Have you ever read a book backwards? You know, started with the end and then with the end in mind, started from the beginning knowing what happens next? How would that impact how you read it? What would it do to the uncertainty, the intrigue and the suspense?

As we approach the celebration of Easter and the victory of Jesus over the power of sin, death and the grave, I am reminded of a quote by the Danish Christian philosopher and theologian, Soren Kierkegaard.

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

If you’ve ever found yourself on the other side of a hardship and been able to look back over all the doubt and uncertainty that you experienced along the way, you may resonate with that quote.

Yet it’s tough while you’re in it isn’t it?

Maybe right now you’re finding yourself in a time of uncertainty and waiting. Maybe you are fearful and are full of anxiety about what the future holds. As we reflect on all the events of Holy Week, imagine the emotions that were running rough the disciple’s minds as they witnessed the arrest, the suffering and the death of Jesus on the cross.

As we know, it wasn’t the end was it? So in our uncertainty, what would it mean to start with the end in mind, to remember the cross? What would it mean to remember that Jesus died and rose for you? What would it mean to remember that the victory has already been won? And to start from there.

How would that impact your day? How would that impact your spirit? How would that impact your outlook on life?

1 Corinthians 13:12-13 is a powerful reminder of the victory that is already ours. “For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”

Did you catch that? God knows us completely. He knows our fears, our doubts, and our uncertainties and one day we will see (with our own eyes) the promise and assurance we cling to even now. In fact, did you notice how we are to live? In faith, hope and love.

You see, it’s the promises of Easter aren’t simply a time to come but a present reality. Let’s start with the victory!

In Christ,
Pastor Jon

Springtime is such a wonderful reason to pause, reflect, and consider where you are in life and what it might take to rejuvenate your spirit. After the past twelve months, we all have much to ponder and may find ourselves in need of prayer and owning much praise to the one and only, Jesus Christ.

During these unprecedented times, the church council looked to the King of Kings’ mission of Feeding Physical Hunger, Spiritual Hunger and the Hunger to be in Community as our guide. It is with this cornerstone that we kept faith that an empty church would once again be raised up and filled to the brim with the members of this congregation. Your generosity made it possible to continue moving forward in a time it would have been easy to sit back and wallow in complacency.

The sanctuary technology upgrade really started with the lighting campaign in 2019, yet an updated sound system and two 4K video cameras were installed just in time for the move from in-person to online worship in March. As a congregation, we were able to experience the birth, death and resurrection of our Lord together, while apart. What a “Praise God”!

The Facilities Committee approved the install of carpet throughout the Multi-Purpose room to prepare for socially distanced meetings and a secondary worship space with improved acoustics.

Keeping the health and safety of our community at the forefront of our minds, a Re-Opening Committee was established to put into place the policies and procedures to be followed during our return to worship. When you feel comfortable returning to in-person worship, you will notice hand sanitizers in the entryway as well as an offering slot, everyone will be wearing a mask, ushers and greeters will direct you to socially distanced seats in every other row, personal communion kits are provided, and sanitizer machines are used to clean the sanctuary between each service. I would personally encourage you to prayerfully consider attending a church service in the next few months.

As you spring out of your homes after a long cold winter and make your way back to King of Kings, take in the beauty of your church home and find comfort in its familiarity.

Stay well and blessings on your day!
Molly Schultz, Council President
In March, let’s join together and Double Your Impact for Christian Cupboard! March is Minnesota Food Share Month, so during this month we are raising support for our mission partner, Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf (CCEFS). Help us reach our goal of raising $10,000 for CCEFS! The good news this year… King of Kings will MATCH all donations up to $10,000! That means with each gift you give, you can double your impact for Christian Cupboard. Your $10 donation turns into a $20 gift to CCEFS! With that $20, they can purchase 200 pounds of food!

Christian Cupboard serves our community and neighbors, and their impact increases every year. In 2020, they served 163,233 individuals and distributed over 2,396,000 pounds of food! Each month they are serving about 1,000 households and the numbers of families in need is climbing every week.

Now is your chance to help! Please consider giving a donation to Double Your Impact for Christian Cupboard. You can give on PushPay, through offering, or by dropping off a check or cash at church. Designate “Double Your Impact” on your gift!

After donating, add your name to our wall collage! Download the Double Your Impact flyer from our website and fill-in your information. Once you’ve added your message, colored & decorated it, return it to the church and we’ll add your message to the wall collage outside of the sanctuary. Together we can see our impact grow!

“All alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
— Helen Keller

Volunteer for CCEFS Produce Fair
Saturday, March 27  9:00 a.m. – Noon
Helping at a Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf (CCEFS) produce fair is a short-term volunteer opportunity that is offered quarterly for the King of Kings community. The fairs are held at the CCEFS location in Oakdale, next to Guardian Angels Church. Volunteers help to sort and repackage the produce which is then served to the customers who attend. To accommodate COVID-related safety measures, all food is now distributed through drive-up service. Other safety guidelines are in place, so this will be a safe experience for volunteers and customers.

This is a fun team-building or family activity for groups ages 10 through adults. 20–25 volunteers will be needed each time. The Produce Fairs that King of Kings has committed to are on the following Saturday mornings: March 27, June 12, August 28, and October 23.

If you have questions, contact Elizabeth Hendrickson at elizabeth.hendrickson@kingofkingswoodbury.org. Visit the King of Kings website to register.

THE KING OF KINGS APP IS COMING SOON!
Connection and Community at your fingertips.
40 Days of Hope

**Wednesday Lenten Services Through March 24 6:30 p.m.**

During this season we gather on Wednesday evenings for a midweek worship service. As part of our midweek services we will be focusing on the theme of “Hope” as we reflect on the seven “I Am” statements of Jesus as recorded in John’s Gospel. Our prayer is that this journey will be a blessing to your heart and spirit. Midweek services will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please note that you can attend service either in person (please register on our website) or online.

Be sure to look for our Soup of the Day recipes on our website to create your own Lenten Soup Suppers!

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**HOLY WEEK**

**MARCH 28**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
In-Person and Online

On Palm/Passion Sunday we celebrate Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Much like the crowds that gathered in Jerusalem that day, come be a part of our Palm Sunday celebration as we wave palm branches and welcome our King. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

Our hope and prayer is that you will continue to make worship a priority during Holy Week as each service holds a depth of meaning and brings a greater understanding to this sacred time of year.

Even if you are worshiping remotely, please be sure to pick up your palm branches and communion kits to participate fully in the service experience.

**APRIL 1**

**Maundy Thursday**

5:30 & 7:00 p.m.  
In-Person and Online

On Maundy Thursday we remember Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples where He broke bread and blessed the wine symbolizing His body and blood and the sacrifice He would make to take away the sin of the world. As part of our service we celebrate with those receiving their first communion and gather as a community of faith to remember the final meal that Jesus had with his disciples before His journey to the cross.

Be sure to worship with us in person or online and if you choose to worship remotely, please be sure to pick up a communion kit at the church office. These services will be livestreamed so loved ones can celebrate this milestone with you.

**APRIL 2**

**Good Friday**

6:30 p.m.  
In-Person and Online

In order to understand the joy and victory of Easter, we have to experience the depth of Good Friday.

During this service we reflect on the betrayal, suffering and death of Jesus and come to understand that it is our sin that has placed Him on the cross. As the events of the day unfold, we are reminded of the extent that Jesus would go out of love for us. As Jesus is placed in the tomb, there is nothing left to do but wait…

*Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,” — John 11:25*

**APRIL 3-4**

**Easter**

Saturday 4:30 p.m. (Cont)  
Sunday 7:30 & 9:00 a.m. (Trad)  
11:00 a.m. (Cont)  
In-Person and Online

The tomb is empty, the stone has been rolled away, people of God, Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Easter is the most significant celebration in the Christian faith and today we celebrate the victory of Jesus over the power of sin and death. We lift our voices and hearts and praise the One whose life gave us life.

*Please note that if you are choosing to attend Easter services in person, registration is required. Registration will ensure that we are able to accommodate as many worshipers as possible while following distancing guidelines. There will be a check-in at the door so please be sure to sign up and reserve your spot by registering on our website.*

If your plans change for any reason and you are unable to attend, please contact the church office so we can free up spaces to accommodate those who may want to attend.

If you prefer to worship with us online, please be sure to stop by the church office to pick up your communion kits.

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**Volunteer for Our Hospitality Team**

It takes a team of volunteers to make our in-person worship services welcoming and safe for everyone that comes through our doors. As we enter the Lenten season, we will be in need of more volunteers as we gather for our mid-week Lent services, Holy Week services, and for Easter! Training is provided and the job is easy! If you are interested in volunteering on our team, please contact Chris Vorrie, Director of Worship Arts, at chris.vorrie@kingofkingswoodbury.org.
### Sign-Up for Fall Classes

**Beginning Monday, March 22**

Online registrations open Monday, March 22 for the 2021-22 Kids of the Kingdom (Preschool–5th grade) and Middle School/Confirmation (6th–8th grade). Classes begin in September. For specific grade level information visit our website at www.kingofkingswoodbury.org.

Early bird rates for Kids of the Kingdom are $30 through May 31. Starting June 1, rates will increase to $45 per registration. Teachers receive one free registration.

If you would like to teach or volunteer, please contact the age appropriate coordinators for each grade level—paula.arland@kingofkingswoodbury for PreK-5th grade, and michael.carmack@kingofkingswoodbury.org for 6th-8th grade Confirmation. Registration questions? Contact Patty Bishop at 651-738-3110.

### First Communion

**A highlight during early spring is First Communion at King of Kings.**

For me, it is all about the energy, excitement and joy that each First Communicant brings to Maundy Worship as they are eager to finally participate in this special meal. They have learned about this sacrament and had ongoing conversations at home about this meal which Jesus has commanded us to participate in. They have discovered that through this meal of bread and wine/juice, we receive forgiveness of sins and God's grace. Students also wrote special prayers to remember this special time. These prayers came from their hearts and are truly special.

This year, additional services for our First Communion students and families will be offered on March 31 in addition to our regular Maundy Thursday services on April 1. Students will have that same excitement as they experience Holy Communion for their first time. Look for them wearing their red stole and congratulate them for this milestone. We continue to come to the table to receive God's grace and forgiveness, we remember that we are fed and nurtured by God. What a wonderful gift Jesus gave us.

**First Communion At-Home Study Workshop Option 3** (materials should be completed by March 14)

- **March 15-25:** First Communion At-Home Study Zoom conversations
- **March 17:** First Communion Prayers deadline
- **March 31/April 1:** First Communion
- **April 25:** First Communion Make-up (for students unable to be here on Maundy Thursday)

### 7th, 8th and 9th Grade Retreat

**Saturday, April 10 1:00—3:30 p.m.**

Do you have a student in 7th, 8th or 9th grade confirmation programming? Make sure to get them signed up for the confirmation retreat! We are doing things a bit differently this year—we will be holding the retreat in one afternoon, it’s being held right here at church, and were combining all three grades together! Check the website for more details and to get your student signed up today.

### Faith Milestone Ministry Equips Parents to Share Faith at Home

The Faith Milestone Ministry is a vital part of the faith education for the families here at King of Kings. This program helps parents carry out the promises they made at their child’s baptism and gives them the tools to incorporate faith in the daily life of their family. Faith Milestone Ministry teaches important faith concepts through child/parent workshops, worship experiences and classroom lessons. Families should watch their email for important Milestone information. For additional information, contact Paula Arland at paula.arland@kingofkingswoodbury.org.

**Upcoming Faith Milestone Events:**

- **April 25:** Kindergarten Story Book Bible Blessing

### Baccalaureate Services

**Calling all high school seniors!** We want to take a moment to celebrate YOU in worship as you are preparing to graduate from high school! This is an opportunity to celebrate all of your accomplishments these last four years with your faith community! Check back for more details to be shared, but if you have any questions, please get in touch with Michael Carmack at michael.carmack@kingofkingswoodbury.org.

### Summer Camp Registration

Get on Board for Summer 2021 with King of Kings! We have a summer full of great opportunities for students of all ages. From camps to community service programs, we offer many options to keep you and your children engaged in involved the whole summer long. For details about all of our programs, check out our Summer Activities page on our King of Kings website. Be sure to click on the King of Kings Summer 2021 Activities booklet link on the right hand side of the website page for detailed information. Please note that grades indicated are completed grades and 3-year-olds must be 3 by September 1, 2020.

**Serve Camp!**

**August 9-13 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.**

- **Completed 5th-7th Grade**  $130, includes a t-shirt

Looking for something to do this summer? Want an opportunity to learn, serve your community AND grow in your faith and community? Then you want to sign up for THIS! This is a week long day camp that starts each day here at church and then ventures into the community to learn and to serve together. We spend each day joining with TWO service organizations to serve, learn what they do and about the difference they make all while laughing and playing together.
**Sunday Forum Online**
Sundays 8:30 a.m.
Our current study is *Everybody, Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*. Best-selling author Bob Goff shares personal stories of times he learned what it means to love everyone the way Jesus loves them. He will be “encouraging you to be brave enough to engage in life, throw caution to the wind, and be authentic in offering love towards others.” For questions or to get the Zoom link, please contact Jim Ries at jim.ries@oracle.com.

**Alzheimer’s Support Group**
Every Third Tuesday: March 16 & April 20
7:00–8:00 p.m. via Google Meet
The Alzheimer’s Association® caregiver support groups are conducted by a trained facilitator and are for caregivers, family and friends of those with Dementia/Alzheimer’s or memory loss. The support groups offer a safe place to find support and exchange practical information on care-giving challenges, share feelings, needs, and concerns while also learning about community resources. If you are interested please contact Anna DeCorsey at annadecorsey@gmail.com to get the link to the online meeting.

**PM Book Club**
**Monday, April 12 7:00 p.m. via Zoom**
Our April PM Book Club meeting will be held via Zoom, when we will be discussing *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. Jacki McCormack will be leading the discussion. Contact Tami Olson at tami.j.olson@gmail.com to get the link for the online meeting.

**RightNow Media is our gift to YOU!**
How do I get this amazing resource? Simply text the keyword: RIGHTNOW KOKLC to 41411 and you will instantly get registered to our RightNow Media account.

**2 Ways That Make Giving Easy!**

**Text To Give**
Text KingofKings to 77977 to make a gift through your phone.

**Give Online**
Go to kingofkingswoodbury.org to make a gift through your computer.

King of Kings is thrilled to offer a more safe, easy and less expensive way to give directly to your church home—whether you are on the go or at home. If you have questions or need help, please email Dianne at dianne.johnson@kingofkingswoodbury.org or call the church office at 651-738-3110.
**Several Care Ministries Available**

It is the mission of our congregation to feed spiritual hunger and the hunger to be in community, and it is our intent to extend that to those who are in need of care during a time of trial, sickness, aging, loneliness and grief. We have a variety of care ministries designed to help you through those times and many volunteers and staff ready to walk with you or to help. These include BeFrienders, Visitation, Prayer and Caring Casseroles.

If you would like more information, or have questions, please see our website at [www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/receive-care-ministries](http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/receive-care-ministries) or email Sue Oberg at sue.oberg@kingofkingswoodbury.org.

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**Spring Garden Clean Up**

Martin Luther once said, “Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf of springtime.” How true! And now that those leaves will soon be popping out, we hope you can come join us for our annual Spring Garden clean up in late April (watch for the date to be announced). Families and individuals of all ages are welcome to come join us! We’ll be cleaning up outdoor areas all around the church and getting the Children’s Garden ready so the preschoolers can have fun planting again this year. Overgrown plants throughout the gardens will also be divided, and we’ll prepare our church herb garden for a brand new season of feeding the hungry in our community! Much fun ahead for sure—see you in the gardens!

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**Baptism at King of Kings**

Baptisms are a key component of our walk with Christ. Perhaps you are interested in having a child baptized or being baptized yourself? Currently, baptismal services are being held on the second Sunday of the month beginning at 1:00 p.m. While we do believe in the importance of community and our commitment to support one another in our journey of faith and life, our desire is to keep you and your family healthy during this period of covid. One of the ways that we are seeking to do this is by providing private baptismal services for immediate family, sponsors and guests by invitation. Please contact the church office to learn more.

**Recycling Aluminum Cans**

Please bring your empty aluminum cans to church for this worthy project of the Man Up Men’s group. All funds raised will be returned to the community through service projects done by the group.

**Christian Cupboard Donations**

King of Kings collects nonperishable food and personal care items for the Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf. Donations are collected in the bins located at the main entrances. Thank you to the Retired Men’s Group for delivering all of the donations every Monday.

**Notary**

If you are in need of notary services, Dianne Johnson is a licensed notary. Please call the office to verify she is available before stopping in.

**Midweek E-Newsletter**

Get the Mid-Week E-Newsletter (often referred to as the Wednesday Blast) to stay informed on what’s happening at church. Sign up on our website or send your request to Jane at jane.halbert@kingofkingswoodbury.org.

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- **651-738-3110**
- **office@kingofkingswoodbury.org**
- **www.kingofkingswoodbury.org**
- **kingofkingswoodbury**
- **KofKLuthChurch**
- **KofKLuthChurch**

**OFFICE**

M–F 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
1583 Radio Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125

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**ON-GOING MINISTRIES**

**Registration Is Open!**

Registration is OPEN! Find our class options for 3’s, 4’s and 5’s on our website. While you’re there, we’d love for you to take a look at our Virtual Tour of Ready Set Grow Preschool! See our awesome classrooms where so much learning and growing happens! If you have questions, please contact Andrea Villanueva by calling 651-738-9346 or emailing her at andrea.villanueva@kingofkingswoodbury.org.

Learn more at [www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/rsg](http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/rsg)

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**READY, SET, GROW**

**PRESCHOOL**

A MINISTRY OF KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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