

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 14, 2019

Palms to Passion Sunday

10:30 a.m.

## TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

*As you arrive in the sanctuary, please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.*

**\*those who are comfortable, please stand**

**A NOTE ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE:** Recognizing that many of us are busy during the week and aren't always able to make it to mid-week Holy Week services, we've put together a Palms to Passion service for this morning. Using the format of our Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service, we'll follow the Holy Week journey, through music and story. There won't be a sermon or time for announcements, there's no special time for an offering or an affirmation of faith, but instead, the entire service is an experience in the Palms to Passion story. We'd love for you to take a moment and read through the announcements in the bulletin and share your financial offering when the kids are collecting the food offering during the time for growing disciples. But mostly, we'd love for you to take in this experience, to share in the telling of this story, and to be present in the journey of Holy Week.

**PRELUDE** *Lo, He Comes!* Hormon

## OPENING WORDS

**\*HYMN** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* No. 196

**OPENING PRAYER** The Rev. Erin Counihan

**READING** Luke 19:28-40

**ATHEM** *Hosanna We Sing* Bailey  
Chancel Choir

**READING** Luke 19:41-46

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we admit we don't always recognize the things that make for peace. We sometimes miss how you are creating space for peace. And we don't do all we can to work for peace. Forgive us. Help us to recognize all the ways you are calling us to faithfulness and love. AMEN.

Silent Confession  
Assurance of Pardon

**RESPONSE OF PRAISE** (*Cantor sings responses through first, followed by the congregation*)

“As we gather in this place, we have come to seek your face.

May our lives reflect Your grace, as we gather in this place.” (repeat)

**READING** Luke 19:47 – 21:38

**\*HYMN** *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd* No. 200

## TIME FOR GROWING DISCIPLES

(At the conclusion of the Time for Growing Disciples, children ages birth to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade may stay in worship or go to the nursery.)

**READING** Luke 22:1-6

**\*HYMN** *This Is the Night* No. 206

**READING** Luke 22:7-46

**HYMN/PRAYER** *Stay with Me* No. 204

**READING** Luke 22:47-53

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *What Wondrous Love Is This* arr. Althouse  
Valery Welch, trumpet

**READING** Luke 22:63 – 23:25

**\*HYMN** *My Song Is Love Unknown* No. 209  
**READING** Luke 23:26-43  
**\*HYMN** *Ah, Holy Jesus* No. 218  
**READING** Luke 23:44-49  
**SPECIAL MUSIC** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Schuster  
Valery Welch, trumpet  
**\*BENEDICTION**

## *Oak Hill Presbyterian Church*



Artwork on cover by  
Lucie Crittenden

**Palms to Passion Sunday**  
**April 14, 2019**

---

**Oak Hill Presbyterian Church**  
4111 Connecticut • St. Louis, MO 63116 • (314) 664-5525  
office@oakhillpcusa.org (office)  
www.oakhillpcusa.org

## Worship Notes:

### Between hosanna and hallelujah

The question is frequently asked, Why combine the passion and the palms?

First, it is in accord with historical tradition. Since at least the fourth century, the focus on the first day of Holy Week, or Great Week, has been the passion of Christ. After a palm processional, a Gospel passion narrative has been read. Western churches have kept the first day of Holy Week by concentrating on both the glory and the passion of Christ, recalling both the passion and the palms....

Pastoral values result from combining the passion and the palms. Many people simply do not attend worship on Good Friday. The result is that, for them, there is a distortion in the story. A story that skips from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to Jesus' resurrection from the dead evades the question, What happened in between? If we leap from Palm Sunday's "Hosannas" to Easter Day's "Hallelujahs" we overlook the pivotal event of Christ's suffering and death on the cross. The journey to Jerusalem has the cross as its goal, and the cross needs to be kept in sight even during the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Where the long tradition of reading the whole passion narrative on Passion/Palm Sunday is appropriated, congregations have found the value of hearing the entire passion story....

The most important reason for combining the passion and the psalms is the relationship between the death and the resurrection of Jesus. To understand the resurrection, we must contemplate the passion of Jesus. Long, careful meditation upon the mystery of the cross must precede the glorious message of Easter.

On the one hand, an *oversimplified theology of glory* can *undervalue* death by implying that it is merely a stepping-stone on the path to resurrection. Therefore, in order to experience resurrection, one simply dies, and on dying will automatically ascend from the grave to glory. On the other hand, an *oversimplified theology of the cross* can *overvalue* death as a "work," by implying that resurrection is merely a consequence of the passion; therefore, if one suffers and dies for the faith, one will have earned resurrection. Instead, the cross *and* resurrection must be held together theologically. The extent to which we understand the resurrection of Jesus will be determined by our understanding of his passion.

Thus, the palm procession with ringing Hosannas symbolically foreshadows the Hallelujahs of God's promised future when the risen Jesus will lead his people into a new Jerusalem. Interwoven with such liturgical experiences are the stories of the passion of Christ. Thus, the eight-day week from Passion/Palm Sunday to Easter Day is framed by resurrection and death on one side, and death and resurrection on the other.

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship*

## Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

Rev. Erin Counihan, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers, Parish Associate

Mrs. Susan Brown, Minister of Music

Ms. Annie Girresch, Director, AMEN St. Louis

Ms. Carole Adams, Secretary

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 noon in writing.

### ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

April 14, 2019

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast in the Large Assembly Room
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	Following Worship	Time of Fellowship (and snacks)
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Pause
		<b>OAK HILL NEWS DEADLINE</b>
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	SSPCU Meeting in the Faith and Fellowship Room
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	La Leche League in the Nursery
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study Class in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Tower Grove South Neighborhood Association Meeting in the Large Assembly Room
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Worship Service at Oak Hill
Friday	3:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross self-guided prayer at Oak Hill
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt at the Turkish Pavilion in Tower Grove Park
	2:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Easter Prayer Vigil in the Sanctuary
Sunday	6:30 a.m.	Sunrise Service at Oak Hill

We welcome you to worship at Oak Hill. We greet everyone in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and celebrate the gift of God's incarnate love through our worship and service.

We hope you will stay and join us for a time of fellowship after worship today. We'll gather downstairs for coffee and snacks!

For more information about what's happening at Oak Hill, don't forget to check out our website at [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org).

Leading worship today are **Brian Beckmann, Adelaide Bays-Hanify, Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers and Rev. Erin Counihan.** Greeters are **Donna Cook and Avery Smith.** Ushers are **Brent Crittenden, Deb Wiethop, Christine Woodward, and Will Woodward.** Nursery Caregivers are **Heather Macarthur and Lisa Thompson.** The **Mission Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in April.

As a church family, we shall be praying this morning and all week for the following members and friends. You may wish to contact them to indicate your interest and ask if they have any special prayer concerns.

Richard Adams  
Esther Miranda  
LeAnne and Aidan Smith

If you have a specific prayer request to share with the congregation, please fill out the yellow prayer request form in the pew and place it in the offering plate. For prayers and congregational support during the week, call Pastor Erin or the church office.

**OAK HILL NEWS DEADLINE – Articles for the May newsletter are due, in writing, by Monday, April 15, 2019.**

**There is no Sunday School today or on Easter Sunday. Sunday School classes for all ages will resume on April 28.**

**Thank you to all who attended this morning's pancake breakfast and supported our mission trip fundraiser!**



We will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering during Easter Sunday worship. One Great Hour of Sharing is a special giving program through the PCUSA. A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. It supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. An offering envelope is included in this bulletin.



**Maundy Thursday, April 18** - A joint Maundy Thursday ecumenical service with Compton Heights Christian Church Christian Church will be held at Oak Hill at 7 p.m. This service will include footwashing and communion.

**Good Friday, April 19** - On Good Friday the Stations of the Cross will be held at Oak Hill from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Pastor Erin will lead a special prayer at 5 p.m.

**Holy Saturday, April 20** - An Easter Vigil will be held from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday. There is a signup sheet in the back of the sanctuary for individuals to take hour-long shifts holding vigil in our sanctuary space on Holy Saturday.

**Easter, April 21** - On Easter Sunday there will be a sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. outside on the front steps, and a service in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. Bring flowers from your garden to decorate the Easter cross.



### **NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER EGG HUNT!**

**Saturday, 4/20, at 10:00 a.m. at the Turkish Pavilion in Tower Grove Park.**

Bring the kids, bring the neighbors, and bring the neighbor's kids! Come join us for some games, prizes, and egg hunting fun! If you are available to help on Saturday, April 20, or know of children you would like to invite to the annual Easter Egg Hunt, please plan to join us at the Turkish Pavilion in Tower Grove Park that morning. Please plan to bring baskets to collect the eggs. Helpers should arrive at church at 8:45 a.m. or the Turkish Pavilion at 9:00 a.m. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:00 a.m.

### **GIFTS FOR EXTENDED MEMBERS**

Easter gifts and greeting cards will be available in the Large Assembly Room for our Extended Members. After worship, please visit the table downstairs to sign the cards for these members! We appreciate your help in delivering them so that our extended members know we are thinking about them even if they are not able to attend worship services at Oak Hill. Please see Josh Smith with any questions.