

**ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**PASTOR CHRIS MANKE**  
**PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL - MAY 17-27, 2010**

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DAY 1 Monday – Depart Chicago on our way to Tel-Aviv.

DAY 2 Tuesday – Arrive Ben Gurion Airport in the late afternoon. Our guide greets us and gives us an overview of our pilgrimage as we ascend to Jerusalem for our first night in Israel.

DAY 3 Wednesday – Walk in the Old City of Jerusalem. Experience the Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Armenian quarters of the Old City. See the Temple ruins and the Temple Mount. We follow the Via Dolorosa to the sacred Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Visit the Garden Tomb. Overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 4 Thursday – Our day begins in Bethlehem where we will visit Christmas Lutheran Church. We visit the ancient Church of the Nativity, Manger Square and view the beautiful Shepherds' Field. Overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 5 Friday – In Jerusalem, we visit the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Garden Tomb and room of the Last Supper. Our afternoon tour will be at Yad Vashem, Memorial to the Holocaust. Overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 6 Saturday – Today we drive to Masada, site of the zealots' last stand against the Romans. Later, drive to Ein Gedi to experience the salty water of the Dead Sea. Continue our journey to the Qumran Caves, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 7 Sunday – Our day begins with worship in the Old City of Jerusalem. The rest of your day is at leisure. Your guide will direct you to places you may visit at your own pace. Possibilities might include The Israel Museum, the model of Jerusalem, or exploring the Old City. Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 8 Monday – Today we leave Jerusalem and head north toward the Sea of Galilee. Follow the Jordan Valley to the newly excavated Roman city at Beth-Shean. Visit Capernaum and Simon Peter's House, the Mount of Beatitudes and Tabgha – the site of the feeding of the multitudes. Overnight in Galilee.

DAY 9 Tuesday – This morning we drive toward the Golan Heights to Panias and Caesarea Philippi where Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah. Continue to the foot of Mt. Hermon on the Syrian-Israel border for a short tour of a Druze village. On to the Dan Nature Reserve, the source of the Jordan River. We enjoy a St. Peter's fish lunch followed by a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight in Galilee.

DAY 10 Wednesday – Today we go to Cana, the site of Jesus' first miracle. On to Nazareth to visit the magnificent Church of the Annunciation built on top of the Virgin Mary's house. Continue along the coast to Caesarea where St. Paul was imprisoned and Cornelius was baptized; visit the Roman Theatre, Aqueduct, and the Crusader ruins. Depart for Jaffa, along the coast, where we will have our farewell dinner. Transfer to the airport for our late-night flight back to the United States.

DAY 11 Thursday – Return flight back to the United States.