

Palm Sunday



Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

Our Mission

Proclaiming God's Word

Growing in faith and understanding

Welcoming all

Extending comfort and grace

Working for justice and peace

Nurturing creation

Being generous stewards of God's gifts

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 18, 2018

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

"The real miracle we see in this whole Holy-Horrific week...is how the Divine parent uses the most destructive forces of human nature, namely scapegoating and violence; as the very process of redemption."

~ The Reverend John Petty

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The Prayers of the People are written by the congregation and read aloud as our corporate prayer. If you want to take part, write a one sentence prayer on the cards provided.

No signatures, please. The cards will be collected during the second hymn.

Together we pray whatever is on our hearts.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you. ... (All are encouraged to sign the Friendship Pad in the pews. If you are a first-time visitor and leave an address, we can welcome you more fully.)

† Please stand in body or in spirit.

PRELUDE

Ring Glory, Laud, and Honor
Handbell Choir

LLOYD LARSON

INTROIT

Sing Hosanna
Joyful Noise and Congregation

MARK PATTERSON

Sing hosanna. **Sing hosanna.**
Sing hosanna. **Sing hosanna.**
Blessed is he who comes this day.
Blessed is he who comes this day.
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna. **Hosanna.**

Wave your palm branches high.
Lift your praise to the sky.

Sing hosanna. **Sing hosanna.**
Sing hosanna. **Sing hosanna.**
Blessed is he who comes this day.
Blessed is he who comes this day.
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna. Hosanna.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Phyllis Albritton-Webb

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Blessed is the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

† HYMN No. 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

† PRAYER OF APPROACH

God Most High, gracious and glorious, blessed is the one who comes in your name. Lead us now on the road to the cross. May we follow with faithfulness and joy, shouting hosanna in the highest heaven; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We join the parade and shout hosanna, then deny our Lord in his hour of need. We wave the palms and sing praise, then hand our Savior over to die. Forgive us, God of grace. Our lives are in your hand—deliver us from evil. Save us, by your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ... (A time of silent confession follows.) In Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERFUL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

JOHN MERBECKE



Lord, have mercy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

O Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God’s steadfast love endures forever!

Blessed is Christ, who came to save.

This is God’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

† GRATEFUL RESPONSE

ELLACOMBE

**“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God’s peace and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

HEARING THE WORD

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

(Children 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Parents may take kindergarten and younger children downstairs to God’s Garden or the nursery for nurture and care.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Mark 11:1-11

SERMON

“Shouts, Cries, Singing”

Dr. Catherine Taylor

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN No. 221

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

PASSION CHORALE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Congregation

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY

Ah, Holy Jesus

JOHN FERGUSON

Ben Wyatt, cello

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected.
Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
‘Twas I, Lord Jesus. ‘Twas I.

† DOXOLOGY

HAMBURG

**All glory to our Lord and God,
for love so deep, so high, so broad:
The Trinity whom we adore
forever and forever more.**

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN No. 209

My Song Is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

O Lamb of God Most Holy

JOHANN PACHELBEL

*please recycle your bulletin in the wooden bins on either side of the front doors.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

March 25, 2018

Welcome to all who gather for worship today. May each of us know something of God's grace and be moved toward deeper faith, sincere love, and service following Christ. No matter who you are, or what you are seeking, you are welcome here. **If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church.**

HEADSETS for the HEARING IMPAIRED are available. Speak to an Usher or Gavin Faulkner to use them for the worship service.

We are grateful for Phyllis Albritton-Webb who is our liturgist today.

Creation Care thought: We all live by robbing nature, but our standard of living demands that the robbery shall continue...We must waste less. We must do more for ourselves and each other. The great obstacle is the conviction that we cannot change because we are dependent upon what is wrong. But that is the addict's excuse, and we know that it will not do. I am trying to realize the gravity of the mess we are in. –Wendell Berry, from a commencement address in Bar Harbor, Maine, 1989.

Let's take care of kids, from top to bottoms! For its spring project, **Faith Circle** is leading drives to benefit two local organizations and the children they work to support. Our partners at Valley Interfaith Child Care Center (VICCC) and the Baby Shop are in need of **diapers (sizes 2-6 and pull-ups), wipes, and cream.** Faith Circle will be collecting through Lent and donating after Easter. Sign up in the Gathering Space. Thank you for helping!



If you would like to offer support, but would rather not get trapped in the baby aisle at the local store, we would be happy to shop on your behalf. Please write a check to BPC, memo line Faith Circle Drive and place it in the collection plate. Every dollar counts to the beautiful children and families you are helping to support!

Morning Stars Bible Study has become a community of people who look out for one another, celebrate with each other, and share the Word of God together. They meet on Tuesdays at 7:30am in Hatcher Conference Room at BPC and all are welcome. Knowing not everyone can make it on Tuesday mornings we have decided to do a holy experiment throughout Lent. **Starting at 12pm in Hatcher, we invite you to participate in *Morning Stars at Noon.*** This is an additional time, led by Pastor Catherine, meant for folks who cannot make it to the 7:30am group. Bring your lunch if you like. Come ready to get to know each other and talk about the lectionary texts for the week.

Art Exhibit and Forum with Richard Mallory Allnut. Come by the library to see the excellent photography of Richard Mallory Allnut, a British-born photographer living in Blacksburg. He focuses primarily on portraiture, but his passions for aviation and the natural world also play a strong role in his repertoire. He has won several significant awards for his work. He will speak at an Art Forum on April 15.

Men of the Church looking for firewood! The Woodchucks have run out of firewood, We have delivered 195 truckloads of firewood this season and we have folks who need some now. If you have firewood you meant to burn this winter, but never got around to it, please consider donating it to the Woodchucks. We need split, seasoned wood right now! If you think you can help please contact Suzanne Sanford (449-5318) or the church office (552-2504). We'll gladly pick it up and give it to a family in need. Thank you!

Next Sunday is our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Please see insert for more information on this important giving opportunity.

SERVING TODAY

Church Opener:

John Perumpral

April: Nancy Furr

Elder of the Week:

Today: Jack Call **Prayer Room Today;** Elder Mon-Sunday: Brent Opell

Ushers:

Sarah and Craig Woolsey, John and Diane Wilson

Counters:

Bob Hendricks and Mike McGilliard

THIS WEEK AT BPC - HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, WM-Westminster, FH-Fellowship Hall

- March 25 Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m.-
Adult Sunday School Class - The Bible for Beginners-HCR
Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.
Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group-5:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner & Youth Sunday Preparation
- Mar. 18-30 Labyrinth set up in Fellowship Hall to walk during Church Office Hours
- March 26 KnitWits gather at 1:00 p.m. – WM
- March 27 Morningstar Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. – HCR
Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. – FH
Prayer Group meets at 11:00 a.m. – Prayer Room All are Welcome!
Morningstar Bible Study at Noon- HCR
- March 28 Staff meets at 9:30 a.m. – WM
Endowment Ministry meeting at 4:30 p.m.- HCR
Adult Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m.
- March 29 Caring for the Community at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary
- Mar. 30 Good Friday Service at 12:00 noon- WM (Church Office Closed)
- April 1 Easter Sunday
9:00 a.m. - Breakfast hosted by Men of the Church (Donations gladly accepted)
9:50 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt for children up through 5th grade-bring your basket!
10:30 a.m. - Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS AT BPC

- April 2 Church Office Closed
Lydia Circle meets at 1:30 p.m. - FH
- April 3 Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. – HCR * **Note location change**
- April 4 Staff meets at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
- April 8 Adult Ed Class- End of Life Planning at 4:00-5:30 p.m. - HCR
- April 9 Hildegard Circle meets at Nancy Furr's, 708 Southgate Dr., Blacksburg at 6:00 p.m.
Faith Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. – Peg Warren's, 1201 Highland Cir., Blacksburg
- April 14 Youth Group meets for Youth Sunday rehearsal at 10:00 a.m – 12:00 noon
- April 15 Youth Sunday
Art Forum with Richard Mallory Allnutt following worship-WM
- April 16 PWCT meets at 3:30 p.m. – WM
- April 22 Session meeting at 7:00 p.m. *note date change
- April 23 KnitWits meet at 1:00 p.m. - WM

Holy Week at BPC

Labyrinth set up in Fellowship Hall to walk during Church Office Hours



Sunday, March 25 Palm Sunday
with Joyful Noise at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 29 Maundy Thursday Service
at 7:00 p.m.- Sanctuary

Friday, March 30 Good Friday Service at
12:00 p.m. - Westminster Hall



Sunday, April 1 Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. Breakfast -sponsored by
Men of the Church - Fellowship Hall

9:50 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
(for children up through 5th grade-
Bring your own basket)

10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, April 2 Church office closed



The Bible from Scratch: New Testament for Beginners

Sundays, March 18th – May 20th
9am in Hatcher Conference Room

Led by Dave Snyder and Elva Miller

- Have you been invited by a friend to attend a bible study group and thought of many reasons not to go because you were sure you would feel out of place?
- Did you grow up memorizing Scripture but are a little rusty in your overall understanding of the Bible?
- Have you been in a Bible study group when the leader asked the class to look up a passage and you weren't quite sure how to do it?

We all come to the Bible with different levels of exposure. Some of us grew up knowing how to reference a chapter and verse and some of us grew up not know what a verse was. This class is designed to give you the basic tools and skills for Bible study. There is something for everyone.

Books are \$10 and can be purchased on Sundays at the Welcome Window in the Gathering Space.

End-of-Life: Issues, Documents and Strategies

Your father is 78, terminally ill, comatose, and never told you his wishes.

How do you advocate for him?

Your friend who is 32 is in a vegetative state and you are her health care proxy.

What do you do now?

Do you have an advanced **medical directive**?

Do you know what the **Virginia POST form** is about?

How do you get medical providers to **honor your wishes**?

If you develop Alzheimer's disease, what will **your end-of-life wishes** look like?

Have you had "the conversation" with your family?

*Sundays, April 8, 15, 22 and 29
4 – 5:30 PM at BPC*

Greg and Anne Campbell will lead a 4-class series at BPC for adults of all ages to talk about these questions and more.

Childcare can be requested by contacting adulthood@blacksburgpres.org.



One Great Hour of Sharing

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER * DISASTER*DEVELOPMENT

Join with Presbyterian Worldwide in sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural and human-caused disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Ways to Give –

- + Through your congregation
- + Donate by credit card on line at presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs
- + Text OGHS to 20222 to give \$10

You can help these important ministries supported by One Great Hour of Sharing by making a gift anytime throughout the year.

Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently support projects in over 100 countries. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING –

We share – with women who were once trafficked for domestic labor and now own their own cooperative business. **This is church.**

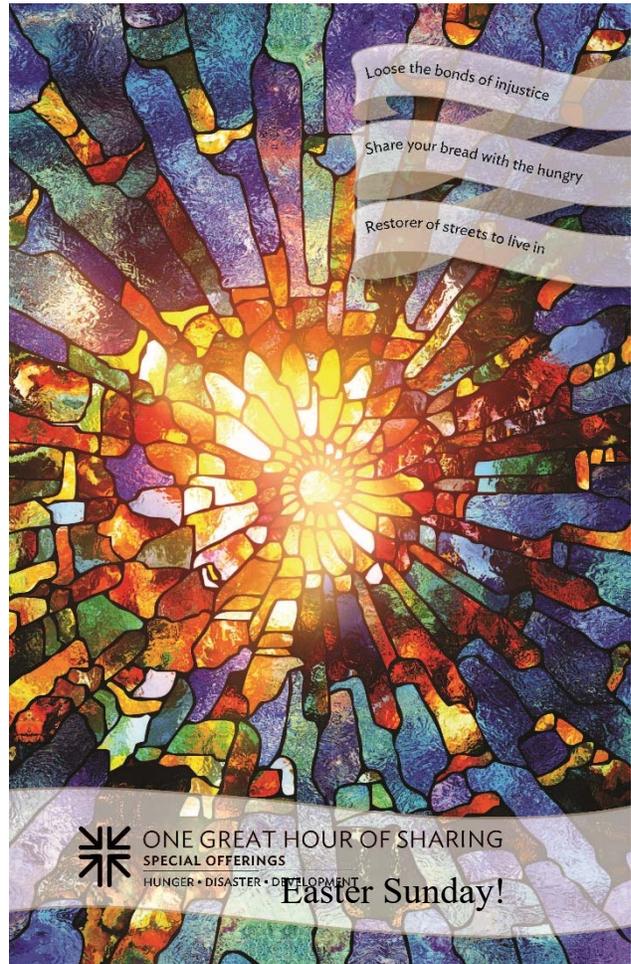
We share – with people through land rights training and improvements to farming methods. **This is church.**

We share – with those whose lives are adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events, staying for the long-term.. **This is church.**

The church is happening right now, all around us – because We share Christ’s love.

One Great Hour of Sharing Is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together Every year to work for a better world.

IF WE ALL
DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP
TO A LOT!



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Restores Streets to Live in

- + Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters and support for refugees

Presbyterian Hunger Program

Share your Bread with the Hungry

- + Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed

Self-Development of People

Loose the Bonds of Injustice

- + Partners with communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues