

"Those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting: 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord...Hosanna in the highest heaven!'" Mark 11:9-10

Holy Week begins this Sunday with "Palm Sunday". This is the Sunday we remember the story of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, entering with Hosannas and waiving of palm branches. The "Hosannas" were shouted out to Jesus as a sign the people believed Jesus was the one who would save them—the transliteration for "hosanna" from Hebrew is "Please Save Us" or "Save Us Now!" The people had experienced Jesus' power of healing, feeding, forgiving, loving and uplifting their lives—they wanted their Messiah and they wanted him NOW!

Palm Sunday is the day of triumphal march which marks the first day of this "Last Week" of transition for Jesus' life. We celebrate this day beginning in glory, and in one short service we tell the story of Jesus' arrest, trial and death upon a cross. It is a bit awkward, then, that our church also pulls the story back from Jesus' death upon the cross and invites the congregation to return Maundy Thursday, to remember Jesus' final meal with his best friends, to serve one another as he did with the washing of feet, and then go to the garden in prayer. Returning again Friday to walk the Way of the Cross with Jesus... where we watch him hanging in agony, then giving up his spirit. By the time we have done all that we breathe a sigh of relief that we then gather to celebrate the glory of the resurrection Sunday morning....

So, before we jump too far ahead, I'd like to invite you to consider taking time each day this week, beginning with Palm Sunday, and engage in the Biblical story of Jesus' last week. Using Marcus Borg's book, The Last Week, as a guide (we have extra copies in the Blue Room library), you may engage in special readings each day of the week, reflecting on the power EACH day held as Jesus faced the end. Borg's book is based on the Gospel of Mark, the earliest of the gospels to be written down, which is the only gospel to make clear reference to each day and the week unfolds. If you don't have time or a book available, you can research and reflect on the scripture following this guide:

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Palm Sunday: "When they were approaching Jerusalem" (Mark 11:1)

Monday: "On the following day" (Mark 11:12)

Tuesday: "In the morning" (Mark 11:20)

Wednesday: "It was two days before the Passover" (Mark 14:1)

Maundy Thursday: On the first day of Unleavened Bread" (Mark 14:12)

Good Friday: "As soon as it was morning" (Mark 15:1)

Holy Saturday: "The Sabbath" (Mark 15:42; 16:1)

Easter Sunday: "Very early on the first day of the week" (Mark 16:2)

Whether you follow this scripture guide or simply give some special time to reflect upon the remarkable sacrifice our Saviour, Jesus Christ, offered as he put one foot in front of the other his final week, I pray you have a blessed Holy Week.

In Christ's saving love,

Pastor Mary & Jim Blessing

holy
week



Maundy Thursday Meal & Footwashing

Sign up on the form in the foyer to **bring food for a Middle Eastern meal**. Needed are soup, salad, main dish, vegetables, bread, dips, etc. Food should arrive no later than 5pm. Set up of food between 5-6.

Dinner & liturgy begin promptly at 6:00 PM, but latecomers are welcome.

Can you help set up on Thursday morning, 10-12?

COFFEE HOUR HELP NEEDED FOR EASTER MORNING

We would like to have a simple yet **festive pot-luck coffee hour** for Easter -- something more than the usual sweet snacks, but less than a full-blown brunch. Can you help out? Here are some suggestions for offerings:



- cut vegetables and dip
- deviled eggs
- fresh fruit
- sparkling cider or orange juice
- bagels and cream cheese
- sliced ham, rolls etc., for small sandwiches
- hot cross buns
- whatever sounds good to you!

It would be **extremely helpful** if you could sign up on the sheet on the Foyer table, so that the Children, Youth and Family team can plan effectively.

This Week: Mar 20 - 26

TODAY, 11:30, Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Tue., 6:30 pm, **Choir Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
Thu., 5:30 pm **Maundy Thursday Meal & Footwashing**, Sanctuary
Thu, 5 pm, **Food Pantry**, Foyer
Fri., 10:30, **Meditation**, Sanctuary
Fri., 6 pm, **Stations of the Cross**, Sanctuary

Vestry

Who wants to be the vestry clerk? Easy peasy with a laptop. Contact Lori Kintz, lori@kintz.net.

Confession Times

Pastor Mary is making appointments for individual confessions. Anyone who wishes to experience this sacrament should contact her at 408-219-5306 or pastor.stphilips.sv@gmail.com.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed.



Altar Servers

Servers Needed for Sunday Worship

Serve once a month

Will train. lectors, ushers, servers, subs, & ministry coordinator needed 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM services

See stphilip-sv.net/WorshipServiceSchedule.

Questions? Contact Pastor Mary or Lori Kintz, lori@kintz.net.



Easter Bunny "Helpers" Needed!

Help a hard-working bunny out! After church today, please fill a bag with some plastic eggs that will be in the foyer, take it home, and fill the eggs with small treats, stickers, bouncy balls, or other fun things.

Bring them back on Easter Sunday morning or before, and the youth will hide the eggs for the little ones (pray for good weather)



April 23, 9-2, **Plant Sale**, St. Andrew's, Ben Lomond
May 7 **Garden Tour & English Tea**
Feb. 3-5, **2017 Winter Retreat**, Zephyr Point

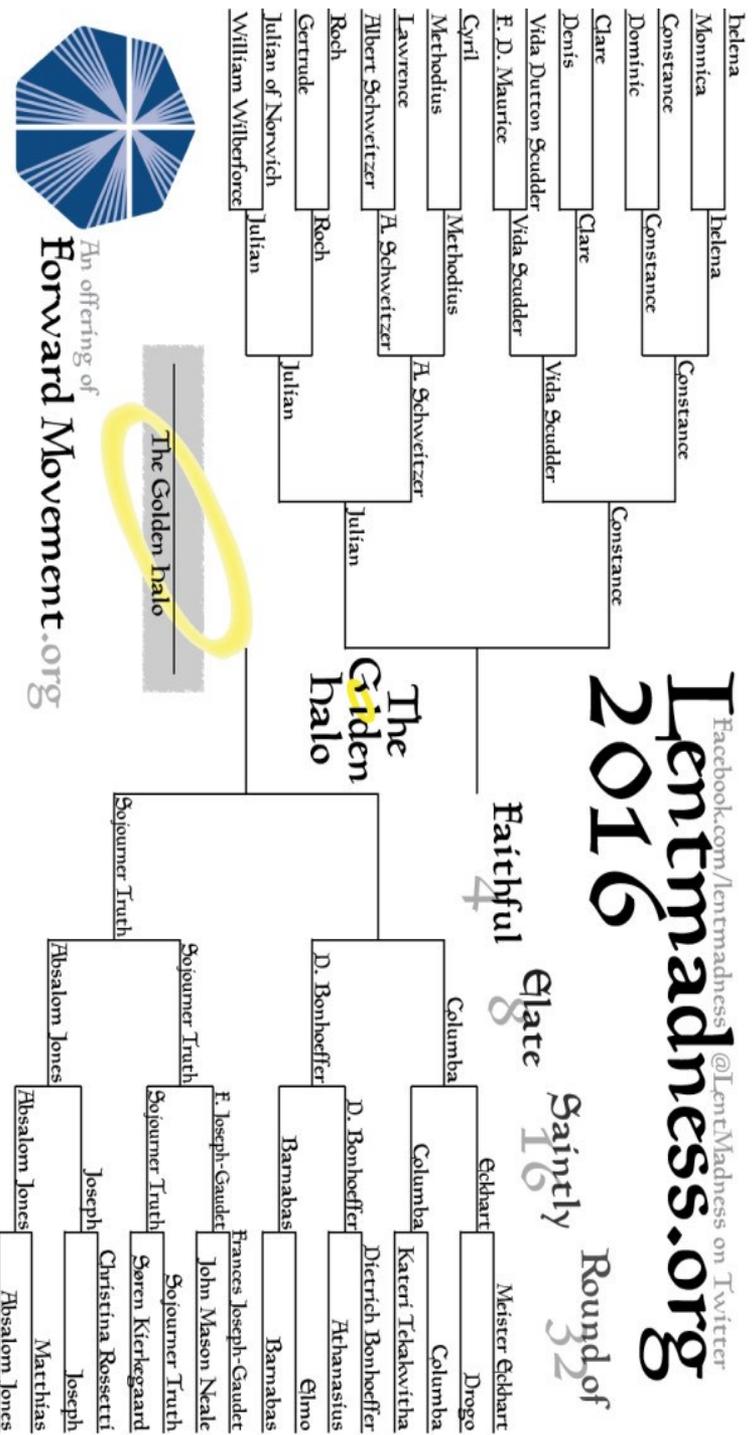
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2016

Saintly Round of 32

Faithful 4
Elite 8



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