

The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION April 2026 VOLUME 74 NUMBER 4

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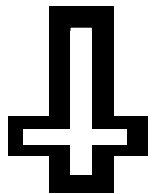


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address label here

DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver by 2nd or
3rd of the month.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM
11:00 AM
Amanda Pulos
Jonine Soddors
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.
E-mail: churchinfo@elclh.org
Website: www.elclh.org



Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631
Church: (562)691-0656 Preschool: (562) 694-5316
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A NOTE FROM THE

EMANUEL'S ORGANIST

Dear Emanuel Congregation,

June will mark 20 years that I have been organist at Emanuel Lutheran Church. I have had several church organ positions before coming to Emanuel, and was not looking for another permanent position, but was content being a substitute organist. I got a call from Pastor Dennis Laherty, who had gotten my name from AGO (American Guild of Organists) to come and sub for two Sundays at Emanuel. After the first Sunday I played, Dennis offered me the permanent position. I explained that I wasn't looking for a permanent position, but after the second Sunday, he offered me the position again. I felt such an immediate connection with Pastor Dennis and the congregation that I jokingly said "OK, twist my arm!" No twisting was needed. Two months later Stephanie Young was hired as the choir director and we have been a team since.

I grew up attending the Church of Christ, my family church. This church is very big in the southern and midwestern US. It is a non-liturgical church and has no piano or organ for services and no choir. Congregational singing, however is very strong, with most of the members singing in four-part harmony, so it sounds like a gigantic choir. When I was in high school, I started attending the local Baptist church where all my friends attended and played piano for the services. After that, I had several different organist positions. I have said that in my professional church musician career that I have been Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Catholic, Presbyterian and occasionally (due to singing High Holy Days services for 10 years in a temple in Palm Desert), Jewish. The most important thing that has taught me is that I can worship God in any setting. Being a church organist is not just a job, it is part of my worship.

I love working with Stephanie and our choir (I quit 3 previous positions because of the director and one because of the choir). Stephanie and I have been, from the beginning, a well-oiled machine and always seem to be on the same page. Our small-but-mighty choir are always willing to try new things and give their all. Plus, we have a lot of fun. Whenever we hire singers as section leaders or for special services, they have always said how welcoming Emanuel's congregation is. And of course, having Pastor Dennis, Pastor Cate and Pastoral Intern Amanda as our ministerial staff over the years is the icing on the cake.

I don't know if I will be here for another 20 years, (I am 67!), but I plan on playing as long as I can climb the stairs to the organ loft.

Kevin Wiley

Holy Week *Schedule*

Palm Sunday

MARCH 29
@ 10 AM

Maundy Thursday

APRIL 2
@ 7 PM

Good Friday

APRIL 3
@ 7 PM

Easter Sunday

APRIL 5
@ 10 AM

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

150 N. Palm, La Habra, ca 90631

www.elclh.org

(562) 691-0656 – churchinfo@elclh.org

FOLLOW US!

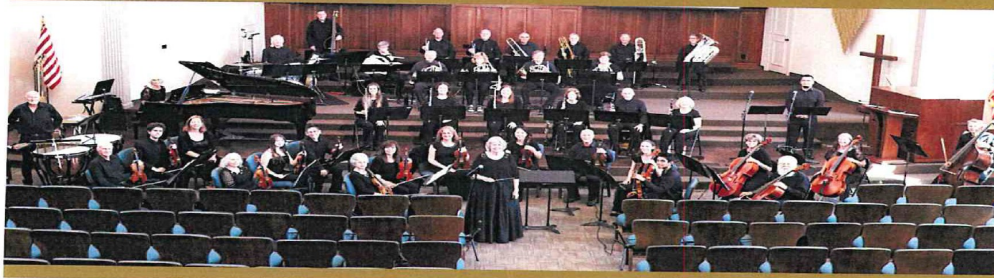


emanuellahabra



emanuel.lutheran.1

Praise Symphony ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT



SUNDAY, APRIL 19

at 5:00 pm

Emanuel Lutheran Church

150 N Palm St.

La Habra, CA 90631

FREE ADMISSION

praisesymphony.org



20
Graduate
20

Join us in celebrating Amanda as she graduates from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary with her Masters in Divinity

AMANDA PULOS

MAY

SATURDAY

30

AT 1 PM

King of Glory - in Big Ed
10280 Slater Ave, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Please text Dan Pulos by May 4th at 714-852-0457 to RSVP
In lieu of gifts, please make a donation to Luther Glenn Farm



We are grateful to the following friends and members who have donated Easter Lilies for beautification of our church:

Mary Ann Carlson given in celebration of our Risen Christ and in thanksgiving to God for my daughters Kristen and Bridget and their families and my five granddaughters. Given in loving memory of Jim Brown, Dick Baumer and Ricki Fehr.

John & JoEllen Dobson in loving memory of our parents and grandparents and in honor and celebration for our children and grandchildren.

Maiju and Wolfgang Hessel in loving memory of our parents.

Lilly Hernandez given in thanksgiving to God for both my families at home and Emanuel.

Dianna Holtzendorff in loving memory of my husband Chuck Holtzendorff

James and Martha Klassen in loving memory of our parents, Ed and Emily Cook, Len and Fran Klassen.

Marsha Maynard in loving memory of my family. Given in celebration of God's forgiveness. In thanksgiving to God for Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra..

Jeff and Kerry Ospital in loving memory of Ruth, Russ and Ricki Fehr.

Jerry and Sharon Patow given in thanksgiving to God for our many blessings and our family and friends.

Linda Santoro in loving memory of the Rev. Dr. John Santoro.

Celeste Templeton in loving memory of my precious parents George and Jo Templeton. Given in Thanksgiving to God for my family and to my Emanuel family.

Janine Ward given in thanksgiving to God for all who so willingly volunteer to serve each week.

Jack and Janine Ward given in thanksgiving to God for our loving family.

Steve and Nancy White given in thanksgiving to God for daughters, grandchildren and the Emanuel family.

Stephanie Young and family given in loving memory of "Nana" June Young, Art Young and "Oma" Nancy Greenspan. Given in thanksgiving to God for the love and support of the congregation of Emanuel.



HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

HAHO APRIL UPDATE

The HAHO committee meets every other month to determine how to serve those in the community best without burdening you, our loving generous congregation. Our next meeting is on Saturday April 25 at 10:00 AM in the Library in Hope Center. We are very open to ideas you might bring for consideration. You are also encouraged to join this committee at any time.

As announced on March 8 during worship, Caring Ministries suggested we focus on peanut butter and jelly through the month of April. Of course, all regular items such as canned meats, condiments, rice, beans, pasta and cereal are always needed. It was so wonderful to hear from Deena Eley, Caring Hands Director, on Sunday, March 29. She is so thankful for our continuing support of the food bank!

We hope to have someone from the Wings Shelter also come speak to us and will have an update on helping them in late spring. And of course, we encourage you to continue in your generosity to St. Jude's Closet! If you have questions about acceptable donations, please ask Sharon Frazier at any time.

The more we hear from these incredibly dedicated people who work so hard helping others, the more challenged we are to do amazing outreach. We are small, but through the Holy Spirit we too can do amazing things.



APRIL JOY CIRCLE

April 20, 2026

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

As mentioned each month, you are invited to come to Joy Circle at any time and you will never feel behind. These Bible Studies, though often are part of a series, each stand alone.

We continue in April with God's name, God's promise. This month we will look at God the protector: Gate and Shepherd. Please know that whether you may be new to Bible Study or a scholar, the questions are pertinent to life experience and inspire wonderful conversation. Please try coming just once and see if it is for you.

Hope to see you on April 20th!

Thank You's

A BIG thank you to Marsha Maynard, Kim Beard, and Denise Whitcher for setting up and leading the deep cleaning and organizing of Moerer Hall kitchen, along with Emily Beard, Sue Morgan, and Jeanette Parr. It was hard work and it is beautiful! Please give them a pat on the back and let's help keep it that way.

Thanks to all of the helpers for the Easter Community event who prepared eggs, cooked, set up and took down tables and pop-ups, and told stories. What a wonderful event for our neighbors.

Thanks to Seminarian Anthony Alvarez who preached a unique and timely sermon for us. He was an inspiration.

Thanks to those who bring treats each week for fellowship and share this time with others. Also, more thanks to Susan Wright, Marsha Maynard, Chip Whitcher, and James and Carol Crabb who painted and redecorated the office area.

Thanks to Jeff Ward and his company for donating 18 new comfortable chairs for the classroom and library replacing the worn-out ones.

Thanks to Jill Drummond for donating new bulletin covers for worship in the coming year.

Thanks to all who serve every week during worship, including readers, ushers, altar guild, communion servers, sound and video booth technicians.



St Jude Closet

St Jude Medical Center has a community closet that supplies clothes to patients and homeless in need. Emanuel, through HAHO, has decided to take on the task of helping to keep that closet stocked. Here's where you can help. Check your closets for the following items you aren't using and bring them to church – **gently used**, please. A collection box will be available in the narthex.

This list of requested clothing will also be on the narthex table, so pick one up on your way in or out of church if you need a new one. We do ask that you stay within the list as we've received some items that we weren't able to take such as dresses, women's shorts/skirts, and children's clothes. Any questions about items on the list, please call Sharon Frazier

The following are in HIGH need:

Men's pants sizes 28-34 and 44-48. Men's shirts sizes M, XXL

Men's jackets sizes L, XL, XXL, XXXL

Women's pants sizes 20+

Women's sneakers sizes 8 and above / Tube socks

Men's sneakers sizes 10 and above / Tube socks

There is an ongoing need for the following:

Men's and Women's casual clothing (gently used, no stains or holes)

Men's and Women's jackets/coats (Men's are in high demand)

Undergarments (new only)

Belts/Scarves/mittens/beanies/backpacks/totes/ponchos (no wallets or purses please)

Shoes (Men's are in high demand)

Also, if you have crutches, walkers, canes, or manual wheel chairs you no longer need, they will be glad to take them. A tax donation letter is available upon request.

This project is being coordinated through HAHO. If you have questions, please call Sharon or Jeanette.





April, 2026-From the Board of Parish Education

Come join Sunday School in-person each Sunday at 11:00 AM!
Kids three years through eighth grade meet in Moerer Hall at 11:00.

Visitors are always welcome!

Sunday School: During the Lent season we learned about Jesus and Nicodemus, the Woman at the Well, Samuel being anointed, and Jesus raising Lazarus. Our students get so much out of the 4-minute Whirl videos. These videos bring awareness of how they can apply the lesson to their everyday lives.

- **Offerings:** Student's offerings are going to be given the Good Samaritan Fund where members and others can be helped when there is a need. Thank you for supporting your child as we hope to help others.

Study Buddies: Study Buddies did not meet during La Habra's Spring Break March 16-20 and will not meet during Holy Week (March 31 and April 2). The program is open to all children in our surrounding neighborhood as well as our Emanuel Lutheran families on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30 PM.

Community Egg Hunt and Craft Event: Our fifth Annual Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt and Craft Event was a great success and enjoyed by all who came. Our crafters were busy creating Kindness Rocks, shaving cream marbled eggs, egg carton bunnies, macaroni and coffee filter butterflies, planting sunflower seeds and many more treasures. The Luther Glen Farm animals allowed kids to visit and pet the animals. After a tasty lunch, the Easter story was told by Kevin Garcia and then a surprise visit by the Easter Bunny sent kids on their way to the Egg Hunt. There were so many wonderful volunteers and donations of candy and plastic eggs. One of the best part of this event was having Emanuel members working together as we were sharing the love of Jesus with others. Families learned about Emanuel through the Welcome Table information and this outreach event.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults.


Parish Education Team








MEN'S BREAKFAST
Men's Fellowship
breakfast Saturday,
April 4, 2026 at 8:00
am.



What's 4Lunch Ladies?
Sizzler
1401 N Harbor Blvd
Fullerton
Friday, April 24
11:30 a.m.

Burrito Ministry
Saturday April 18, 2026 10 am
Please join us preparing or delivering
burritos to those who are hungry.



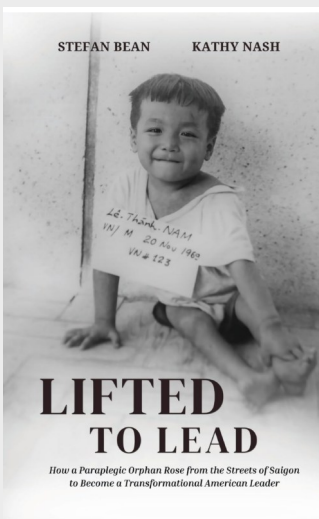
FREE STUDY BUDDIES TUTORING
TUESDAY & THURSDAY,
3-4:30 PM

Study Buddies, our FREE tutoring program for grades 1-6, meets at Emanuel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library.

If you'd like to contribute to the fun, they are always in need of snacks for the kids. Lunch box size bags of chips and small water bottles are supplied to our students while they study.

Invite a friend or neighbor! Flyers are available at Sunday's Welcome Table.

OUR BOOK GROUP
RESUMES AFTER EASTER ON **WEDNESDAY**
APRIL 8TH AT 10:30 AM FOR
"LIFTED TO LEAD" BY STEFAN BEAN
AND KATHY NASH



How a paraplegic orphan rose from the streets of Saigon to become an American Leader.

~ Sunday Bible Readings ~

Easter Sunday

April 5

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18

2nd Sunday of Easter

April 12

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

4th Sunday of Easter

April 26

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE - April 2026

Thank you for volunteering to serve during worship in various capacities. If you cannot serve on any particular assigned Sunday, it is your responsibility to find a replacement or trade with someone on the list. Then PLEASE notify the church office by the prior Monday so the bulletin will read properly. Thank you for volunteering to serve.

	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>READER</u>	<u>COMMUNION</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
Maundy Thursday 4/2		Nancy White	Robyn Ospital Mary Ann Carlson	John Ospital
Easter 4/5	Dianna Holtzendorff Celeste Templeton	Jessica Pisetsky	Jeanette Parr Jeff Ospital Cheska Cuyno	Jerry Schnakenberg Chip Whitcher
4/12	Suzanne Dietrich Cheryl Blocker	Marsha Maynard	Jeff Ward Cindy Reyes Susan Wright	James Crabb Cheska Cuyno
4/19	Wolfgang & Maiju Hessel	Emily Beard	Mary Ann Carlson Jessica Pisetsky Rose Ward	John Ospital Emily Beard
4/26	Jo Ellen Dobson Sue Morgan	Rocio Carmona	Denise Whitcher Chip Whitcher James Sweeney	VJ Roberts Emily Beard

PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OR JANINE WARD (562) 556-0200 ASAP IF YOU ARE UNAVAILABLE TO SERVE DUE TO PLANNED VACATIONS, OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON. IT HELPS IMMENSELY IN PLANNING. MANY THANKS!



 Thank you

 VOLUNTEERS!



AUDIO-VISUAL team

HELP WITH EMANUEL'S SOUND & AUDIO VISUAL TEAMS

Help with video recording as well as running sound/PowerPoint is needed:

Sound – talk with Jack Ward (562-201-9168) or with Geoffrey Roberts to help with the 10AM service. Keep them “company” in the sound booth and see how it’s done!

Video Recording – talk or sit with Kerry Ospital, or Geoffrey Roberts. You will learn how easy it is.

**Call or email the church office
(562)691-0656,
churchinfo@elclh.org**

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT EMANUEL FINANCIALLY

Thank you for your financial gifts to God through Emanuel Lutheran Church!!!

Below are 4 ways to give:

- Entryway offering plate
- Mail to the Church Office
- “Giving” link online at www.elclh.org
- Text dollar amount to 562-210-0007

Our bank has recently notified us how checks must be written in order to be accepted. We are asking for your assistance to avoid future checks being refused.

- Checks must be made payable to **EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** (full name written out)
- Checks are to be written using **blue or black ink only** (other colors not acceptable)
- Make sure the **number in the amount is the same as the amount written in words** (\$100.00 = one-hundred and no/100 dollars)

You Tube



TO WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE AND VIA LIVE STREAM, GO TO

- Emanuel’s website: <http://elclh.org>
- YouTube: Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Fu6qvPdYF2MM92JzoU9uA>
- Facebook: Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
<https://www.facebook.com/emanuel.lutheran.1>

**Closed captioning is available on both YouTube and Facebook.
Visit Emanuel’s website or find us on Instagram**

Emanuel Lutheran Preschool Now Enrolling



Emanuel Lutheran Preschool is now enrolling students!

- Our Preschool is open all year-round.
- We are a state licensed, non-profit organization dedicated to providing an atmosphere of love and acceptance in which all children are encouraged to develop to their fullest potential.
- Our teachers are dedicated to support and inspire your child's progress.
- Daily activities include motor development, social skills and language skills to benefit your child at their appropriate level.

If you or someone you know is looking for child care reach out to Preschool Director Jonine Soddors (562)694-5316 or email EmanuelPreschoolLaHabra@hotmail.com



TO WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE AND VIA LIVE STREAM, GO TO

- Emanuel's website: <http://elclh.org>
- YouTube: Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Fu6qvPdYF2MM92JzoU9uA>
- Facebook: Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
<https://www.facebook.com/emanuel.lutheran.1>



Closed captioning is available on both YouTube and Facebook.
Visit Emanuel's website or find us on Instagram ([emanuellahabra](https://www.instagram.com/emanuellahabra)) for upcoming events

Altar Flowers Donation

We invite you to provide flowers for the altar on any Sunday Service! Sign up in the Narthex. On the Monday before flowers are expected, call Blooming Hills to order flowers. Cost will be \$65.00 paid to Blooming Hills Florist, (562) 690-3347. Please take the flowers home after the service on Sunday, or they will be taken to a shut in that week.



~ PRAYER ~

GOD'S WORD TELLS US IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US!

Have a prayer request for yourself or others?

Call or email the church office and we will share it with the Prayer Team.

Want to make time to pray with others?

Consider joining the Prayer Group in person in the Youth Room or via Zoom 8:30-9:30 AM Saturday mornings.

Want to be part of the Prayer Team?

Contact the church office.
Celebrating 12 years of meeting and praying together



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER APRIL 2026

*** Save this for reference throughout the month. ***

"I ask that you take away sickness, infirmity and pain from me and restore me to health"

Special Prayer Focus for This Month

~ **"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy" ~ Psalm 103:2-4**

Continuing Prayers

- ~ Dan Toussaint
- ~ Cathy Spangler
- ~ Anne Bobchick
- ~ Baby Troy
- ~ Connie Bogosian
- ~ John Uhlman
- ~ Emerson Grimbsy

If you have Prayer requests for the next eight weeks, please contact the Church office to add names.

Assisted Living Centers/Homebound

- ~ Lee Reitzel – Emerald Court

Friends and Family to Remember

- ~ Lin Baesler, wife of Pastor Ron Baesler

Remembering the Family of Those Who Have Died

Prayers of Thanksgiving

- ~ For all God's blessings, those we see and so many big and small ways God provides for our needs, often before we even know our need.
- ~ Thank You, God, for those who are here to share these blessings this month, for the generosity of our hosts that make this possible. Bless those who are here and those who are in our hearts, and all those who are not as fortunate.

If you have prayer concerns to add to Emanuel's list, please contact the church office at (562)691-0656.

Once a month, names will be removed from the list that have been in print at least eight consecutive weeks (except those who request extended prayer). You are welcome to re-submit any names removed from the list, or you may remove a name at any time by contacting the church office. Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

April 2026

2 Carol Crabb
2 Don Daucher
7 Susan Wright
9 Peter Carey
11 Evan Reyes

15 Alexis Beiderwell
21 Mary Ann Carlson
21 Heidi Hemsley
24 Charlotte Pulley



18 Nathan & Brooke Diaz
29 Jeffrey & Kerry Ospital



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
WED 9-10 AM IN THE LIBRARY
****NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!****


Come join us in the Emanuel library 9 a.m. Wednesday. Call or email the church office at churchinfo@elclh.org to receive the Zoom link if you can not make it in person. All you need is a computer, tablet or smartphone.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME APRIL/MAY/JUNE NOW AVAILABLE

This quarterly devotional resource encourages us to live out our faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. Booklets are available in the church entryway or office. Email churchinfo@elclh.org if you would like a copy mailed to you.



Bible Quiz



Although the apostle Paul is credited with writing the letter to the Romans, he dictated the message while another believer served as the scribe. Near the end of the letter, that writer briefly identifies himself. Who was it?

- A. Tertius
- B. Timothy
- C. Lucius
- D. Aquila

Matthew 16:22

Kid's Korner

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Starting on Ash Wednesday, the church traditionally observes Lent, a 40-day period of repentance and reflection. As we prepare for Easter, families can focus on Jesus' life and ministry, culminating in his death and resurrection.

Use this Lenten Bible Reading Plan, along with a kid-friendly version of the Bible, for family devotions. With older kids, you can expand the readings to the surrounding paragraph or chapter. Discuss how each reference to Christ fits into God's plan of salvation.

DAY 1
Isaiah 43:1-3

DAY 2
Isaiah 53:1-12

DAY 3
Matthew 1:1-25

DAY 4
Luke 2:1-21

DAY 5
Luke 3:1-17

DAY 6
Mark 1:9-15

DAY 7
Matthew 3:1-12

DAY 8
Isaiah 61:1-11

DAY 9
Isaiah 61:1-11

DAY 10
Matthew 11:28-30

DAY 11
Luke 4:14-42

DAY 12
Luke 4:14-42

DAY 13
Matthew 22:1-14

DAY 14
Mark 6:1-13

DAY 15
Luke 9:29-35

DAY 16
John 6:1-15

DAY 17
John 6:16-21

DAY 18
John 6:22-27

DAY 19
John 6:28-33

DAY 20
Mark 8:1-9

DAY 21
Mark 8:10-13

DAY 22
Matthew 20:1-16

DAY 23
Luke 10:1-12

DAY 24
Matthew 14:22-33

DAY 25
Mark 8:26-33

DAY 26
John 11:17-44

DAY 27
John 12:1-8

DAY 28
Matthew 21:1-11

DAY 29
Mark 11:15-19

DAY 30
John 12:12-19

DAY 31
Luke 22:1-6

DAY 32
Mark 14:1-9

DAY 33
John 13:1-5

DAY 34
Matthew 26:1-16

DAY 35
Luke 22:14-18

DAY 36
Mark 15:1-20

DAY 37
Matthew 27:1-54

DAY 38
John 19:1-42

DAY 39
Luke 24:1-7

DAY 40
Matthew 28:1-10



EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV