

Lenten Bible Study

Throughout Lent LNPC will also be offering a book study on N.T. Wright's best seller: *Surprised by Hope—Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. *Newsweek* calls N.T. Wright “the world’s leading New Testament scholar, and his book takes on the controversial topic of life after death and reveals how most Christians get it wrong—and why that matters.”

The series will be led by Dr. Randall Steele and will be held in Gard Hall beginning on Wednesday, March 4. Dinner will be offered at 6:00 p.m. for those who would like to share a meal time together (sign ups are necessary and available at the Adult Education booth on the patio, or call the church office).

For those who would just like to attend the teaching, Bible study will start at 7:00 p.m. Childcare is available.

Here are the dates and the themes for each of our evenings together:

Tonight:	Matthew 11:28-30 & Romans 12:1-2 <i>“The Difference Between Trying and Training”</i>
March 4:	Part I — Pages 3-52
March 11:	Part II — Pages 53-108
March 18:	Part III — Pages 109-146
March 25:	Part IV — Pages 147-206
April 1:	Part V — Pages 207-290

2009 Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday — April 5

9:00 am Contemporary • 10:30 am Children’s Pageant / Traditional Service

Maundy Thursday — April 9

7:30 pm Candlelight Hand Washing Service & Communion

Good Friday— April 10

7:30 pm Candlelight Tenebrae Service of Darkness

Music and Meditation on Christ’s Death

Easter Sunday — April 12

9:00 am Contemporary • 10:30 am Traditional Worship Services

Celebration of Christ’s Resurrection

Join us for Sunday Worship:

9:00 am – Contemporary Service

10:30 am – Traditional Service

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Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church

Ash Wednesday • February 25, 2009

7:30 pm

Tonight’s Ash Wednesday Service leads us into the penitential season of Lent—a season marked by stripping away the non-essential and the unimportant, by listening in quietness to the groaning of all creation as it cries out for salvation, by contemplating our own brokenness, and by reflecting on God’s gift of forgiveness that comes through his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GATHERING PRAISE (7:20 pm)

Worship Ensemble and Congregation

WELCOME

Dr. Randy Steele

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

Leader: Behold, now is the acceptable time. Today is the day of God’s salvation.

People: We gather for the nurturing of our souls and the renewal of our spirits.

Leader: May God continue to guide us on our journey and restore us in the joy of our salvation.

People: We want to lift up our voices and renew our vows to be God’s people.

**HYMN 558*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Emily McColl

ANTHEM

Cleanse Me

by Taylor/Hayes

Chancel Choir and Suk Choi, Piano

CONFESSION OF SIN (Based on 1 Corinthians 13)

(After each verse is read, quietly meditate on the question.)

Love is patient. *(Am I willing to endure trying people?)*

Love is kind. *(Am I thinking or acting unkindly toward anyone?)*

Love is not possessive. *(Am I manipulative? Do I use people?)*

Love is not boastful or proud. *(Do I love to be the center of attention?)*

Love is courteous. *(Am I considerate, thoughtful, warm?)*

Love is not selfish. *(Am I always insistent on my needs and rights?)*

Love is not irritable or bitter. *(Am I forgiving? Do I keep a record of wrongs?)*

Love delights in truth and righteousness. *(Do I put obedience to God first in my life?)*

Private Confession

MUSICAL OFFERING *Come Unto Me* by William David Young
Hannah Hess, Soloist

SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 11:28-30* Pew Bible, N.T. page 10
Romans 12:1-2 Pew Bible, N.T. page 161

MEDITATION Dr. Randy Steele
“The Difference Between Trying and Training”
Spiritual training is about placing ourselves before God
so that God can do a transforming work in us.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND COMMUNION

Leader: Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and repentance, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation so that we may show forth your glory in the world. By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord, bring us to the joy of his resurrection.

Leader: Before Jesus was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take this, all of you, and eat. This is my body which will be given up for you.”

When the supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said: “Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.”

All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory. God of compassion, through your son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve you and one another in holy love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Leader: Those who wish may come forward and receive the mark of these ashes and Holy Communion as a sign of your contrition and your desire to enter into the new life in Christ.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer Rev. Emily McColl
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG OF PRAISE *In Christ Alone* by K. Getty & S. Townend

**BENEDICTION*