



WORSHIP
with us



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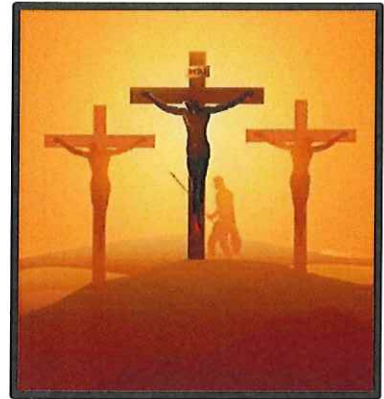
Rick Wilson

Music Director

Late Lenten greetings to my friends at Oregon City UMC!

Can you believe it is already Palm Sunday this week? It seems like only this past Sunday I was preaching on Jesus being tempted in the desert with the waters of his Jordan River baptism fresh on his skin. Now, here we are, anticipating the Triumphal Entry and Jesus' passion to follow.

It's this passion I wanna center in on a bit this morning; this idea of God's plan of salvation being hinged on the death of God's Son. In our modern day of technology and the prevalence of social media, it's not as easy to avoid the hard questions brought to light by non-Christian voices. And they are questions that deserve more than a blind dismissal. They are questions that we as believers need to consider. The question (or criticism) that comes up the most, particularly this week, is a question I touched on this past Sunday. Why would an all-powerful, compassionate, and merciful God devise a plan for salvation requiring God's self to sire a son just to have that son killed? Surely, If God is so powerful and limitless, then salvation wouldn't require any death.



It's a question that has troubled me in my own faith journey. There are a few things to understand about the theology in order to answer this question.

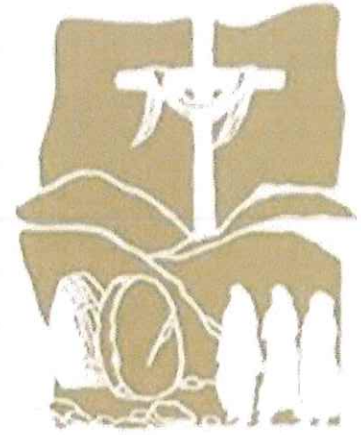
- **First**, at the time of Jesus, Judaism was a temple religion requiring sacrifice; the out-pouring of the life-essence contained in the blood, for the forgiveness and restoration of the sinful.
- **Second**, and I shared this part on this past Sunday, Jesus seems to know what lies ahead of him and he remains fully committed to this path that leads to his death on the cross.
- **Third**, in Scripture, Jesus says he and the Father are one. They are of the same mind and moving in the same direction toward the salvation of the world.
- **Fourth**, and this is a part that sometimes gets overlooked, if we are Trinitarian in our belief – if we understand Jesus as being a fully integrated person of the Triune God – then we understand Jesus as being one with God and God-in-human-flesh. The expression of Jesus as God's Son is way to comprehend on a mortal level what's happening in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

The point I'm trying to make here is this: In the person of Jesus of Nazareth, God is not merely giving God's one and only begotten Son so that whoever believes will not perish but have eternal life. God is giving God's self as the perfect unblemished sacrifice for the salvation and redemption of the world. This week, and all that leads up to it, is about God putting on flesh, becoming as a mortal, experiencing humanity from our vantage point, teaching us about God's compassion from the source, exemplifying what a life based in God's love looks like, and paying the ultimate price God's self.

As we travel through this week, let's hold this truth in our hearts. God loves us so much; wants restored relationship with us so much, that God's plan for salvation included God offering themselves in atonement for humanity's sin. Let us live our lives as a grateful people, showing even a fraction of that love to our siblings in humanity.

In faithful service,

Pastor Tom



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Palm & Passion Sunday Worship

A worshipful journey from Triumphal Entry to Crucifixion

Sunday, March 24 at 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Worship

A remembrance of the Last Supper

Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm

Good Friday Service Tenebrae Service

A somber service of Christ's light fading to darkness

Friday, March 29 at 6:30pm

Easter Sunday

Celebrating the Resurrection with breakfast, praise, and worship!

Sunday, March 31

- ❖ Continental Breakfast at 8:30am
- ❖ Worship Celebration at 10:00am
- ❖ FunZone Easter Party at 10:15am



Our Weekly Giving Moment

"Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple." — Mark 11:11, CEB

As United Methodists, we believe that the church is not complete until everyone, with and without disabilities, is able to attend, belong and participate fully. On this Palm Sunday, we remember that Jesus entered the city and went into the temple. How are we preparing the temple so that it is accessible for all who follow Jesus?

Disability Awareness Sunday helps change attitudes, priorities and practices. When we raise awareness about how to create broader access to the life of the church, we open a path of grace that celebrates the sacred worth of every child of God. We strengthen the body of Christ in our community with a spirit of radical welcome.

Across The United Methodist Church, [Disability Awareness Sunday](#) is observed annually on a date determined by each conference. To learn more about ways to engage with Disability Awareness Sunday visit: <https://www.r2hub.org/library/disability-awareness-sunday-faqs>.



FLOREY, SHEILA	03/02
SALTENBERGER, ROSE	03/07
SYTSMA, JACOB	03/07
OLSEN, ADDISON	03/14
RENARDO, COLE	03/14
ENZ, DORINE	03/23
OLSEN, KYLA	03/24
RONFELD, JOHN	03/25
ENGEL, MARTY	03/27
MYERS, CHLOE	03/27
DIFRANCO, TONY	03/28
MYERS, CHELSEA	03/29



PLEASE HELP US TO REACH OUR

\$500

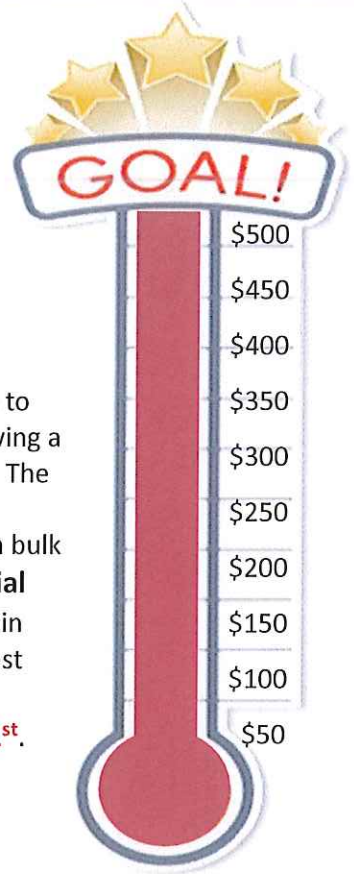
(50 kits x \$10 per Kit)

FUNDRAISING GOAL!

To provide immediate assistance after a disaster Storage Distribution Centers have been prepared throughout our conference. But those storage centers are limited in their ability to assist after a disaster. Following a disaster on March 10th, we purchased 50 Hygiene Kits. The items included in the kits are toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, and hand sanitizer. We are purchasing in bulk to reduce the cost per kit. We are currently asking for **financial donations** on the team will order the items needed in bulk for the best cost savings allowing us to make the highest number of kits. Please provide **your donations marked "Hygiene Kit"** beginning now through **Sunday, March 31st**.



thank you



Mark Your Calendar!

Fellowship Conversations

Sunday, March 24 @ 11:00am

Reconciling Team

March 26 @ 3:00pm

Ladies' Lunch Out!

Hope you can come to our next Ladies' Lunch Out! Join us Tuesday, April 2 at 11:30am at The Essence of China, 1727 Willamette Falls Dr in the Willamette district of West Linn. Please RSVP to Marty at fmsodie@yahoo.com or Susan at jronfeld@comcast.net

Now Hiring

Church Custodian

Oregon City United Methodist Church seeks custodian to perform routine janitorial services.

The successful candidates must be able to pass a background check, have a demonstrated ability to work on their own, complete tasks as assigned in a timely manner.

Contact Pastor Tom for more information and a job description.

ocumcpastor@gmail.com

