



Raquette Lake Chapel

Raquette Lake, New York USA
www.raquettelakechapel.org

2Q2023 Pastoral Letter

THE CHURCH SEASONS: APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 2023

Many churches observe special days toward the end of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. In the next several months we can reflect on these important days in the Christian life:

April 2: Palm Sunday – Matt. 21:1-11

April 7: Good Friday - John 18:1-19:42

April 9: Easter Day – Matt. 28:1-10

May 18: Ascension Day – Acts 1:6-11

May 28: Day of Pentecost - Acts 2

Jun 4: Trinity Sunday – Matt. 28:16-20

Many “friends of the Chapel” have passed along their experiences with the season of Lent, for which I am thankful. If you have a moment, please share your experiences of Easter season.

One practice for the Easter season is to explore scripture referenced here as it pertains to these special days.

Have a blessed Easter!



Easter Sunday is Only the Beginning!

For Christians, Easter is not just one day - it's a season of 50 days known as “Eastertide” or “Easter Season.” 50 is the number of days between Passover and Pentecost. Easter season begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends with Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (see Acts 2). Easter is the high point of the Church Year. So, it makes sense that we would celebrate for so long. After all, the main point of the whole gospel is to prepare us for an eternal celebration and feast.

Traditionally, the season of Lent was a time to prepare those seeking membership in a Christian community, and many Christian communities today do the same, through confirmation, and baptismal instruction. During Eastertide Christians use the time to ponder what God means to them and what the exclamation of “He is risen!” really means to them. During Eastertide we can focus on the mysteries of faith and the power of the Holy Spirit.

During Lent we followed Jesus’s life of teaching and healing. During Eastertide we focus on the assurances from Jesus as he prepared to leave, his final blessings, and the arrival of the Holy Spirit.

I encourage all of you to read John 17:1-26, “Jesus Farewell Prayer” at Easter. As the longest of Jesus’s prayers, Jesus prays for blessings and protections for his followers and the unity of all believers.

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

God’s Peace! -Vance

Schedule of Summer Services at the Chapel!

Summer services at the Raquette Lake Chapel will be on the same schedule as previous summers:

Sundays at 9:30 in July, August, and the first Sunday in September, with communion on the first Sunday of the month.

All are welcome and we hope to see you this summer!