

Next Week at Hopevale

Easter is next Sunday, March 27. This is a special, holy week at Hopevale Church, and we want you to have all the details. (You also will find this information and more at easterathopevale.org.)

Maundy Thursday

On Thursday, March 24, we'll gather for our Maundy Thursday communion services at 6:00pm and 7:30 pm. These are solemn times of worship and preparation as we reflect on the suffering and the sacrifice of our Savior Jesus. If you're newer to Hopevale and you have not yet been part of a Maundy Thursday service, we encourage you to come! It's an incredibly powerful and moving time, and a great way to fully engage in Easter. We'll gather together in the worship auditorium for one hour. And we'll have TotTown programming for children birth through pre-K at the 6:00pm service, but not at 7:30pm service.

Four Services

On Easter Sunday, we'll have four services at 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, and 12:30pm. TotTown programming will be available for children birth through pre-K at each service, and the Family Venue will be open as well. Auditorium doors will open 20 minutes before each service, and our ushers will seat us valet style similar to our Christmas Eve services. Historically, we've found that more people want to attend the middle two services (9:30am and 11:00am). If you plan to attend one of those services, we encourage you to come early and together. Be patient in the parking lot and as our ushers seat you for the worship service.

If you're a regular at Hopevale, would you consider attending the 8:00am or 12:30pm worship service on Easter Sunday to make more room for visitors? We also encourage you to invite others! You can pick up special invite cards in the church lobby to share with family members, neighbors, friends, and coworkers.

Children's Ministries also is focusing this month on the last supper, death, and resurrection of our Savior. Parents, pick up *God Time* and *Parent Cue* sheets in Children's Ministries on Sundays or go to our Parent Resource webpage at <http://hopevale.org/childrens-parent-resources>. You will find these tools super helpful in talking with your kids every day about the meaning of Easter. Slow down. Consider again as a family what Jesus has done for us and how we should then live.

THE SAVIOR WHO SUFFERS
The Last Days of Jesus series

The Suffering Servant

My Father, is there any other way for Your perfect justice to be satisfied? Are there any other options besides Me having to bear the horror of Your wrath, because I don't think I can do it? Jesus at Gethsemane (paraphrased)

1. How would you describe Jesus' relationship with God the Father before this moment in the garden? These verses will help you:

- Matthew 3:16-17; 17:4-5—
- John 14:9-11, 31—
- John 10:14-17, 30—
- John 17:4-5, 24-26—

2. We often talk about the physical suffering of Christ. What do these verses say about His spiritual and emotional suffering?

- Matthew 26:37-38—
- Isaiah 53:3-4—
- Isaiah 53:11—
- Matthew 27:46—

3. Why did Jesus have to suffer the way He did? What explains “the cup” that was God's will for His Son to drink (Matthew 26:39)?

4. How would you explain to your 12-year-old niece that “Jesus died in our place”? How could you help her understand a Scripture like Romans 5:6-8?

5. Pastor Dan said,

Jesus chose not to end His prayer with “May this cup be taken from me.” But instead—out of His incredible love for us, out of His desire to honor and please His Father in Heaven—He continued praying: “Yet not as *I* will but as *You* will.”

Have you accepted Jesus' cross-payment for your offenses against God and others? In what ways does understanding His suffering for you grow your love for Him and obedience to Him?

6. Take time to thank the Lord and express your love for Him as you close your discussion time.

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” Matthew 26:39