

Spring 2018



Giotto: Christ Enters Jerusalem

Detroit Area

*Ferndale, Michigan; Ann Arbor, Michigan  
London, Ontario*

**Church Address:**

The Christian Community  
1320 Camden (at Wanda)  
Ferndale, MI 48220

**Chapel Phone:** (248) 546-3611

<http://www.thechristiancommunity.org/congregations-by-region/detroit/>

Rev. Michael Brewer: Phone Number:  
(248) 786-8519;

email: [j.m.brewer.1949@hotmail.com](mailto:j.m.brewer.1949@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Katherine Thivierge

## REGULAR EVENTS AT THE CHAPEL

*The Act of Consecration of Man*

*Sundays, 11:00 AM*

*Thursdays, 9:00 AM, except as noted,*

*followed by study group:*

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

*Sunday Service for Children and Religious*

*Instruction*

*Available on the first and third Sundays of the  
month, by request*

*Contact Rev. Brewer*

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Sunday, March 25: Palm Sunday:** Services at the usual times. After lunch, Rev. Brewer will give a talk: *Right Thought*

*The Act of Consecration of Man will be celebrated every morning during Holy Week at the following times:*

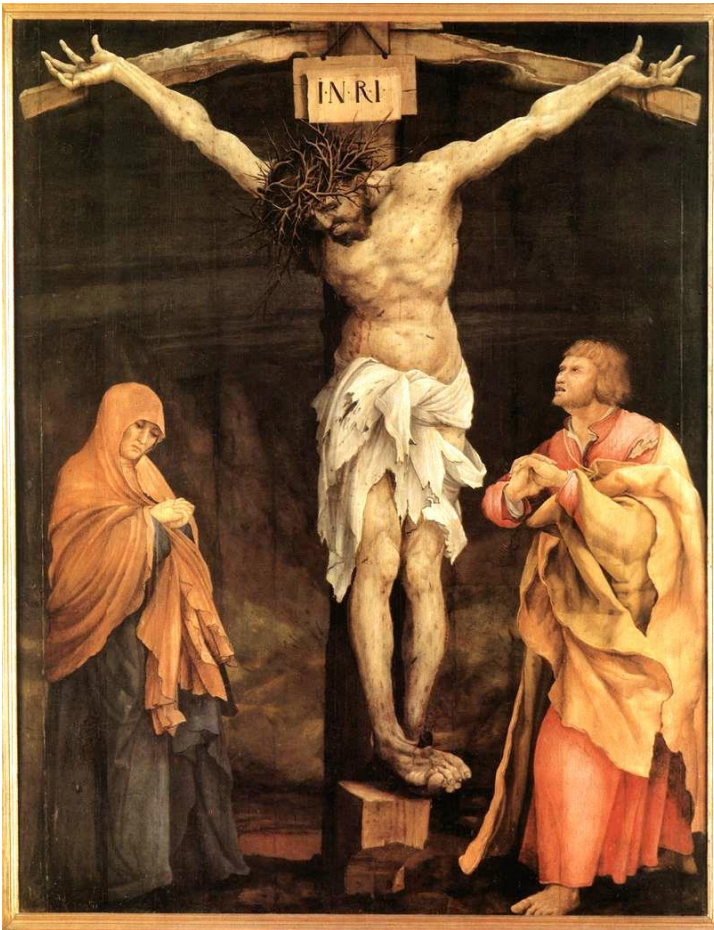
**Monday, March 26: 9:00: *Right Judgment***

**Tuesday, March 27: 9:00: *Right Word***

**Wednesday, March 28: 9:00: *Right Deed***

**Maundy Thursday, March 29: 9:00: *Right Standpoint***

***Maundy Thursday Evening, 6:30:***  
**Community supper;**  
**After Supper, an Evening Sermon:**  
***Transubstantiation: My Body, My Blood***



Grünewald: Crucifix

**Good Friday, March 30: 9:00: *Right Habit***  
**Saturday, March 31, 9:00: *Right Memory***

***Easter Sunday, April 1:***  
***The Act of Consecration of Man***  
***at Sunrise, 7:00: The house of Earth***  
***Sunday Service for Children at 10:20;***  
***The Act of Consecration of Man***  
***at 11:00: The Gardener***



Fra Angelico: Resurrection and Women at the Tomb

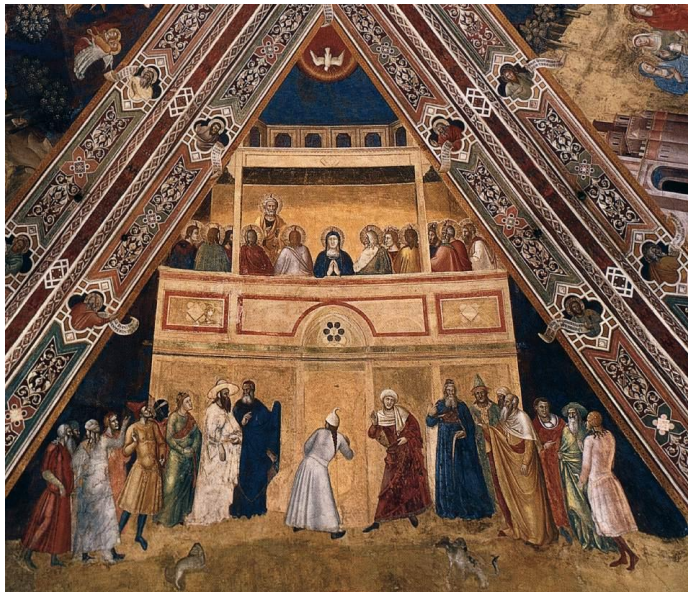
After Lunch, Rev. Brewer will give a talk *The Eightfold Path, Holy Week, and the Resurrection*

**Monday, April 9 – Friday, April 13: *Rev. Brewer will be in Spring Valley to give a course at the seminary. No service or study group on Thursday, April 12.***

**Thursday, May 10: Ascension Day: Act of Consecration of Man, and Special Study Group.**



**Sunday, May 13:** After lunch, a talk: *The Realm of the Clouds.*



Andrea da Firenze: Miracle of Pentecost

**Pentecost Sunday, May 20:** After the service, the Prologue of the Gospel of John in as many languages as possible. After lunch, a talk and discussion: *New wine.*

**Mid June:** The Brewers will be away for some time. **Likely no services June 14, June 17, June 21. More details in the next program.**

**Saturday, June 24: Saint John's Day: 9:00:** The Act of Consecration of Man.

*Other Events as Announced*

## AFFILIATED COMMUNITIES

### **ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN**

**Contact:** Andree Naylor; Phone (734) 971-6217;  
email: andree@umich.edu

**Service location:** Rudolf Steiner Health Center,  
1422 W. Liberty Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

**Dates:** March 24, April 7, **May 5 (Note the Correction!),**  
June 9.

**Times:** The Act of Consecration of Man at 10:00AM

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### **LONDON, ONTARIO**

**Contact:** Agnes Schneeberg, Phone: (519) 641-2431;  
email: schneeberg@sympatico.ca

**Service location:** London Waldorf School,  
7 Beaufort Street, London, Ontario N6G 1A5

**Dates:** April 21, May 26.

**Times:** Friday evening at 6:15 potluck supper, 7:00 setup,  
8:00 Evening Service. Saturday morning at 10:00: the Act  
of Consecration of Man followed by refreshments and  
conversation.

A study group meets on the first and third Sunday of each  
month at the Schneebergs' house. Study material: Rudolf  
Steiner's lectures *The Gospel of John*. Contact Agnes  
Schneeberg.

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*But Mary stood weeping before the tomb; and as she was weeping, she peered into the tomb and beholds two angels in shining white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. And they speak to her: "Woman, why are you weeping?" She says to them: "Because they have taken away my lord, and I do not know where they have put him."*

*And having said this, she turned around and beholds Jesus standing, but did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus says to her: "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Thinking that he is the gardener, she says to him: "Sir, if it was you who removed him, tell me where you have put him, and I will take him away." Jesus says to her: "Mary." She says to him in Hebrew: "Rabboni!" (That is to say, Teacher.)*

*Jesus says to her: "Do not hold onto me, for I have not yet ascended to the father; but go to my brothers and tell them: I am ascending to my father and your father, to my God and your God."*

*So Mary Magdalene comes, announcing to the disciples that she has seen the lord, and that he has told her these things.*

John 20

One of the most moving stories by Rudyard Kipling is called *The Gardener*. It tells of a young man orphaned in India, brought up by a strait-laced aunt, and sent in the bloom of youth over to France to the Great War. When, inevitably, he dies as the war is coming to an end, his aunt sets out to find his grave. She comes to the immense cemetery, which is still being filled with new graves, and

realizes that she needs help to find the right one. Fortunately there is a man working there, who knows immediately where she should look, and brings her to the grave. The story ends as she thanks the man, whom she imagines to be the gardener.

And so at once out of this picture we find ourselves in that other garden with a tomb, an unexpectedly empty tomb at sunrise. The remarkable thing is that the light in the tomb is greater than the light outside, and from within come the voices: What are you looking for? And turning, we see someone, who maybe be the one who has removed the body that should have been in the tomb: probably the gardener. Of course we know how the story continues: it is the risen Christ, and as the story continues, we may well think how Mary Magdalene immediately realized her mistake.

But was she mistaken? When we think of the task of a gardener, we can more and more recognize the great ongoing work of the risen Christ. The original work given to Adam was to be a gardener, with all of its uncertainties, and all other work that human beings do has arisen from that first work. The task of the gardener is to transform the earth, raising life from the lifeless, and bringing order into a fallen nature. It is an ongoing task, which does not come to an end with the harvest, but at once begins all over again, and will last as long as life on earth, through all cycles of time. And without the gardener, no human life is possible.

The Gospel of Matthew ends with the words of the resurrected Christ: And see: I am with you for all of the days, until the age is fully accomplished: I will be with you in all cycles of time to come.