

April 10th, 2022

Palm Sunday

CHRIST MORAVIAN CHURCH

Weekly Congregational Letter



Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 10th

BIBLE BUDDIES

@ 8:30 am via Zoom

Sunday, April 10th

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 am

Sunday, April 10th

COFFEE HOUR

@ 1:00 pm via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84948717808?pwd=Um9uVjF5RnAxcmxNSIFYemp6N25qUT09>

April 12th, 13th & 14th

HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONS

@ 2:00 pm via Zoom

Please check Guidelines for Attendance at Worship

Friday, April 15th

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

10:30 am

Sunday, April 17th

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

8:00 am

in the MEMORIAL GARDEN, WEATHER PERMITTING

EASTER WORSHIP

10:30 am



Sunday Worship Focus:

Palm Sunday

“Hosanna, In the Highest”



Moravian

Watchword for the Week:

Let those who fear the Lord say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Psalm 118:14

SECURITY SYSTEM

A new security system has been installed. Those holding entry keys should now have a new security code. If you have an entry key, but not a new code, contact the office.

PALM SUNDAY IN PERSON WORSHIP

Please read the attached requirements prior to attending. The leadership at CMC is continuing to take a cautious approach, striving to provide the safest environment possible to those who return. We recognize some will be hesitant to return at this time. If you feel comfortable, please attend in-person worship with us. We will continue to offer weekly services online as well.

PASTOR'S WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Greetings Friends in Christ:

If you are like me, I awaken to a new day with mixed understandings. I awaken knowing gratitude, thanks and joy for the gifts of the day that richly affect my life, and at the same time I hold a concern and prayerful thoughts over the many issues, problems, the pain, and brokenness of these days.

Sunday's worship focus is the palm waving arrival of Jesus to the streets of Jerusalem. Shouts of “Hosanna”, “Blessed is He that comes in God's name” are exclaimed by the crowds. This Holy Week ahead of us offers the time to ponder and pray over the life-changing ramifications of Jesus' arrival. History changed. Life took a right hand turn toward grace and hope. The vision of God's kingdom filled with peace, love, and redemption began to be cast.

As these exciting and fulfilling days for our Christian faith unfold, we too enter a time and season inviting this life-changing effect of God's presence. Possibly our voices will be the ones to shout out “Hosanna”, “Blessed is He that comes in God's name” as our lives are transformed with the same grace and hope and peace that Jesus shared upon the streets of Jerusalem long ago.

I share a final personal note. How grateful the CMC congregation is to once again begin “In Person” worship services, and even more to begin a “Live Stream” sharing of that service on the YouTube channel link you find in this newsletter. So many behind the scenes efforts and congregational financial contributions have now provided the means to share the worship service to our home screens at 10:30am on Sunday mornings. Please share the word about this opportunity to those who are not able to return to In Person worship at this time.

Palm Sunday blessings to all,
Pastor Steve Gohdes

E-MAIL ATTACHMENTS

Please look to the e-mail attachments for information on Worship Attendance Guidelines, Bible Study, a Social Justice Workshop offered by Moravian Church Northern Province [MCNP], and BWM Ukraine update.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As the message of Easter offers a hopeful celebration of Christ's resurrection and new life for all, Christ Moravian Church sees this message inviting a response of gratitude and thanksgiving for the gracious love of God.

The Envelope Steward notes that financial giving at the end of March stands at \$35,350 for a budget of \$48,000 at this time of the year. Please take time to pray for the ongoing health of the Christ Moravian Church ministry and may your financial support and giving express your thanks and gratitude for the many gifts of God showered upon your life.

LIVE HOLY WEEK; COMPANION WITH OTHERS

The stories of Holy Week are powerful and move all of us, each of us in a different way. Join us by Zoom on 3 consecutive days in Holy Week to hear and be personally touched by scripture readings describing Palm Sunday, the Last Supper and the Crucifixion. Briefly share, if you wish, what particularly spoke to you and be moved by what others experienced. Tuesday, April 12, Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14 at 2:00 pm. Come to all or pick days as your schedule allows.

Contact the church office at 403-271-2700 or by email: moravian@nucleus.com to register. A Zoom link will be sent to those who are registered.

FROM THE DIGITAL CAMPUS TEAM

Each Friday, the church Facebook page will feature a short video from a new series that is being created. Get to know our church and our pastor better by watching "A Minute with the Minister." Pastor Steve will be answering a different question each week. The videos as well as other CMC posts can be found by clicking the Facebook link below. You don't have to have a Facebook account to enjoy them. And, if you have any questions that you would like answered in future video posts, why not leave us a private message while you are there!

<https://www.facebook.com/Christ-Moravian-Church-Calgary-106080191799781>

ACADIA FOOD PANTRY – DELIVERY PERSONS NEEDED

Acadia Food Pantry has an increasing number of clients who require delivery of hampers. Some have mobility or health issues; others cannot attend because of work or school commitments. Single moms find it challenging to navigate public transit with small children in tow while transporting hampers. If you're able to help deliver hampers from noon to 2:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month, please contact Donna Gordon.

WEEKLY REMINDERS

Please know that you may contact the church office for any needs that arise. Feel free to **phone (403-271-2700)** to speak with us or leave a message, or contact the church office by e-mail at moravian@nucleus.com

Indranie Perera continues to receive recycling for support of Sri Lanka. She wishes to express sincere thanks to all who contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Cash and food donations for the Acadia Food Pantry are most appreciated. Food items may be dropped off at church and placed in the blue bin by the side door. Contact Donna Gordon if you would like to volunteer.

Watch us LIVE on YouTube

You can go directly to the church channel page by using this link -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9D8chO3ksAoPIS8yWZjT2g>

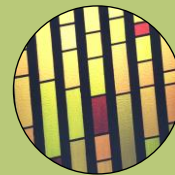
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Calgary



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SUMMER CAMPS AT VAN-ES CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTRE

- July 3-8, Elementary grades (day camp option: July 4-8)
- July 8-9, Indigenous Youth camp with Anglican partners
- July 10-16, Traditional camp with new Environmental Leadership emphasis, completed grades 5-12
- July 17-23, "Mission Camp" with Social Justice emphasis for completed grades 5-12.
(Jr/Sr high campers can stay for both weeks at a discount)

An enrollment link will be available soon.

The apostle Paul said, "... by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." (Galatians: 5:13-14)

April 2022 - Mission Month at CMC

April brings Easter and the promise of resurrection and new life. It carries with it a reminder that Jesus lived a life of service and love, and calls upon us to do the same. As such, CMC has designated April as a time for you to consider making a financial gift to the mission and service work of CMC.

As is our tradition, two important causes have been identified as deserving of your support at this time, one local and one global.

Acadia Food Pantry: *Did you know that some of the communities close to CMC have a high number of people living below the poverty line?*

In April 2019, CMC responded to this need arising out of Acadia Place by helping to establish the Acadia Food Pantry to provide free food for our neighbours living with food insecurity. Since then, CMC has been an integral part of this organization and currently ten of our members serve as regular volunteers. In March 2022, the Pantry served 53 households for a total of 151 people.

As a volunteer organization, the Pantry depends fully on donations to operate. In recognition of its third anniversary, we ask you to consider a one time or recurring donation to help the Pantry continue to offer essential food support to families in need. 100% of every donation is used for food and supplies.

Support for Ukraine: *Have you been wondering how you can help the people of Ukraine?*

Moravian congregations in Europe have answered the call of their Ukrainian neighbours to provide refuge from the devastation of war occurring in their homeland. They have opened their doors and hearts to give sanctuary to those escaping across borders, mostly women, children and the elderly.

One such Moravian congregation in Czech Republic is refurbishing a vacant hotel in their possession in order to house 15 families. Other Moravian congregations in Europe are welcoming families into their homes and putting them up in apartments.

The need within Ukraine is also great. Millions of people are internally displaced and living without adequate food, water and other necessities. Many service agencies are on the ground in Ukraine to help care for those who remain.

The situation in Ukraine is fluid and will have long lasting effects. 100% of donations made to Ukraine through CMC will go towards an area of most need as determined in conjunction with the Moravian Board of World Mission.

TO DONATE: Please mark all donations: "CMC Mission Month"

Cheque Payable to
Christ Moravian Church
600 Acadia Drive, SE
Calgary, AB T2J 0B8

e-Transfer
Email: donatecmc@nucleus.com
Include name and address for tax receipt purposes

MUSIC for MISSION CONCERT: CMC Mission Month will culminate at the end of the month with a video concert featuring many of our talented vocalists and musicians. Stay tuned for more details.

Focus on Luke 19:28–40; 23:1–49

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Jae Won Lee

Would turning around the way empires and their collaborators serve mammon rather than God be a reason to praise God and hail Jesus as a king who makes for peace? The acclamation of peace in heaven and glory in the highest should not be read only in terms of eschatology, especially for people who pray for God’s kingdom to come, as in Luke 11:2. Rather, inasmuch as Jerusalem is the point of contact between heaven and earth, affirming peace in heaven should anticipate pouring out peace on earth.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” George W. Stroup

In some forms of contemporary theology, Jesus serves as an example, perhaps even *the* example, of what we already believe about freedom and peace. When this happens, it is our prior notions of freedom and peace that tell us who Jesus is, and Jesus becomes captive to our ideologies. In the Gospels, however, Jesus stands in judgment of all our ideologies. His kingdom is not simply a verification of what we think God’s kingdom should be, as Peter discovered in Mark 8:31–33. It is Jesus, as he is given to us in the Gospels, who shows us what freedom truly is (Gal. 5:1) and what, or who, peace really is (Eph. 2:17–22).

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” William G. Carter

Halfway down the Mount of Olives, there is a small chapel in the shape of a teardrop. It is called Dominus Fleuit (Latin for “the Lord weeps”). It is the traditional location where Jesus wept over the city. Pilgrims gather there to share the Eucharist as they move toward Jerusalem. As they view a city still divided, with people of different faiths squabbling over the same real estate, they pass the bread to the words, “This is my body, broken for you.” Then they share the cup of wine, saying, “This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for the forgiveness of sins.” It is a moment to recall the great cost of reconciliation, as God sent Jesus into the world to bring all back to God’s powerful love.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

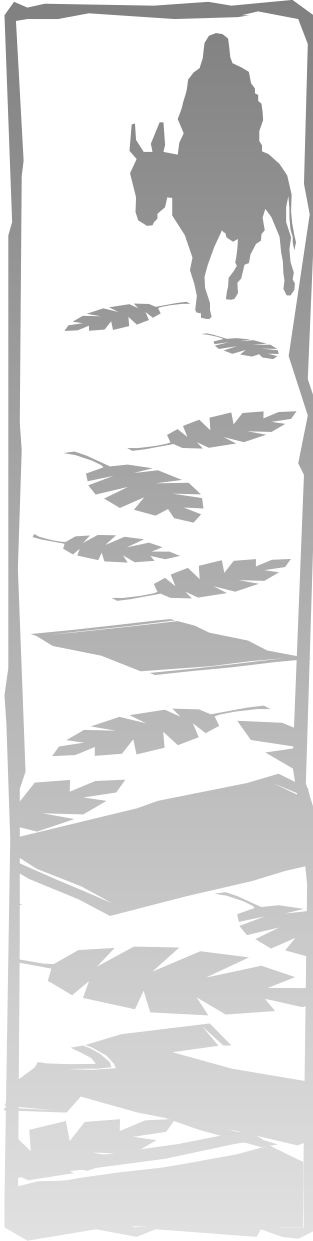
H. Stephen Shoemaker

We have Jesus driving the money changers from the temple and saying, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer’; but you have made it a den of robbers.” Jesus’ quotation from Jeremiah makes clear his challenge to the nation’s leadership: a call for righteousness and justice. A pondering of Jeremiah 7:3–11 is essential. Every day, as Jesus taught in the temple, religious leaders kept trying to find a way to kill him, but the people who heard him were “spellbound” (v. 48). The crowds that sang and waved palms and laid their garments are still with him, still part of the kingdom movement Jesus brought. Even us.

April 10, 2022
What Sort of King?

Adult
Resource Sheet 2

What Sort of King?



The story of Jesus entering Jerusalem echoes Old Testament stories and prophecies about God’s anointed king. The title *Messiah* means “anointed one.” Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem (King David’s center of royal power) from the Mount of Olives, where the Lord God will become king over all the earth (Zechariah 14:4–9). Just as David’s son Solomon rode upon a mule to his throne (1 Kings 1:32–48), Jesus rides on a colt while the people rejoice, in fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9—“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you, triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey!” and “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Psalm 118:26). They spread their cloaks on the road, as people spread their garments before King Jehu (2 Kings 9:11–13).

With these deliberate reenactments of how an anointed king should enter Jerusalem, Jesus proclaims that he is the Messiah, the King of the Jews. The Pharisees try to silence the crowds for fear that the Roman soldiers will violently subdue them, because the triumphant parade resembles an insurrection (Luke 19:39; 23:5). The irony is that Jesus was not that sort of king. He was not riding on a warhorse. He had refused Satan’s offer of absolute dominion (Luke 4:5–8). He did not come to overthrow the Roman Empire’s rule by military might but to announce good news to the poor, release to the captives, and the year of the Lord’s favor (Luke 4:18–19), in fulfillment of Isaiah 58:6 and 61:1–2. Jesus did not come to dominate but to subvert the social and economic structures of the empire. In another irony, the Romans freed the murderer Barabbas (whose name means “son of the father”), a man who really was an insurrectionist (23:18–19), and they crucified Jesus, the Son of the Father, instead. The “daughters of Jerusalem,” who once rejoiced, now mourn (23:28). Things certainly did not turn out as people expected.

The Gospel of Luke uses imperial words such as *basilea* (kingdom), *thronos* (throne), and *exousia* (power, authority) to describe God’s reign. But these words have new meaning. As Mary proclaimed in the Magnificat, the poor and lowly will have status, while the rich and powerful are brought down (Luke 1:47–55).

Jesus was not the Messiah-King that people expected. Jesus confronted the empire, like Moses confronted Pharaoh (Exodus 5–11), but without freeing the people from its rule. He was the Son of David, but he did not restore Israel as a nation. He was a martyr, but he did not defend his actions or make heroic speeches (2 Maccabees 6–7; 4 Maccabees 5–14; Acts 7:1–53). Instead, Jesus came as a “suffering servant” (Isaiah 52:13–53:12), who was afflicted but did not open his mouth, and who was led like a lamb to the slaughter (Isaiah 53:7).

Worship Service Requirements

- Prior to entering the building, all members and visitors must use the health screening checklist below to determine whether or not they should attend or stay home.
- There are no vaccine requirements.
- Masking within the building is required until this restriction is removed at AHS facilities.
- Self-distancing is highly recommended and encouraged at all times.
- Pre-registration is not required.
- Attendance will be taken at the door.
- Entrance is through north door, except for those with mobility issues who may use east door.
- Sanitizing hands at the door is required.
- Proper respiratory etiquette is strongly encouraged.
- Children are to remain with parents at all times.
- Offering plates will be located on a table at the sanctuary entrance.
- Singing and choral readings will take place, with masks on.
- Hugging, shaking hands or engaging in long conversations within the building are discouraged.

Do you have any new onset (or worsening) of the following symptoms?

• Fever	YES	NO
• Cough	YES	NO
• Shortness of breath	YES	NO
• Runny nose	YES	NO
• Sore throat	YES	NO
• Chills	YES	NO
• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
• Nasal congestion	YES	NO
• Feeling unwell / fatigued	YES	NO

• Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea	YES	NO
• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
• Muscle / joint aches	YES	NO
• Headache	YES	NO
• Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
Please stay home if you have answered "YES" to any of the above.		



Moravian Disaster Response To the Ukrainian Crisis March 31, 2022

The Moravian Board of World Mission in North America (BWM) continues to be in conversation with our Moravian partners in Europe to see how we can best help those who are giving refuge to families fleeing the war in Ukraine. Please continue to pray for them.

To date, we have received close to \$100,000, and we thank you for this critical support. We have sent initial funding to the Moravian congregation in Nová Paka, Czech Republic, who is renovating space in a hotel they own to house up to 15 families. They are also hosting a Ukrainian primary school, allowing them set up classes for the children. In addition to this, we have sent a donation to the Czech Moravian Province for them to distribute to other Czech Moravian congregations that are hosting families.

Moravian congregations in Germany are also sheltering refugees, and we have sent monetary support to the Moravian European Continental Province to assist congregations in places like Herrnhut, Königsfeld, Ebersdorf, and Cottbus. The money that we collect will help these congregations provide food, shelter, hygiene products, household essentials, school supplies, and transportation for these families. Through these tangible means, the love of Christ is being shared as these families are also being offered places to worship and Christian community.

For ongoing updates, pictures, and videos, please visit www.moravianmission.org. For further information, contact the Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler at chris@moravianmission.org or 610-868-1732.

Those in the US can send checks to: Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. You may also make your donation online at <http://moravianmission.org/give/> and click on the green "Give" button at the top of the page. Please indicate that your gift is for "Ukraine."

Canadians can send checks to:

Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8

Interac e-Transfer donations may be sent to treasurer@moravian.ca

In the comments section, please mark this donation as "Ukraine" and include your name and address to receive a tax receipt.



The Moravian Church Northern Province Racial Justice Team (RJT) and the Moravian Church Southern Province Moravian Team for Racial, Cultural, and Ethnic Reconciliation (MTR) are sponsoring the seminar, "Road to Racial Justice," presented by Dr. Timothy Berry on May 9, 10, and 12, 7-9:30 pm ET, 6-8:30 pm CT, and 5-7:30 pm MT.

This seminar engages participants in a comprehensive approach to learning about the social constructs of race and will enhance an individual's or congregation's ability to identify and address inequities in communities.

Dr. Timothy Berry is an educator, composer, and performing artist. He is Interim Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs and Equity Initiatives at Minnesota State University Mankato. He holds a Master of Music Education degree with an emphasis in multicultural music from The University of Minnesota. Dr. Berry is an award-winning composer and has edited and published interdisciplinary curriculum. He is a frequent speaker at schools, universities, conferences, businesses, and churches to share his insights and research surrounding race literacy, organizational transformation, and antiracism. <https://timothy-berry.com/performances%2Fworkshops>

The seminar is FREE and open to all. Registrations for this engaging series are due by May 6, 2022. To register, e-mail hstevenson@mcsp.org and provide your name and preferred e-mail address. For questions, contact Sue Koenig at suekoenig@mcnp.org or Betsy Bombick at bbombick@gmail.com,