

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in a 40-day journey toward the cross and empty tomb. We arrive at what's known as Palm/Passion Sunday. This marks the final week of Jesus earthly incarnation. This year, we will be using the resource *Surprised by Hope* by N.T. Wright. Copies of the study guide are available at the Atrium entrance area. Video study materials are available online through Rightnow Media by the same name. Free access is available by contacting the office at jhelton@armstrongchapel.org.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

posted on Life in Liturgy

Leader: We raise our voices and wave with joyful

hope the palms of deliverance of God's

people.

**People:** Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David! Leader: Our hearts are filled with expectation.

People: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord!

Leader: We receive into the crowded streets of our

lives the one who is Savior, not only of us,

but of all the earth.

People: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

\*HYMN

All Glory Laud and Honor 8:20am—sing from #280 UMH 9:40am—sing as arranged

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King. to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high, and we with all creation in chorus make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with psalms before thee went; our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present.

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.

TIME WITH CHILDREN—9:40am

Dianna Sheely

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed, #881 UMH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;\* the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\*\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."

#### TIME SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20am

**HYMN** 

Precious Name #536 UMH refrain only

Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven. Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

> Words: Lydia Baxter (1870) Music: William Doane (1871)



#### PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

written by Joanna Harader

God of the cross, tottering down the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey, You are not the savior we expect. Your power doesn't look like the power we want. Your wisdom makes no sense to us.

We are happy to join the crowd, waving branches, but not so sure we want to follow you through this Holy Week:

into the temple courts
into the upper room
into the Garden of Gethsemane
to the high priest's house,
to the assembly of elders,
to Pilate,
to Herod,
to the place of The Skull,

to the foot of the cross.

We need you to go with us on this journey. Grant us clear vision, courageous hearts, persistent steps.

Even though we know what this week will bring, we sing: Hosanna, hosanna. Save us, we beseech you!

Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

**HYMN** 

Precious Name

#536 UMH refrain only

Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven. Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

> Words: Lydia Baxter (1870) Music: William Doane (1871

**GIVING** 

\*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** 

Romans 8:19-25 (NRSV)

<sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

MESSAGE

The Hope of the Church Rev. David W. Brown

<sup>\*\*</sup>universal

SCRIPTURE – PASSION Luke 22:47-54a, 63-71,

Luke 23:10-27

**SOUNDS OF THE CROSS** 

SCRIPTURE – PASSION Luke 23:32-56

**SPECIAL MUSIC—8:20am** At the Cry of the First Bird

Vivian Brown, soloist

SPECIAL MUSIC—9:40am Chancel Choir

Doug Belland, guest director

\*HYMN—9:40am Ah, Holy Jesus #289 UMH

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?

By foes derided, by thine own rejected,

O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered; the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered. For our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation, thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee, think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

Text Johann Heermann (1630) Music: Johann Crüger (1640)

#### BENEDICTION

written by Roddy Hamilton

Some weep, some conspire, some follow, some hide, some believe, some betray, today we choose:

to shout for life
to follow the cross
to break bread
to hold belief
to trust love
and tell the world we choose to follow Jesus.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, help us choose the way of the cross.

Liturgist at 8:20 – Carol Ney Liturgist at 9:40 – Rev. Steve Hoard Greeters in the Atrium – Barry Dixon and Pat Smith

Armstrong Bell Choir at 9:40 – directed by Chester Imhausen
Prelude: Festive Processional -Dannchik

Prelude: Festive Processional Hymn: All Glory Laud and Honor

Dan Young on Trumpet

Offertory: The Old Rugged Cross -arr Dobrinski



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!









<sup>\*</sup>Stand as you are able

## Holy Week



#### March 28

7:00pm in the Worship Center

Experience elements of a traditional Passover at this family-friendly event. We'll hear about how God delivered His people during the Exodus and rejoice in how God delivers His people through Jesus Christ.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served, so RSVPs would be helpful. Check box #1 on your Connect Card on Sunday or email Pastor Sara at soconnor@armstrongchapel.org.



#### March 29

**6:30pm Gaines UMC** 5707 Madison Rd, 45227

The Seven Last Words from the Cross

Before we rush into celebrating the resurrection part of Easter, we need to consider the last words of Jesus on the cross. Until we understand Good Friday, we can't understand Resurrection Sunday.



#### March 31

8:20am in the Old Chapel 9:40am in the Sanctuary 10:30am in the Worship Center

Celebrate the Risen Lord!

Services will be designed so volunteers, workers, and children may attend worship services with their families. Activity bags will be available. No Sunday School or Nursery this Sunday only.



Lilies and spring flowers will decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

You may purchase a plant in honor of or in memory of loved ones. \$25 per plant.
You may take a plant home with you on Easter Sunday. Please return baskets to the church

Online order form: <a href="https://bit.ly/3dj6CXC">https://bit.ly/3dj6CXC</a> or send a check and a note to the church office. Orders need to be received by Monday 3/25.

### LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF RESURRECTION

Come experience the story of Easter in a whole new way! This walk-through immersive exhibit in the Atrium will take you through Jesus' final week leading to the Resurrection.



"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!"

## Egg Hunt

11:30am Easter Sunday

Bring your basket!

Meet in the Atrium.



### On Easter morning, you may add fresh cut flowers to the Living Cross

on the church lawn. Bring them from your own garden or get one there. This cross reminds us of the loving grace of God who used Christ's death on the cross to beautify our lives with forgiveness. We also remember that the cross has become a central symbol of Christian faith and hope, although it was once

a tortuous instrument of execution. You might want to bring a camera for a family picture in front of this lovely and meaningful backdrop. Share your photos on our social media!



#### Organizational Meeting Tuesday, April 2

Robin Nielsen's home 7275 Cayuga Drive (3 minutes from the church) 10:30am-12:30pm w/Refreshments!

Be part of something special as we launch a new monthly prayer shawl and creative ministry. Experience the sense of purpose that comes from making a small difference in the lives of those who might benefit from a handmade item on their journey to wholeness. Whether it's a prayer shawl, lap blanket, pocket prayer square, or prayer bear for a child,

you do not need to be able to sew, crochet, or knit, to join this new group. There will be many options to help such as attaching prayers and labels, cutting patterns, and packaging. Bring a friend! Anyone is welcome! We want to create a community of givers using our hands and hearts and have fun and fellowship in the process.

Questions or to RSVP, connect with Robin Nielsen (<a href="mailto:ihbookmom@aol.com">ihbookmom@aol.com</a>) or Jill Croswell (<a href="mailto:icroswell@aol.com">icroswell@aol.com</a>).



#### ALL KINDS OF SPRINGTIME FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Lunch starts at 11:15am

Chimes with Chester – Games – Bouncy House – Cotton Candy Machine
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

Sponsored by ArmstrongKids



# vacation bible school registration is open to dive into a friendship with god!

July 15-18, Monday-Thursday from 9:30-12n \$65 per child (age 4 to entering grade 5) ArmstrongChapel.org/children