

The Church's Liturgical Year : Palm Sunday 'Hands Up!'

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transformed the Passover Meal and gave it new significance. He revealed Himself and His purpose by using the familiar elements of the yearly Passover Seder including the 'middle Matzoh' bread and the special cup of wine reserved for Elijah until the Messiah comes.

I Cor 11-23-26: On the night He was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He

took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For those sharing the meal, such audacious acts were a clear declaration that HE, Jesus, was the long-expected Messiah!

From Maundy Thursday to His unmerited Crucifixion on Good Friday to His glorious Resurrection on Sunday, Jesus reflected his total surrender to His Heavenly Father's will.

STARTING WELL...PALM SUNDAY

More than 500 years before Christ, the prophet Zechariah wrote: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." verse 9:9 That's the way the Apostle John described Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem in John 12:14, but he prefaces it by saying, "They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna!' Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!"

All four Gospels tell about the event: Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:28-38; and John 12:12-18. No wonder that there was a big celebration. Thousands were in

Jerusalem for the 'main event' of the year — Passover. Jesus and His fans were too and Jesus had just raised Lazarus from the dead. Not your same old miracle!

Throughout the ancient world, palms were symbols of eternal life and peace, and pointed to oases and life-giving water. They were given to winning competitors and athletes. Used lavishly in art and architecture, palm designs adorned the Tabernacle and the Temples in Jerusalem. Palms were an integral part of one of the major Jewish harvest festivals, Sukkot (booths).

In the Christian tradition, palm branches are often saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday and burned for the anointing ashes on Ash Wednesday — thus completing the annual cycle of a liturgical year.

PALMS — EXTENDING OURSELVES.

A former CHPC pastor, Ron Rand, was a master of visual aides. One Palm Sunday he suggested that instead of waving the long leafy palms, that we wave our own palms to honor Jesus. I've thought about that and it makes great sense. Here's why:

- Standing with your arms extended over your head is the universally accepted gesture of surrender. It is what Jesus did. He surrendered and was obedient to God His Father, even unto death on a cross.
- It is a visual display that we possess no weapons and cease hostile actions. We have no weapons or works that are effective against the power of sin and death. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me. John 14:6
- It shows that "God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with." [quote from Billy Graham] In Christ's power we can reflect the Glory to Glory of God and His love to the whole world...and celebrate Him.

7th SUNDAY of LENT

Activity for Small Groups & families with children

Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter when the Church focuses on learning about the life of Jesus Christ and preparing for Holy Week.



YOU WILL NEED: 7 candles and candle holders and a map of Israel. WHAT TO DO:

Begin by lighting all 7 candles. Week 1, darken one. Week 2, darken one more, etc. Recite the meaning of each candle as it is extinguished. Listed in chronological order, each candle identifies: (a) A PLACE in Jesus' life; (2) A KEY EVENT in His life; and (3) A 'BETRAYAL' He experienced in connection with that event.

SAY: **This week we darken the 7th candle: EGYPT — Peril.** After Christ's birth in Bethlehem, the first step on His journey was to **flee to Egypt to escape death** at the hands of King Herod.

Then, the 6th candle: NAZARETH — Baptism. Jesus was baptized and went out to be tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. He returned to His home, Nazareth, and was **rejected by His own people.**

Then, the 5th Candle: GALILEE — Discipling. Jesus' life and teaching attracted many. Four fishermen from Galilee were his first disciples — ordinary men who would cause him disappointments and trials.

Then, 4th Candle: SAMARIA — Teaching. Meeting the woman at the well in Samaria was only one of the times when Jesus taught the 'truth of God' with authority. Yet people hardened their hearts, distorted His words and denied His teachings.

Then, we darken the 3rd Candle: BETHANY — Healing. Raising Lazarus from the dead at Bethany was typical of the wonders, exorcisms, healings, and miracles that Jesus did in the power of the Holy Spirit to show people who He was. But many would not 'see.'

Then, we darken the 2nd Candle: CAESAREA PHILIPPI — Revelation. At Caesarea Philippi, the Holy Spirit revealed to a few the full nature of Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. But the purpose of His life — His death for our sin and His resurrection — remained a secret, not yet fully revealed.

This week, we darken the final Candle: JERUSALEM — "It is finished." Jesus' Journey to Life! began in Bethlehem and ended in Jerusalem with palms, a Seder Meal given full meaning, a betrayal, trial, whippings, humiliation, crucifixion on a cross and burial for three days. God gives Christ's 'finished journey' eternal meaning.

ACTIVITY: Find Jerusalem on your map. How far is it from Caesarea Philippi to Jerusalem? READ: John 12:9-16. DISCUSS: Parents retell the event in a way that children can understand what happened on that 'Palm Sunday.' What would Jesus have each of us bring to Him instead of leafy palms? [Refer to the 'Palm Sunday' article.]

Adult Spiritual Formation Update

By William Custer

Last Sunday ended our Winter Adult Spiritual Formation (ASF) series. I had opportunity to walk the halls and see classes in action and was encouraged by what I saw and heard.

On April 3rd, the Sunday following Easter, we will begin a 6 week All-Church and City-Wide Journey during the 10:10 hour. By All-Church Journey we mean that we invite the whole church to participate in this journey. By City-Wide we mean that many churches in the city will be doing the same. The City-Wide emphasis has the effect of uniting Christians from many church backgrounds.

We encourage folks to organize groups outside of the church (homes, work places, coffee shops, etc) and invite unchurched folks to participate. We also will be having groups during the Foundation hour. If you are willing to host or lead either of these, contact Joe Koize at the ASF registration desk in the Atrium, or e-mail William.Custer2@gmail.com or call the church office. As in previous years, materials for group leaders will be provided.

Be BRAVE



"LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION" POLICY
When parking, remember to keep your valuables and all parcels out of sight safely locked in your trunk. Thieves can even see through dark tinted glass. Don't tempt!

Children & Youth Helpers in Worship

Children ages Kindergarten through third grade are invited to a Children's Worship service each week. Start off with your families in both the 9am and 11:15am service, then listen for the announcement dismissing the kids to their special service. Just before the sermon, children will be dismissed to their special study and worship time.

This week's helpers are:
10am Ian / Joshua S. & Nate S.

Next week's helpers are:
9:00am Jason M.
11:15am Lucas F. / Jared L.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Service Project Lunch Today we will have an all church service project following the combined worship service. Just like last year, we will be having a pizza lunch together before participating in the service project in Fellowship Hall.

GIVE OUTSIDE THE PLATE CHPC now provides Online Giving – a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy – just visit <http://chpc.org> and click our **DONATE NOW!** link. Your gift will transfer directly into our CHPC Bank account.

Help us find... We are updating our records and need Janet Green's address. Also, if you have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, please contact Michelle Hemsath to have your records updated.

Writers' Meeting will be Wednesday, 3/23 at 7pm, in the Fireside Room. As always, all are invited.

Because of the Easter holiday, Supper Club will meet on Monday, April 4. Stay tuned for details.

Do you want to receive congregation prayer requests? Join the E – Prayer Chain by signing up on the home page at chpc.org. Enter your email address in the box right under the opening paragraph.

IGNITE 33 What is Authentic Manhood? Come explore with us. Starting April 13th at 7pm. For details contact Brian Kershner – kershner_b@yahoo.com or Joe Brooks – brojoe777@gmail.com

Easter Flowers If you would like to make a gift toward flowers for your loved ones or for Easter Sunday, please contact Sam Routzon at Ext. 1125 or email her at sroutzon@chpc.org The deadline to order Easter Flowers is Monday, March 21. Suggested donation is \$50.

Nursery Help Needed! Adult help is needed at the 11:15am service during the months of April and May. Please contact Robyn (513-505-3041 or rhubbuch@chpc.org) if you are able to serve in this way at least once a month in April and May.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The March BLAST (K-6) Theme is Hope: "believing that something good can come out of something bad," and our memory verse is John 16:33b: "In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world." Please pray this month that our children would learn to believe in Jesus and the power of His resurrection, no matter what may be going on in their lives. Resources for both parents and kids are available on the BLAST page of the CYF website: <http://chpccyf.weebly.com/blast.html>.

CYF Summer Trips! The following forms for our summer trips are now available on the Summer page of the CYF website: <http://chpccyf.weebly.com/summer-2016.html>:

- Overnight Camp Registration Form (finishing grades 1-2)
- Resident Camp Registration Form (finishing grades 2-6)
- Resident Camp Work Crew Application (finishing grades 7-9)
- Resident Camp Counselor Application (finishing grades 10-12 or adult)
- The Alabama Experiment Application (finishing grades 7-12)

Early registration for all trips (with a discounted price!) is March 31st, so turn your forms in soon!

CRASH (7-9th grade) and Huddles (10-12th grade) will not meet on Palm Sunday or Easter.

SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Feast of Love and Ignite are partnering together to serve EASTER BRUNCH. The Brunch will be from 12 Noon - 2:30. We need donations of 45 lbs. of bacon, 15 dozen brownies, and 10 apple or cherry pies. Sign up sheets are in the atrium. For questions contact Bev Graves, 513-541-5676 ext. 1167.

Looking for a fun way to share the Good News? The art of 3C's children is featured on some very delightful Easter Cards. The cards are a wonderful value at \$5.00 per dozen. Orders of three (3) dozen or more can be personalized. Thank You Notes, Note Cards, To Do Lists and other specialty items are also available. All proceeds support 3Cs Nursery School Foundation. There is something for everyone at the table on Main Street. Questions? Call Maggie Smith at 821-6147.

FUELING THE CHURCH

Want to get involved? Feel the need to help out? Are you being called to serve? Help Fuel the Church! There is now a list of ministry partner opportunities in the community bulletin board on Mainstreet (hallway between atrium and fireside room). Some of these opportunities require more commitment/skill, others may be a one-time task. There is something there for everyone! This information is also listed on the web at chpc.org/get-involved/partner-in-ministry

JOINING THE CHPC FAMILY

If you are interested in becoming a member at CHPC, our next New Covenant Partner Orientation Classes are: Sundays April 3, 10, 17, 24 at 10:10am.

To sign up or if you have questions contact:
Michelle at 541-5676 Ext. 1123
or mhemsath@chpc.org or
Pastor Dennis at Ext. 1122 or dhall@chpc.org

Prayer Page

"... without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers," Romans 1:9

CHPC Community

Joyce Garber	Bev Graves
Janet Green	Matt Graves
Kathy Grimm	Chris Grimm
Bill Grimm	Sarah Guenther

Staff

Brian Donaldson

Officers/Leadership

Donna Pestinger - Deacon

Home Bound/Health Center

Chloe Bernius

Ministries

House of Joy

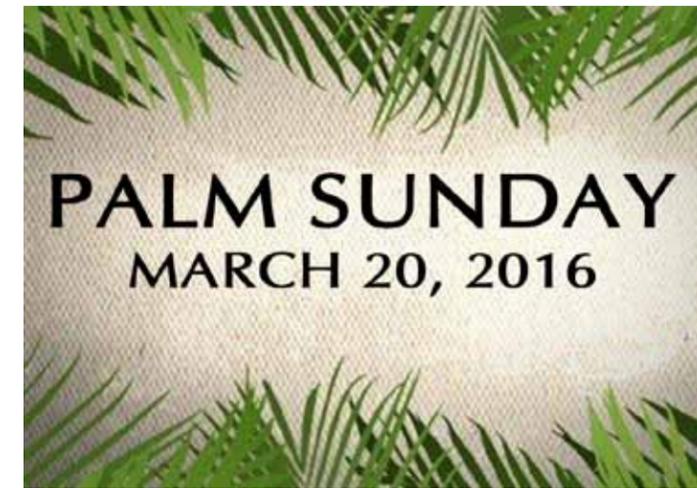
Global Workers

In the Military

Adam Steveley US Army	Chris Jaeger USMC
Cary Jaeger USMC	Kirk Kalmbacher US Coast Guard
Zach Scharf Army National Guard	Nyjoel Baker US Air Force
Danny Holian US Navy Pilot	Will Connor US Army
Joey Nieberding US Army	Peter & Amanda Leugers US Navy
Gus Carpenter US Marines	Andrew Deiters US Marines

College/Career Students

Nathan Lowe	Sara Murphy
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March 20, 2016
The Cross
PALM SUNDAY
Preaching: Rev. Drew Smith

Welcome to College Hill Presbyterian Church

Thank you for worshiping with us today. Single, married, with children or not, there are many opportunities for knowing Christ, worshiping, personal growth and discipleship, service and ministry within the church and beyond the walls.

Visitors - Stop by the welcome table or the desk in the Atrium to find out more about College Hill Presbyterian. Return and become part of this dynamic Church Family.

Upcoming Services

March 24	Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm
March 25	Good Friday Service at 7pm
March 27	Easter Sunday - Three Services 7am - 9am - 11:15am
April 3	New Series Begins - BRAVE 2.0

Today's Order of Worship

Prelude
Call To Worship
Scripture
Processional Hymn
Welcome / Opening Prayer
Scripture / Dance
Confession and Forgiveness
Passing the Peace / Dismiss Children
Song of Response
Sermon
Offering
Announcements
Charge and Blessing
Benediction

Available Help

Ushers have copies of the song lyrics for the 9am service. Ushers can also provide help with wheelchairs and equipment for hearing assistance. Handicapped accessible restrooms are located off the exit hallway to the right side of the main platform. This exit also leads to handicapped parking spaces.

