



Start Location: 3768 Co. Rd. 25 Archbold, OH 43502
End: 9269 Co Rd 21N Stryker, OH (Lockport Mennonite Church)

Follow along as we make our way back through the Holy Week, where Christ is preparing to make the final sacrifice for all mankind. As Jesus enters into Jerusalem, we hear the people shouting, “Hosanna, blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord;” only to have them turn against him later, shouting, “Crucify him!”

The week takes many twists and turns as Jesus moves toward his final hours on earth. He accepts the will of his Heavenly Father and continues to teach and prepare his followers for what is about to happen. All the while, the religious leaders plot against him. Even his most faithful followers turn their back on him. Jesus, knowing this would happen, gave himself into the hands of his aggressors and offered his blood and his body as a sacrifice for all humanity. As he hung on the cross, he suffered the penalty for all sin, even though he himself was without sin. It is sin that separates us from God. But God’s desire is for all people to come back to him. For this reason, he sent his Son into the world. Jesus was willing to pay the price for our sin so that we can be reunited with our Heavenly Father and, one day, live with him for all eternity. When Jesus hung on the cross, and before he took his final breath, Jesus said, “It is finished.” At that very moment, the curtain to the room called the Holy of Holies where God was known to reside, and only the high priest was allowed to enter once a year for atonement but could never look at God’s face, tore from the top to the bottom as a sign that Jesus made it possible so anyone could enter God’s presence through Jesus Christ. The choice is ours as to whether we will accept it or not.

Jesus didn’t stay dead. On the third day after his death on the cross, he arose from the grave, just as he had said he would. He presented himself to hundreds of people before he went back to heaven. Jesus said that he was going to prepare a place for us in heaven and that one day he will return again to take all of his followers with him.

Whether you have heard this a thousand times or whether this is your first-time hearing, this is our reason to celebrate! Please join us as we recall the story of Easter as we make our way through the “Trail of Easter!”