

Trail of Easter

April 17-20, 2025

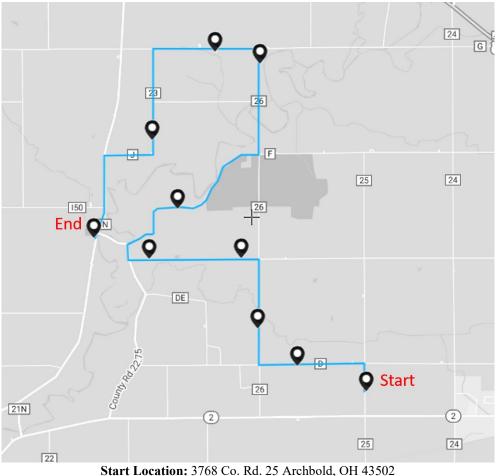
The "Trail of Easter" provides a fun way for individuals and families to experience an Easter activity that takes place from the convenience of your own vehicle. The route mapped out for you will take you past the different locations where objects, relating to the Easter story, are randomly placed for you to find. We ask that you stay in your vehicle as you slowly make your way past the marked locations while you enjoy the challenge of the search. Please use four-way lights when necessary. Along with the help of the provided map, signs will help guide you as you make your way through the "Trail of Easter!"

Objects to find at each location:

- #1-Donkey (Matthew 21:1-7) Sword (Matthew 26:51-52) Money Changer's Table Overturned (Matthew 21:12) Dice (John 19:24)
- #2–Imprint of a Kiss (Mark 14:44) Jesus' Clothes (Matthew 27:28) Sign– "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" (John 19:19)
- #3-Sheep & Cow (John 2:13-15) Rooster (Matthew 26:74-75) Linen Burial Cloth (John 19:40; 20:6-7) The word "Hosanna" (John 12:13)
- #4-Spices (Mark 16:1) Whip (Matthew 27:26) Lamb (Mark 14:12, Revelation 17:14) Cloaks (outer garments) (Mark 11:8)
- #5-Guard Armor (Matthew 27:65-66) Water Basin & Towel (John 13:4 -5) Spear (John 19:33-34) Palm Branch (Matthew 21:8)

- #6-Angel (Luke 22:43) Purple Robe (Mark 15:17) Wine/Grape Juice Chalice (Cup) (Luke 22:20) Cross (Matthew 27:32)
- #7-Thirty Silver Coins (Matthew 26:14-16; 27:3-4) Loaf of Bread (Matthew 26:26) Olive Branches (Mark 14:26) Hands in Prayer (Luke 19:46)
- #8-Staff (Matthew 27:29-30) Torn Curtain to the Holy of Holies (Matthew 27:50-51) Blindfold (Mark 14:65) Dove (Mark 11:15)
- #9–Crown of Thorns (John 19:2-3) Sponge & Jar of Wine Vinegar (John 19:29) Passover Meal Table (Mark 14:16-18) Nail/Spike (John 20:25-27)
- #10-Empty Tomb (Matthew 28:6)

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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!"