



Shepherd's Voice



A Weekly Publication of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

2650 NW Highland Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

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Rev. Joseph Hughes, Pastor

Date: April 9, 2017

Weekly Schedule

Recurring Events

SUNDAYS

- 9:00am Holy Communion
- 10:15am Fellowship
- 10:30am Multi-Generational Sunday School
- 3:00pm Bethel Growth Group (2nd & 4th Sun.)
- 7:00pm Damascus Growth Group (2nd & 4th Sun.)
- 6:30pm Nazareth Growth Group (per group)

Monday

- 10:00am Fellowship Text Study
- 3:15pm to 5:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6pm Car Club Meeting (4th Monday)

Tuesday

- 6:30pm 4-H Garden Gnome Meeting (4th Tues.)
- 3:00pm to 5:45pm Violin Lessons
- 6:00pm Deacon Meeting (1st Tues.)
- 7:00pm MTL & Elder Meeting (1st Tues.)

Wednesday

- 11:30am Fellowship Luncheon (2nd Wednesday, location varies)
- 10:00am Women on Wednesday (1st & 3rd Wed.)
- 2:00pm to 6:15pm Violin Lessons
- 7:00pm Council Meeting (2nd Wednesdays)

Thursday

- 9:30am Emmaus Growth Group (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
- 10:30am Park Place Devotions
- 2:15pm to 5:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting (1st & 3rd Thurs.)

Friday

- Office Closed
- 12:45pm to 4:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6:30pm DIGG Growth Group (1st & 3rd Fri.)

Saturday

- Office Closed

Reminders

April 4th

- Deaconess Meeting
- MTL/Elder Meeting

April 5th

- Lent Soup Supper & Service

April 9th

- Palm Sunday Beginning of Holy Week

April 11th

- 11:00am PEO Meeting

April 12th

- 7:00pm Council Meeting

April 13th

- 7:00pm Holy (Maundy) Thursday

April 14th

- 7:00pm Good Friday & Stripping of Altar





PASTOR'S POST

Jesus: below expectations?

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

April 9, 2017

Dear friends in Christ:

For the past five weeks I have been saying that we are on a journey "toward the decisive events of Holy Week." Well, this is it. We are there. This is Palm Sunday, the Sunday of the Passion, a day that recalls the triumphal entry of Jesus into the holy city of Jerusalem, and the one Sunday in the church year that I can honestly invite you to church and say that you won't have to listen to a sermon.

We'll hear the story from the 12th chapter of John's Gospel. Soon after Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead the crowds he has attracted gather for a triumphal procession of the returning king to the royal city. Their minds are full of visions of King David and

the great kings of the Old Testament who processed into the city with the victorious armies – some times. The people lay their robes on the ground to create a makeshift red carpet. They wave palm branches in the air to welcome the king.

But wait! Something is very different about this returning king. He is Jesus of Nazareth, a humble carpenter. He has nevertheless performed great signs: water into wine, crossed social boundaries to reveal his true identity to a Samaritan woman at a well, giving sight to a man born blind, and then raising the dead man Lazarus who had been in the tomb four days.

He isn't mounted on a powerful stallion, and is not wielding a mighty sword. He has not come to slay the enemy, but to call us to love our enemies and to "turn the other cheek." He has come riding on a burrow, humble, and his weapon of war is the Word of God. Yes, this Jesus is a different sort of king than the people of Israel have ever seen.

And soon the triumphant shouts of Hosanna are muted. This isn't turning out the way they had hoped. Jesus is not meeting expectations. And without too much encouragement their shouts of "Hosanna" become cries for death: "Crucify him!" As I said you won't have to listen to a sermon about this. This Sunday the church lets the Gospel writers speak for themselves. We will hear the story of the Passion according to St. Matthew in full read from a contemporary version of the Bible called "The Message" by Eugene Peterson.

During the years I worked for the university as "Director of Gift Development" (fund raiser) I sat through a number of annual reviews of my performance. There were three possible evaluations: "above expectations," "meets expectations," and "below expectations." Most of us who have worked in the "real world" have sat through similar performance reviews. Sometimes they are difficult.

If the people of Jerusalem, from the chief priests, to the humblest beggars on the streets, were to evaluate Jesus' performance, I suppose they would have said that he performed "below expectations." When he is nailed to the cross because of this some even say, "He saved others, let him save himself, if he is the Christ the Son of

God!" How those words must have stung our Lord as he was hanging their pouring out his very life blood in utter anguish for the sin of the world.

Because of our sinful nature people still want a god who will perform according to their expectations. Those who reject the church and the Christian faith see may Jesus as a failure. Who needs a savior who gets himself crucified?

But rejecting the Gospel only makes sense if you have made yourself your own god, and believe you owe no one anything. There really is no such thing as an atheist. Either God is God, or you have come to believe in something or someone else, which the Bible calls idolatry.

The Bible teaches us that every human being was created to honor and love the God who first loved us, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. May God use the passion story of Jesus' suffering death and resurrection to give new sight and new life to everyone that we may at last embrace Jesus is our King.

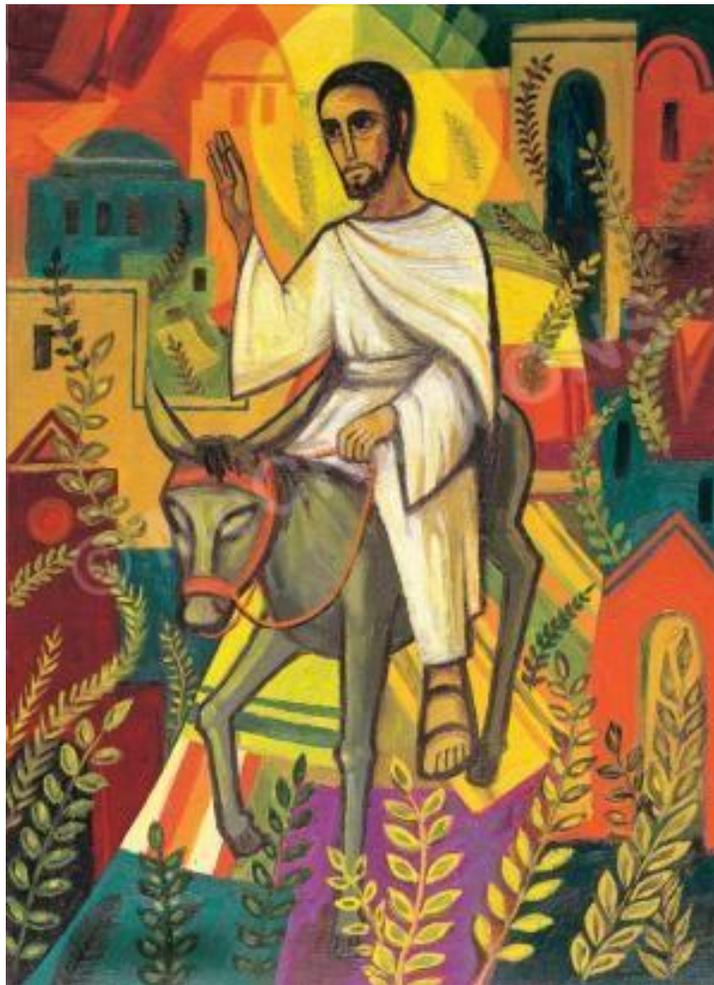
In Christ,

Pastor Joe Hughes

Voice & text: 217-898-9063

Email: j_w_hughes@hotmail.com

Image above: *Jesus enters Jerusalem*, block print by Sadao Watanabe, 1913-1996





HOLY WEEK

April 9	9:00 AM	Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday	
April 13	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday	Lord, Keep us Steadfast in our Failures Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar
April 14	7:00 PM	Good Friday	Lord, Keep us Steadfast in our Loneliness and Dying
April 16	9:00 AM	EASTER SUNDAY	Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord

Potluck Easter Brunch follows the service

OUR BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

SYLLABUS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS in *MATTHEW, THE GOSPEL OF IDENTITY* February–May 2017

The Biblical Equipping Ministry Team is challenging everyone in at Shepherd of the Valley to read and study the Gospel of Matthew using Michael Card's book *Matthew, the Gospel of Identity*. Card argues that Matthew's first hearers (intended audience) were Jewish people who accepted Jesus as the messiah (Christ) and were probably living in or from Galilee in the time after Jesus' death and resurrection. Galilee was a land in turmoil. The Romans had destroyed the Jerusalem temple and many Jewish freedom fighters had died in the wars with the Roman occupation forces.

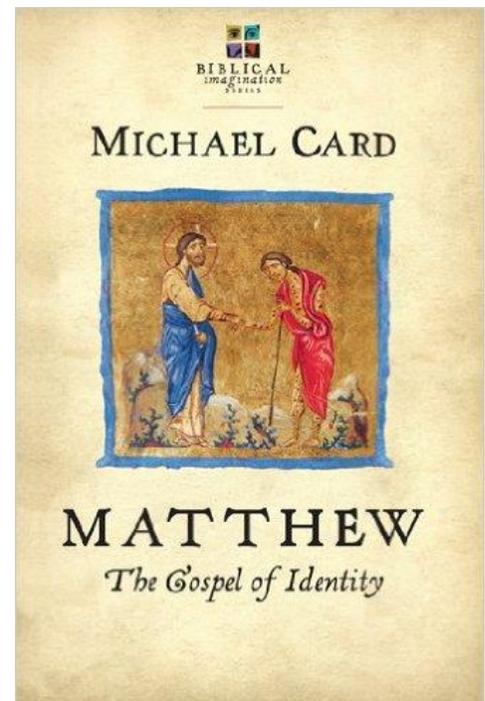
Not all Jews accepted that Jesus was the promised Messiah, as is obvious from the story of Jesus' passion and death. Those who did were a relatively small group that at first tried to blend in with those who did not. By the time Matthew's Gospel was in written form these Jewish Christians were being "stripped of their Jewish identity," expelled from synagogues and shunned by main line Judaism, says Michael Card.

The first listeners of the Gospel of Matthew may have been living that experience, propelling them to ask the question, "Who am I, really?" In Matthew Jesus redefines the identity of his followers in light of His own identity and Immanuel, Go with us." In Him they are fishers of people, inviting the poor, sinful and unclean to enter the new kingdom on Jesus' authority, by "following Jesus," and ultimately sent into the world to "make disciples of all nations." (Card, pp 20-21).

What can we discover about what it means to be called to follow Jesus as a "priesthood of believers" from the Gospel of Matthew? How does God call us to embrace a new identity as followers of Jesus in the world today? Join the lively conversation Sundays, 10:30-11:30 AM.

Updated Syllabus – Subject to Change

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Bible</i>
4/9	Card, pp. 153-181	(Matthew 14-16)
4/16	Easter Sunday – no class	
4/23	Card, pp. 182-206	(Matthew 17-20)
4/30	Quarterly voters' meeting – no class	
5/7	Card, pp. 207-222	(Matthew 21-23)
5/14	Card, pp. 223-246	(Matthew 24-25)
5/21	Card, pp. 247-252)	(Matthew 26-28)



LECTIONARY BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP:



YOU CAN HELP SHAPE SUNDAY'S MESSAGE!

Everyone is welcome to participate in Monday **Fellowship Bible Studies, 10:00-11:30**. We read, learn about, and discuss the Bible readings for the coming Sunday. These important discussions help to shape pastor's message on the following Sundays, as well as provide a variety of ways you can get more out of your worship experience by sharing insights and questions raised during class. Want more information? Contact Pastor Joe (217-898-9063). Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome. **NOTE that because of conferences pastor is attending Fellowship Bible Study will NOT meet January 16th and 23rd.**

April 9, 2017	Palm Sunday, <i>Sunday of the Passion</i>	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Isaiah 50:4-9a 118:19-29 <i>or</i> 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 John 12:12-19 (<i>Palm S. procession</i>) & Matthew 26:1-27:66 <i>or</i> Matthew 27:11-66 <i>or</i> John 12:20-43
April 13, 2017	Holy Maundy Thursday	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Exodus 24:3-11 <i>or</i> Exodus 12:1-14 116:12-19 Hebrews 9:11-22 <i>or</i> 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Matthew 26:17-30 <i>or</i> John 13:1-17, 31b-35
April 14, 2017	Good Friday	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Isaiah 52:13-53:12 22 <i>or</i> 31 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1-19:42 <i>or</i> John 19:17-30
April 16, 2017	Resurrection of our Lord <i>Easter Sunday</i>	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Acts 10:34-43 <i>or</i> Jeremiah 31:1-6 16 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10
April 23, 2017	2 nd Sunday in Easter	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Acts 5:29-42 148 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31
April 30, 2017	3 rd Sunday in Easter	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 116:1-14 1 Peter 1:17-25 Luke 24:13-35

LUTHERFEST 2017 IN REVIEW

Thanks to 253 enthusiastic guests, generous sponsors, a terrific planning team, supportive beer and cheese vendors, OSU speakers representing fermentation science and the on-campus creamery, student leaders, and lots of volunteers, Lutherfest 2017 was a great success. We raised almost \$10,000 for Luther House programming in 2017. A traveling trophy was awarded to Our Saviour's Lutheran (Lebanon) as the congregation with the largest contingent of guests present. Nine gift baskets were presented to lucky ticket holders. The planning team is already looking ahead and has chosen Sunday, February 25, 2018, as the likely – but tentative – date for Lutherfest 2018. Save the date, get your tastebuds ready, and plan to join the fun.

LUTHERGARTEN PROJECT

Luther House students and youth from Grace Lutheran (Corvallis) have decided to join forces and raise enough money (500€) to plant a commemorative tree in Wittenberg, Germany, at the Lutheran World Federation's Luthergarten <http://www.luthergarten.de/welcome.html> in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It will be planted April 18. Names of both ministries will appear on the plaque that identifies "our" tree. A scripture chosen by our groups will also appear on the plaque: "For you shall go forth in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands" (Isaiah 55:12). Our very own Markus Woltjer will visit the tree this summer and take pictures to send our way when he travels to see his grandparents who live in Wittenberg. A condition of the tree planting in Wittenberg is that we plant one or more trees in Corvallis to reinforce the Reformation celebration locally. Plans are underway to select a tree and location for this purpose. Our fundraiser is the annual Easter Breakfast, April 16, 9:30-11:00 in Grace's Ronnenkamp Hall. All donations will help us reach our goal. They'll be supplemented with Thrivent Action Team dollars to offset expenses for the breakfast. Please join us for breakfast and help us reach our goal.

CALL COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK

A team of six people – Mark Bringman, Erin Radniecki, Frank Davis, Sandi Phibbs, Chris Sims, and Kelly Cooper – has been named to serve as the Call Committee that will search for Pr. Jim's successor. They've already had a couple organizational meetings and received paperwork for prospective candidates. Please keep them in your prayers as they sift through candidate information, assess the needs and opportunities for pastoral leadership at Luther House, and eventually select a person who will take this ministry into its next chapter.

LUTHER HOUSE MONTH AT GRACE

Spring always means that Luther House is featured during adult education hour at Grace Lutheran Church, Corvallis. This year is no different, except it's Pr. Jim's last chance to lead the class as campus pastor. In an effort to think together out loud about the scope of his ministry at Luther House since 1995, he's offering a three-part series under the broad title "So, What *Have* I Been Doing for 22 Years?" Each week he'll answer that question by focusing on a distinct theme – "Providing Hospitality" (April 23), "Building Community" (April 30), and "Inspiring Service" (May 7). You're invited to join the journey and be part of the conversation as he reflects on ministry as it's been and imagines ministry as it might be. It's free and open to the public. All classes meet in the Ronnenkamp Hall, 9:45-10:45.

Staff & Lay Leaders	
Pastor	Joseph Hughes
Office Manager	Callie Santora
Musician	Lisa Boylan
President	Bill Chambers
Secretary	Gail Millimaki
Treasurer	Debi Anderson
Property Chair	Bill Randall
PR Coordinator	Sandy Bell
Elders	Peter Klammer Jeff Hintzman (elect) Dennis Anderson (elect)
Ministry Team Leaders	Lisa Boylan, <i>Worship & Prayer</i> Jennifer Klammer, <i>Community Building & Care</i> Ray Hart, <i>Missional Outreach</i> Jay McDougal, <i>Biblical Equipping</i>
Deaconesses	Donna Durbin Sandy Nash OPEN

Lay Ministry April 9

Greeter:

Richard Hlavinka

Acolyte:

Kari Dort

Reader:

Colleen Fisher

Sound & Slides:

Jeff Hintzman

Ushers:

Fernando Henriques, Katy Trautman,
Richard Hlavinka, Bruce Havranek

Communion:

Jeff Hintzman & Dennis Anderson

Refreshments:

Alison Hintzman & Ellen Schmidt

Musician:

Lisa Boylan

Lay Ministry April 16

Greeter:

Karen Inman & Bobby Webb

Acolyte:

Caroline Hintzman

Reader:

Jim Dort

Sound & Slides:

Ray Hart

Ushers:

Fernando Henriques, Katy Trautman,
Richard Hlavinka, Bruce Havranek

Communion:

Jeff Hintzman & Dennis Anderson

Refreshments:

Donna Durbin & EASTER POTLUCK

Musician:

Lisa Boylan or Ann Capps



Papa's Pizza



5:30pm

Pizza and Banjo Music!

Come early and join others for entertainment, food, and fellowship!

Every third Thursday you can enjoy this event.

Talk to Karen Inman or Bobby Webb if you would like specifics!

WANTED FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE

A flat screen monitor with a 12 to 16 inch screen. This will be part of a system that permits the secretary to view persons wishing to enter either the office door or the fellowship door during the times the doors are locked.

Husbands and Wives. It has been said that the greatest gift you can give your children is two parents very much in love with each other. Polish up this gift and put a bow on it at a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. You deserve the best and your children need to see you reaching for it. For more information visit our website at www.GodLovesMarriage.org or contact Carl & Dallas Anne Presley, carl.presley@comcast.net. Upcoming date in Southwest Washington - Oregon: May 19-21.



March & April Birthdays:

Robert Durbin 4/3, Dianna Hart 4/10, Brad Boylan 4/12, Jack Barrow 4/17, Glen Schmidt 4/17, Bruce Havranek 4/19, Fred Taft 4/20, Fernando Henriques 4/23, Bill Heller 4/26, Tracy McDougal 4/28, Gail Millimaki 4/30

April Anniversaries:

Robert & Marie Mueller 4/27



We need more individuals who are willing to be counters of Sunday Contributions!



Please talk with Debi Anderson to assist in this area.

Easter Flowers for the Altar

Donations can be made to the church office with indication on your envelope or check as "Easter Altar Flowers" or talk with Donna Pompe (head of the Altar Guild).



Set-up & Clean-up for Easter Potluck

We are going to need lots of assistance getting the Fellowship Hall ready for Easter Potluck and assistance with clean-up after the event.

Please see the sign-up on the Sanctuary Bulletin Board.





April 2017

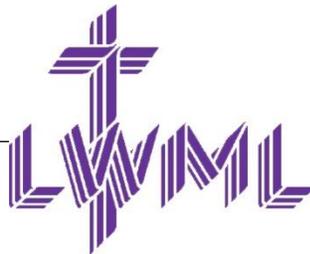


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1. 9:00-12:00 Easter Clean-up outside the Church
2. 9:00a Holy Communion 10:30a Multi-Gen	3. 10:00a Text Study 3:15p Violin Lessons	4. 3:00p Violin Lessons 6:30p Deacon Meeting 7:30p MTL/Elder Meeting	5. 10:00a Women on Wed. 2:00p Violin Lessons 7:00p Lent Service	6. 9:30a Emmaus GG 10:30a Park Place Devo 2:15p Violin Lessons 6:30p Girl Scouts in Kitchen	7. 12:45p Violin Lessons 6:30p DIGG	8.
9. Palm Sunday 9:00a Holy Communion 10:30a Multi-Gen 3:00pm Bethel GG 6:30pm Nazareth GG 7:00pm Damascus GG	10. 10:00a Text Study 3:15p Violin Lessons	11. 11:00a PEO Meeting 3:00p Violin Lessons	12. 2:00p Violin Lessons	13. 9:30a Emmaus GG 10:30a Park Place Devo 2:15p Violin Lessons 7:00p Maundy Thursday Service	14. 12:45p Violin Lessons 7:00p Good Friday Service <i>No outside groups</i>	15. <i>No outside groups</i>
16. Easter Sunday 9:00a Holy Communion Easter Brunch	17. 10:00a Text Study 3:15p Violin Lessons	18. 3:00p Violin Lessons	19. 10:00a Women on Wed. 2:00p Violin Lessons	20. 9:30a Emmaus GG 10:30a Park Place Devo 2:15p Violin Lessons 6:30p Girl Scouts in Kitchen	21. 12:45p Violin Lessons 6:30p DIGG	22.
23. 9:00a Holy Communion 10:30a Multi-Gen 3:00pm Bethel GG 6:30pm Nazareth GG 7:00pm Damascus GG	24. 10:00a Text Study 11:45a Worship Plan Mtg 3:15p Violin Lessons 6:00p Classic Car Club	25. 11:00a-3:00p PEO Meeting 3:00p Violin Lessons	26. 2:00p Violin Lessons	27. 10:30a Park Place Devo 2:15p Violin Lessons	28. 12:45p Violin Lessons	29.
30. 9:00a Holy Communion 10:30a Multi-Gen						

Pastors Spring Conference-Pastor out of office

April Lay Ministry Calendar

Date	Sunday, April 9	Sunday, April 16	Sunday, April 23	Sunday, April 30
Greeters	Richard Hlavinka	Karen Inman & Bobby Webb	Peter & Jennifer Klammer	Bud & Char Reger
Acolyte	Kari Dort	Caroline Hintzman	Gabriel Havranek	Ellie Hintzman
Reader	Colleen Fisher	Jim Dort	Donna Durbin	Colleen Fisher
Sound & Slide Tech	Jeff Hintzman	Ray Hart	Jay McDougal	Peter Klammer
Ushers	Fernando Henriques Katy Trautman Richard Hlavinka Bruce Havranek			
Communion Asst.	Jeff Hintzman & Dennis Anderson			
Fellowship	Alison Hintzman Ellen Schmidt	Donna Durbin EASTER POTLUCK	Char Reger Jennifer Klammer	Tracy McDougal Gail Millimaki
Altar Care	Sandy Nash	Sandy Nash	Sandy Nash	Sandy Nash



LWML President Patti Ross

would like we all share a prayer of Thanksgiving ---

the Mission Goal of \$2 million has been reached for the 2015-2017 biennium.

Remember:

The LWML Zone Rally at

Peace Lutheran Church

on

Saturday April 22nd