

Leaving Egypt

March 24th, 2024

Dave McNeely

Matthew 26:36-46

36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” **37** He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. **38** Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

39 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.”

40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. **41** “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

42 He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”

43 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. **44** So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

45 Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. **46** Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S STUDY

The women of Ekklesia are studying the book "Hard and Holy Work: A Lenten Journey through the Book of Exodus", written by Mary Alice Birdwhistell and Tyler D. Mayfield. The study is at **6:30pm on Wednesdays** at Rebecca Bennett's home. Please reach out to Hannah Shuler with any questions or if you would like to join!

FOOD PANTRY

As we honor Christ's sacrificial act for us through a monthly rhythm of communion, we also invite you to a monthly rhythm of honoring our neighbors in need by stocking the shelves of our pantry with food and toiletry items. As we've donated once a month to Community Food Connection in the past, we will begin a monthly effort to fill our own pantry that will coincide with Sundays that we take communion. Please consider bringing in food items, toiletries, or cash/check donations that will go directly towards the purchasing groceries.

March's communion will take place **March 24th (Palm Sunday)**.

A meeting to discuss our food pantry ministry will be held after church on **Sunday, April 7th**. This will be a time for us to review our current process and to discuss any ideas that can improve this ministry. All are welcome!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men of Ekklesia will be meeting for breakfast on **Friday, March 29th at 7:30 AM (Good Friday)** at Cracker Barrel. Join us for fellowship and breakfast.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sign up sheets are available for greeters and snacks. We want to make sure everyone feels welcome and loved. Sign up today!

COMMUNITY FOOD BOXES

March - Overly

April - Bennett

PRAYER

You church family wants to pray for you. Send prayer requests to Terri Bradshaw at: terri@eklovewell.org

ONLINE GIVING

<https://paypal.me/eklovewell>

*PayPal charges a fee of 2.9% + \$.49 on donations given online.