

April 11, 2025



Why Holy Week?

I remember when I was young the excitement of Easter. First there was Palm Sunday with all the pomp and circumstance

commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem: waving the palm branches, processing with the choir, shouting Hosannas and singing All Glory Laud and Honor. It was easy to get swept up in the excitement of the season. Then, just a short week later we were gathered again with our new spring outfits, amidst more fanfare and trumpets, singing Christ the Lord is Risen Today and saying "He is risen, He is risen indeed!"

Of course even at a young age, I knew there was more to the story, more to Holy Week than Palm Sunday and Easter Morning. During that week Jesus had died a terrible death; it was part of the story. But, in light of Jesus' resurrection, knowing how the story goes, do we need to walk through the darkness of this week between Palm Sunday and Easter? Is there anything to be gained by participating in Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday when we know the tomb is empty? In other words why Holy Week?

I wonder if we can fully understand the story of Easter much less the story of Jesus without Holy Week? Imagine what those days were like for the people in Jerusalem. Sam Wells, in his Palm Sunday message from 2014, does a great job of helping us to better understand the historical significance of what transpired that week. He explains what Jesus' bold actions and poignant words might have meant to all the different special interest groups of His day. You can read Dr. Wells sermon on pg 2. Jesus still had lessons to teach that week, to the Romans, the religious leaders, the rebels, the crowd, His followers and the disciples. It is during this week that Jesus makes clear and lives out His thoughts on power, authority, leadership and transformation.

As you read through Dr. Wells sermon and as you finish reading the gospel stories, I wonder where do you fit in this story? What lessons does Jesus have for you as you journey with Him from Palm Sunday to Easter? Dr. Wells reminds us that we are part of this story too, Like the people of Jesus day, we also have to decide what to do about this Jesus. "The passion account challenges us to choose whether to become disciples or simply fade away into the crowd. It asks us to step out of our assumptions about power – the power that lives in the hands of the government, in the hearts of religious leaders, or in the minds of the terrorists. It invites us to gather around the true power in the universe, made present in the fragile form of Jesus Christ – a power that transforms the whole world, and can transform even us."

So why Holy Week? Because there is more to the story than just palm branches and empty tombs. You are part of this story. Jesus still has lessons for us to learn. Join us for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, gather around the true power of Jesus and be transformed.



April 13th - 9:30 AM

As we begin Holy Week, join us for our Palm Sunday service where we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"
Who is this? Come and see.



April 17th - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

We will engage in a service of foot washing and communion as we observe Jesus' final night with his disciples.



April 18th - 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Join us for a service of readings, prayer and music. Come contemplate the killing of Jesus and his sacrifice for us and all the world.



April 19th - 5:00 - 7:45 PM

Take time to sit in the pain, discomfort and uncertainty of Jesus' death. We often run through life without looking into the difficult places. These few hours give us space to imagine what it might have been like to experience Jesus' death.



April 19th - 8:00 - 9:30 PM

This worship service explores the story of God. As we gather, we wonder what will come of the death of Jesus;

we wonder where God is; we wonder what happens now? This service builds from the beginning of time through the power of the resurrection. Pastor Greg has led this type of service in previous places of ministry, it is a powerful service and one we hope you will attend.



April 20th - 9:30 AM

Join us Sunday morning as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. After worship we will have a time of fellowship with some light snacks and an egg hunt for the kids and students.



Matthew 13:44-46

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