



connecting spirits, engaging minds, welcoming all.

Wednesdays in Lent 2020

**6:00 Soup & Bread Potluck; 6:30 Presentation & Discussion; 7:50 Compline (Night Prayer)
Childcare Provided**

The Story of Jesus in History and Faith

Herbert Merrill, Presenter

A historical, biographical, and biblical study of the life and teachings of Jesus that seeks to expand our understanding of the time, places, people, and circumstances involved in the earthly life of Jesus. We will pay special attention to the alleged dichotomy between the Jesus of history and the Jesus of faith. As a Lenten exercise, we will seek to deepen and expand our understanding of both contexts and come to know that we are not obligated to choose one or the other.

Wednesday, March 4: The Quest for the Historical Jesus

A very brief introduction to the various views concerning the historical Jesus and how an understanding of each may deepen our own pilgrimage as followers of Christ. We will also survey the Gospels and other sources for studying the life of Jesus.

Wednesday, March 11: The Birth, Childhood and Education of Jesus

Can we know anything about the childhood of Jesus? We do know a bit about his birth, and we do know what first century Jewish child rearing would have been like from historical sources. We'll place Jesus in that context and seek to understand what we can about Jesus the child and what his family life might have been like.

Wednesday, March 18: Jesus, the Disciples, and their Ministry

A brief survey of the events, places, and circumstances of Jesus' ministry. We'll pay special attention to understanding his relationship with the disciples and how that understanding may expand our own discipleship.

Wednesday, March 25: The Method and Message of Jesus' Teaching

Jesus spent the bulk of his ministry years as an itinerant preacher and teacher. We'll examine the methods he used to communicate to his followers and try to extract the essence of his message.

Wednesday, April 1: The Events of the Final Week

On the eve of Holy Week, we will review the events of Jesus' last days: Why was he arrested? What was the charge? What is crucifixion? What historical evidence is there for the resurrection?

A Church of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Rector

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