



March 21, 2018

INVITATION TO HOLY WEEK

Life moved quickly that week. On the Sunday before Passover, Jesus came to the city of Jerusalem, and the disciples and crowds waved palms and laid them on the ground for the procession of Jesus. On Thursday, Jesus shared the Passover meal, and gave new meaning to the breaking of bread and the pouring of wine that they shared. By Friday, Jesus had been arrested, tried, and condemned to die by crucifixion. Jesus was crucified in the morning, and he died six hours later. His body was laid in a tomb before sunset marked the beginning of the Sabbath rest of Saturday.

On Sunday morning, the tomb was empty.

The worship services of Holy Week are an invitation to both remember and re-enact these holy days. I invite you to share them with us at the Hills Church. And I encourage you to invite friends to worship with you.

Palm Sunday, March 25, 10:00 a.m. Children will lead the Palm Processional at the beginning of worship, and my sermon will focus on the significance of the Palm Processional in light of what Jesus says to Pilate in the early hours of Friday morning.

Maundy Thursday, March 29, 8:00 p.m. In the sanctuary, we share communion on the night of the last supper, and then readers and the choir remember the path that takes Jesus from sharing bread to his arrest and crucifixion, as the shadows deepen in the sanctuary.

Good Friday, March 30, Noon. A simple service at noon ends before 1:00 p.m., and then all are welcomed to continue to keep vigil until 3:00. The sanctuary is open for prayer and vigil during these hours, and a closing liturgy at 2:45 p.m. brings an end to the vigil.

Easter Sunday, April 1, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Easter music with the pipe organ, brass, and timpani, captures the joyful exuberance of the resurrection. It is rare for Easter to fall on April Fool's Day, and it is fitting to laugh as the life of God makes foolish the powers of death.

I'll see you in church.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Matt'.

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister