have remained faithful if he had not set aside time to be with His Father?

Reread Zechariah 9:9-12. In the space below, author a prayer for your Holy Week.

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Prepare by reading all of today's headlines at *gazette.com* or in whatever source you receive your daily news.

Read Jeremiah 12:1-16 and Psalm 69:1-21.

Prayer and Questions:

Consider your personal life, headline events, and what you know of others. Do the lamentations recorded in Jeremiah 12 and Psalm 69 ring at least partially true?

Specifically, what do Jeremiah and David express? What do they expect because of the evil and brokenness of this world? From a kingdom of God perspective, how significant is the battle? Do believers always win? What do these passages express about worldly battle?

Read Philippians 3:1-15. What are you to worry about? What are you to focus on? How much personal suffering is involved in faithfulness?

Meditatively read 1 Timothy 6:12-16 multiple times as a part of your prayer.

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Read John 13:1-17; John 13:31-36; and Luke 22:14-30.

Prayer and Questions:

In these three passages, Jesus gives a mandate—a command. It is this command that gives Maundy (mandate) Thursday its title. Have you ever participated in Maundy Thursday worship? What was done during worship?

In John 13:1-17, what specific words expressed Jesus' mandate? If this is about the posture of servanthood Jesus took toward you, how can you imitate this behavior toward another believer?

What is "new" in Jesus' command in John 13:31-35?

Why is it critical you come to understand the depth of Jesus' love for you? In what way is your love for others inadequately defined? In what ways has God allowed you to love by the depth of sacrifice Jesus instructs?

What is the weekly practice of communion to remind you of? What makes communion a part of the mandate of Jesus?

Bonus question: Liturgical Christians take communion for the last time in Holy Week on Maundy Thursday. Read Luke 22:14-30—what might be the reason for this? What aspect of weekly communion not only reflects on the past but also anticipates something to come?

Consider taking communion as a family, noting these aspects. A simple form of home communion can be found at:
<https://www.gci.org/church/lordssup/athome>.

Friday, April 14, 2017

Please consider participating in The Ascent Church's Good Friday service at the Woodmoor Campus, 6:00pm.

Read John 18:1-19:37.

Prayer and Questions:

When you read these verses in one sitting, what is your fundamental feeling?

Good Friday is a fitting day for confession of sin. As a tool, journal the concrete sins for which you seek God's forgiveness. Or—as in James 5:16—find a trustworthy believer to hear your confessions and pray for you.

David wrote Psalm 51 after he was confronted for murdering Uriah and committing adultery with Bathsheba, Uriah's wife. Meditate on Psalm 51 after you have confessed.

Finish your devotion by reading 1 John 2:1-2. Then record verse 1b-2 five times.

Saturday, April 15, 2017

Read 1 Peter 4:1-8 and John 19:38-42.

Prayer and Questions:

Holy Saturday has always been important in the tridium of passion, death, and resurrection.

Begin by contemplating the reality that Jesus died.

- Does dead really mean dead, in Jesus' case?
- What was at risk when the Father let Jesus be crucified by the Romans?
- Why do the creeds of classic Christianity speak of Pontius Pilate? Why do the creeds speak of Jesus' burial?
- Jesus willingly died even though he was falsely accused. What does this signify to you?

What aspects of death are Christians expected to pursue? How do believers "die to self," "die to sin," and/or "die to Christ"?

Why is it important for believers to experience the above deaths? What happens when you are not suffering as you seek to rid yourself of sinful actions, attitudes, and false beliefs?

Why is it important the Bible records Jesus' burial and not just His death? Is Joseph of Arimathea a saint or an accident of history?

Pray Psalm 22 to conclude your day.

Sunday, April 15, 2017

For today's devotion, read as many of these passages as you desire, perhaps spreading them over the day or sharing them with others.

- Genesis 1:1-2:2
- Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, and 8:6-18
- Genesis 22:1-18
- Exodus 14:10-15:1
- Psalm 16
- Isaiah 4:2-6
- Isaiah 55:1-11
- Ezekiel 36:24-28
- Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Zephaniah 3:12-20
- Romans 6:3-11
- Matthew 28:1-10

Alleluia, Christ is risen! The Lord is risen, indeed!

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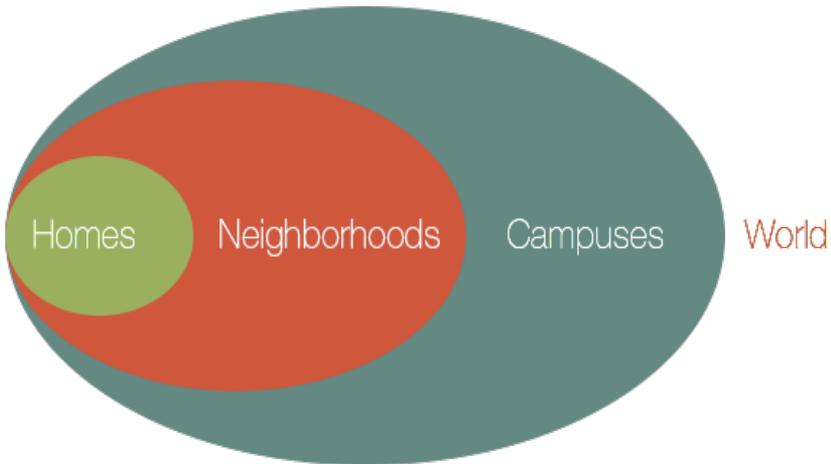
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Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect intimately with God, intentionally with God's family, and influentially with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home — The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood — The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus — The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



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Special thanks to all who contribute to The Compass.
If you have questions or comments, email:
Info@theascentchurch.com.

