

## Mountain View Church ... Holy Week Services

The week between Palm Sunday and Easter is a very special week in the life of the church around the world. At Mountain View we want to seize the opportunity to remember what happened between Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday because the events of that week shape the gospel good news that we orient our lives around at Mountain View. My great hope is that we could thoughtfully reflect on the passion and redeeming work of the LORD JESUS by recalling what is reported about the final days of His earthly life and ministry.

I encourage you to come to the church on some day during Holy Week and walk through the Journey Through Jerusalem that our children's ministry coordinator has set up at the back of the worship center. The display is an interactive, educational journey to remind us of Jesus and His steps through that final week.

**Palm Sunday, March 25, at 10:15 AM, we will remember that triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem – a day that was both sweet and sour.** I will be teaching that morning from Luke 19:41-44, a poignant Palm Sunday passage that gives us an intimate look into the heart of Jesus on that day. Come into the worship center early and prepare your hearts to meet with the LORD as we follow Jesus through that first Palm Sunday.

**Maundy Thursday evening, March 29, at 6:30 PM, we will do a Maundy Thursday remembrance.** It was on that Thursday evening where Jesus established the Lord's Supper in an upper room, and did some teaching that we now refer to as "The Upper Room Discourse" (John 13-17). It was also late that night that He agonized in Gethsemane. During this special service we plan to look ahead to the cross on Friday, and we plan to share together around the Lord's Table. We are a fellowship that affirms that the message of the cross is at the heart of the gospel message we embrace and announce. **The term "Maundy" comes from the Latin, "mandatum" which refers to the mandate that Jesus gave His disciples that evening.** In John 13:34 Jesus said, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." The tone of this service is going to be meditative and reflective as we remember the passion of Jesus.

**Good Friday, March 30, Noon to 3 PM,** the worship center will be open for anyone who wants to reflect on the cross. There is not a planned service, but rather quiet space for reflection and meditation on the indescribable love of Jesus displayed on the stage of history at the cross. Devotional guides will be available with a passage of Scripture and a brief devotional thought related to the cross and Christ's passion. It was at noon on that Friday that the sky became dark, and about 3 PM, Jesus breathed His last. Seize the opportunity to quietly remember.

**Sunday, April 1, 10:15 AM, come and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!** This is going to be a celebrative service with music and media and a message taken from I Peter 1:3-9. The theme of the service is that hope is alive – with the resurrection of Jesus, we have a living hope we can build our lives around. I want to encourage you to invite family members and friends who do not have a church home to consider joining us for our celebration that day! The resurrection of Jesus is the hinge of history. It is the event in history announcing that death has been defeated, and that hope – living hope – is offered to those who believe Jesus and celebrate His triumph.

**I also encourage you utilize a guide that is being prepared for Holy Week. It accompanies the Journey through Jerusalem at the back of our worship center, but it can be a tool that you use devotionally during Holy Week. Feel free to come by the church and pick up a copy.**

**Pastor Tim Haughen**