

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**April 2, 2023 - 9:30 am**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**Bonnie Jacque, Pastor**

*This is our sanctuary, where we come to be with God. As you prepare for worship, please silence your phone.*

**PRELUDE**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**INTROIT**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP.**

Pastor: Who comes this way?

**Right Side: I wonder who is he?**

*Left Side: They say he is the Christ.*

Pastor: That means Messiah,

**Right Side: That means the Anointed One, the Savior, the...**

**All: King**

*Left Side: Who comes this way?*

**Right Side: Is it really him? I want him to beat the Romans and save us from poverty and hunger.**

Pastor: Is he victorious? Is he powerful? Is he scary?

*Left Side: Where is he from Greece? Rome? Jerusalem? Milwaukee?*

**Right Side: They say he comes from Bethlehem and grew up in Nazareth and Galilee.**

Pastor: "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?"

**Right Side: Who comes this way?**

*Left Side: Who is he? Why are we cheering him on? Is he good or bad? He must be rich to get such praise.*

Pastor: Stop waving that branch in my face. Move away! Let me see around this parade. Put me on your shoulders. I need a higher glimpse of him. I just want to see his face and then I will know who he is, let me see...

**Right Side: Wait!**

*Left Side: Wait!*

**Right Side: It is only a man.**

*Left Side: And he is just on a donkey, no conquering steed.*

Pastor: It is only a man, what is so great about him?

**Right Side: Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!**

*Left Side: Hosanna means "save us" and "we pray"*

Pastor: But who is this man that will save us?

**All: Who comes this way? Hosanna!**

**\*OPENING PRAYER** The story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, tells us that after his celebrated arrival, he went into the Temple and looked around at everything. As we gather here for worship today may it be with a sense that Jesus has walked in and is looking around. May our eyes be open to see Him, may our hearts be ready to be seen by Him, may our worship be worthy of His presence, and may we be transformed so that we see the world through His eyes. Amen.

**\*HYMN** Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

#215

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

One: When we feel so negative about ourselves, and we do not hear the acceptance of those who care about us.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord.**

One: When our sense of isolation blocks out our awareness of your abiding love.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord.**

One: When we feel so guilty, we cannot hear your forgiveness and find new life.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord. Amen. The good news is that we are accepted and affirmed by God as we are.**

One: The good news is that we are not strangers to ourselves or to one another.

**ALL: We are God's children, members of one body. Our sins are forgiven. We have been brought into new life.**



**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** Bountiful God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**\*HYMN** Filled with Excitement #214

## **BENEDICTION**

\*Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

Congregational Response to each prayer request is: **Your prayer is our prayer. Your joy is our joy.**

**Communion** is open to all, including children with parent's approval. We serve wine in the outer rings and juice in the middle. We offer a gluten free wafer for those with gluten intolerance or need a gluten-free diet.

Resources: Opening prayer written by Ann Siddall and posted on the **Stillpoint Spirituality Centre** website. <https://stillpointsa.org.au/> Rev. Dr. Derek Weber, umcdiscipleship.org

## **REMINDERS**

- 04/06 Bible Study at 1 pm
- 04/06 Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service at 7 pm
- 04/09 Easter Sunday at 9:30
- 04/13 Bible Study
- 04/16 Congregational Meeting following worship
- 04/17 Council Meeting at 6 pm
- 04/20 Women's Guild at noon
- 04/29 SE Assoc. Annual Meeting 9 am Grafton
- 04/29 Spring Clean Up 8-11 am

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** following worship on April 16<sup>th</sup> regarding payment of the solar panels.

**SE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING** Pastor Bonnie will be attending and we are encouraged to include one additional representative. Speak to Pastor Bonnie if you are interested.

**Rural Ministry Conference** Pastor Bonnie (and Jeff) will be attending the Rural Ministry Conference in Dubuque, Iowa from April 16 to the 18<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Charmaine Duehring in an emergency.

**Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits:** Marilyn Dieball, Ron Smith, Beulah Timm, Richard Nell, Marvin Schlafer, and Lucy Krapfl.

Pastor Bonnie's e-mail address is: [saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com)

Pastor Bonnie's phone number is: 262-416-5094.

**There are no birthdays or anniversaries this coming week.**

<b>Liturgist for this Sunday</b>	Brett Miller
<b>Liturgist for next Sunday</b>	Steve Manuell
<b>Greeters for this Sunday</b>	Needed
<b>Greeters for next Sunday</b>	Needed

*Following service, you are invited for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.*