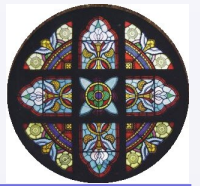


PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, March 28, 2021 Issue No. 52

Greetings! Today is Sunday, March 28, 2028, Palm Sunday.

The Painting you see on the right is aptly titled *“Entry of Christ Into Jerusalem.”* It was painted in 1320 by Pietro Lorenzetti. Christ arriving on a donkey symbolizes his arrival in peace, rather than as a war-waging king arriving on a horse. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, and the end of the Lenten season. Prepare yourself for what is indeed the greatest story ever told, and it begins with, *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*



Decisions, Decisions

Randy York - Florence, NJ - March 28, 2021

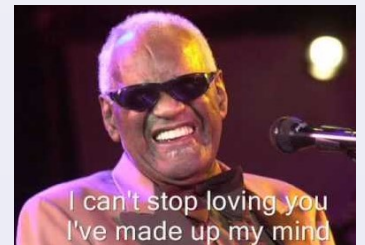
The first time I served as an altar boy on Good Friday at the ripe old age of eight, the priest leading the service handed me a purple pillow and told me to place it in front of the altar. I had heard that the service was long and taking the pillow out to the altar seemed to reinforce that possibility. Three priests along with seven of us altar boys went to the back of the church. One of the priests said, “Please rise,” and we all began to process toward the altar. There was no music, no prayer, just complete silence. When we reached the altar, the officiating priest got down on his knees and then laid flat out with his face down in that pillow. Seconds went by, then a minute or two. It was an uncomfortable time of silence. It was meant to convey humility and sorrow. It was a very solemn, reverent moment.



Good Friday is a time for thoughtful contemplation. A time to meditate and consider the saving work of Jesus at Calvary. He does not call us to have sympathy. He calls us back. Back to a relationship that we abandoned. We need not focus on the “how”, it’s the “why” that’s most important. His crucifixion was a brutal, bloody execution, a horrible, painful death, but our sorrow should lie in the understanding of our situation, the realization of our sin debt, and a repentant return to relationship with God.

Consider for a moment that offered relationship. Loving Father to problem prodigal. Creator to his created. Awesome God to simple sinner. A God who does not punish by retribution, but instead offers a beloved Son in substitution.

A lot of folks have made many thoughtful comments on the events of Good Friday. But for my money that ol’ theologian Ray Charles captured the heart of God with Linus-like precision when he sang, “I can’t stop loving you. I’ve made up my mind.” That my friends is plainly where God meets us. The story can be seen in horrific, bleak terms.



But most certainly it is a love story. God’s love made plain for His problem children through the shed blood of His son. Not some tepid, what have you done for me, let me think about it awhile kind of love. No, this Abba Father is running down the road, robes flying, to meet his prodigals. It is expansive love. It is decisive love. Love is, all things considered, a decision. As much as we may romanticize the “falling in love” part, love is a choice. It’s a commitment. It is purposeful. It is active. God saw our situation, made up His mind, and acted. We speak of how we will love: for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health.

Continued on Page 3



Providence Presbyterian Church

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, March 28, 2021



Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests will be added each week by your requests, and will run for two weeks unless a request to continue is received.

God's healing presence:

- For **Pam Solymosi**, recovering from pneumonia & Covid
- For **Jennifer Cox**, dealing with serious health issues
- For **Michelle Cox**, for strength, healing and guidance
- For **Brianna Scott** diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder
- For **Fran Kraft**, healing from eye surgery
- For **Ginny Heal** who will be having surgery
- For **Wendy Kasper** who will be having surgery
- For **George Eaton** who is battling kidney failure

God's comfort:

- For the family of **George Gross** mourning the loss of his wife **Lori**
- For **Howard Kraft**, for God's direction in a relationship

In thanks and praise to God:

- For **Carole Shore's** sister, **Karen** who found out her heart valve is no longer infected after four weeks of antibiotic therapy.
- For shared haircuts and fellowship

From **Becky Jensen** – For continued prayers for the **PNC** as they carry on their mission.

God's blessing to all who sacrifice their time and talent to keep our church active in the community and open for worship. Let us remember that Holy Week, from Palm Sunday through Good Friday to Easter Sunday, is a love story. A Father, in grace, offers a beloved Son to welcome back His prodigal children to relationship.



Please mark you calendars for the following Lenten/Easter Season services:

- Palm Sunday** — March 28, 2021 at 9:00 AM
- Maundy Thursday** — April 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM
- Good Friday** — April 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM
- Easter Sunday** — April 4, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Please Note the following times for dropping off your Easter Flowers at Church

- Thursday, April 1 from 1 pm till the Maundy Thursday service
- Friday, April 2 from 1 pm till the Good Friday service
- Saturday, April 3 from 9 until noon.

If you are providing flowers in honor of, or in memory of someone, please provide that information to the church office by Thursday so they be added to the insert for the bulletin and next week's Newsletter.

Also if anyone wants to provide flowers but isn't able to get out to get and deliver them, please contact **Annette Slaney** at 609-206-3961 on or before Friday.



The Craft Club will be holding a Spring Sale at church next Saturday, April 3, from 10 AM to 2 PM

You can deliver flowers for the Church Altar as noted above, and at the same time, you will be able to buy some very special Easter & Spring items for your home! All sorts of hand crafted items will be shown; wreaths, quilts, hand embroidered towels, & more.

The Craft Club is also raffling off an Easter Afghan. Tickets are \$1.00 each, and can be purchased any time before the drawing on Saturday, April 3, at 3:00 pm at the Church Spring Fair. Come out and see what all the we have for Easter and Spring! Call **Ginnie Heal** or **Marie Celkupa** for tickets. We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, 4/3 from 10 to 2.



Providence Presbyterian Church

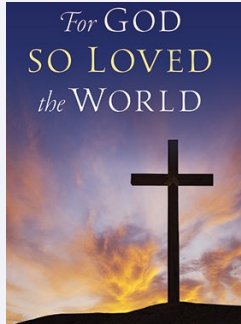
I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



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Sunday, March 28, 2021

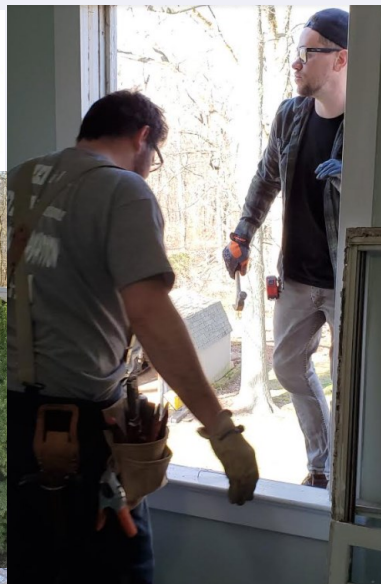
Decisions, Decisions...



Words proffered to express the extent of our love. God acted on Good Friday to express His. Look at John 3:16 and note the verbs of action. God so LOVED that He GAVE. We then believe and receive, so that we in return will love and give.

This love story calls us to act. It requires transformation. Not a one-time acknowledgement, thanks for that ticket God, now let me resume my regularly scheduled ride on the train of life, and I'll see you when I get to that last stop. No, it is ongoing. It is daily love and daily giving, fostered by a close, personal, intimate relationship with our Abba father.

When the prodigal left home he said, "Give me." When he came back to his father he said instead, "Make me." There are a whole lot of folks that say "give me" to God. As we ponder this divine decision, this amazing love, may we set our hearts and journey home. Home to enter His presence and say, "Father in your will, make me...." Up the road He waits with arms wide open in unconditional, forgiving love. Behind Him stands the wood of the cross, on which hung the Savior of the world. Come let us worship. Come let us know this love. Come let us live out that love in the lives of those who journey on with us.



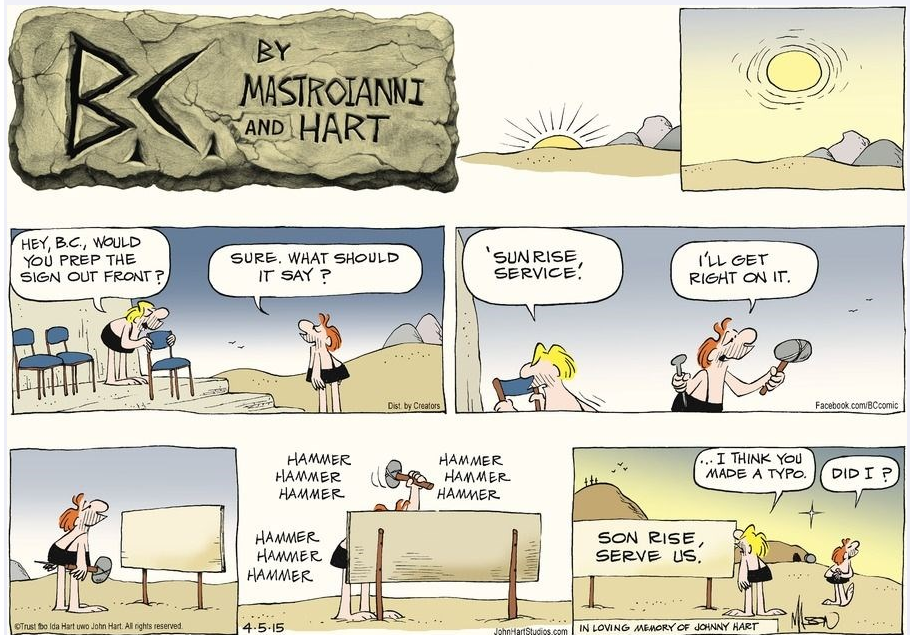
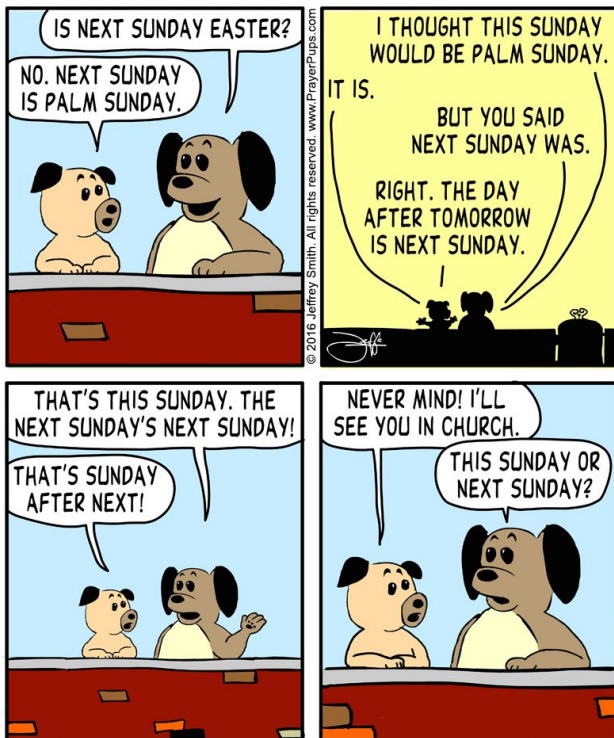
Thank You
To All Who
Helped!





Victor Vitale - March 31

PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



Bustleton's Best

When I was growing up, Easter Sunday dinner was traditionally ham, polish kielbasa with fresh horseradish that was dug up on Good Friday, and ground by hand on Saturday for dinner Sunday. One year my youngest sister, Mary, who was about five or six at the time was watching my Dad crank away at the hand grinder. Tears were streaming down her cheeks due to the powerful pungency of the bitter root. My Dad asked her why she was crying, and she sobbingly replied, "I don't know." It was an episode that lives on to this day. But I digress, the real star of Easter Sunday dinner was my Grandmother's Scalloped Potatoes. It is a dish that always transports me to a time and place at my Mom's table. In preparation for next Sunday and the reverie in which I will delight, I present Dinah Lee's Scalloped Potatoes.

Thank You Dinah!



Scalloped Potatoes

Dinah Lee

- 6 C raw potatoes, sliced thin
- 4 T. flour
- Salt & pepper
- 1/2 small onion, minced
- 2 1/2 C hot milk
- 2 T butter

Place a layer of potatoes in a buttered 9x13 baking dish. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and flour and dot with butter. Repeat until all ingredients are used. Pour hot milk over potatoes. Bake at 350' for 1 to 1 1/4 hours.