

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Associate Member: United Church of Christ



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PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017

PALM SUNDAY

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude

“The Palms” Jean-Baptiste Faure
(Piano duet: Ethel Soffa & Betty Hildenbrand, pianists)

***Call to Worship**

This is a day of joyous welcome.

We welcome Christ with waving branches.

Our leader comes humbly, riding a donkey.

Blessed is the one who comes in God’s name.

Jesus rides into the tumult of our times.

People still oppose the way of love.

Yet love prevails in spite of opposition.

Give thanks that God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Open to us the gates of righteousness.

Let us enter in the light God offers.

***Hymn#205**

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we have blamed you when the hosannas die and the parade turns into a mob scene. We heap our doubts on you even though our inaction adds power to those who shout “Crucify.” We rebel against the risks of discipleship. Why raise our voices against the evil we see? One voice simply becomes one more victim. O God, we protest, but we know that the victim of our silence is the way of love, the way of life. Forgive our cowardice, and help us to stand with Christ in a world that has forgotten humility and obedience to you.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Senior Choir Anthem

“The King of Glory”

Joseph M. Martin

Scripture

Psalm 18 (NRSV p. 431 – 433; LP p. 847 – 850)
Matthew 21:1 – 11 (NRSV p. 802; LP p. 1541 – 1542)

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Church

Lisa Stitt

***Hymn #203**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering

Offertory

“The Holy City”

Ethel Rogers

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed are the gifts that are received in Christ’s name. We come before you, O God, with the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. Accept them as in Christ you accept us. Use what we bring, so that others can shout, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” Amen.

***Hymn #204**

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

***Benediction**

Senior Choir Anthem

“Let Us Gather in the Shadow of the Cross”

Brad Nix

Postlude

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

David Paxton

*All who are able, please stand.

Both the bulletins and flowers are presented today in loving memory of Lenore Stauffer by Jeff and Luanne Stauffer.

Mission Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Our task is to proclaim the Living Word of God, which empowers us to care for and share with our community and the world.

Vision Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Serving the glorious God, claimed by Jesus, and inspired by scripture, honoring our history, with renewed commitment we will reach out to our community and the world through worship, spirit enriching programs, and outreaching mission.

... Things of Interest to Our Palm Schwenkfelder Family ...

This week, please keep in your daily prayers:

Verna Badman, Jeff Treichler, Eleanor Guldin, Ernie Guldin, Leon Wohlbach, Meg Lester, Jean Gabel, Willard Long, Samantha Hossler and Ryan Woods, Lucile and Bob Jones, Sheryl Tomlin, Carmen Davis, Mae Gerhart, Alvera Heffner, Dorothy Parker, Sharon Stevens, Marian Fox, Goldie Graber, Kylene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Martha Wolford, Devon Hawkins, Kerm Goda, Vern Weller, Bryan Schwoyer, Donna Weller, Mary Hartman, Jen Fries, Reverend Ed Winslow, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Burianek, Dave Jaeger, Betty Pope. Please also keep in your prayers the men and women serving in the United States Military. This month from our Schwenkfelder Prayer List we uplift the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center.

H.E.R.O.

Helpful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Optimistic!

When you recognize heroic behavior among our youth, please let them know.

Acts 20:35 and Luke 19:10, check them out!

Holy Bible App by YouVersion

New Lent Bible reading plans such as 40 days of Lent, come to the upper room devotions, Finding Jesus, and many more.

Bible for Kids by YouVersion

The Big Picnic: each day's video teaches a memory verse, a key truth, and a song.

April Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to... Parker Morasco (4/5), Aubrey Reinert (4/12), Joseph Kinsler (4/13)

Helping Hands

Look for the Helping Hands box located in the narthex. This is a new youth mission. Please see the forms next to the Helping Hands box for more information.

Youth Food Drive

Lent is upon us, and the Youth will be doing a Lent food drive for Open Link from now till April 16th. If you would like to donate, items needed are non-perishable foods and personal items. The box is located in the narthex.

Birthday Celebration

Join us for a 90th birthday celebration for Mary Herrmann. It will be held **today** from 1:00pm till 4:00pm at the Vineyards Clubhouse, 1002 Burgundy Circle, Pennsburg. No gifts, please, but feel free to bring a card, photo, or fun memory.

Music Sunday

Join us on Sunday, May 7th, as we celebrate Music Sunday with all of our talented musicians.

Migrant Hospitality Project

Thank you to all who have supported MHP throughout the year. Financial support and donated time and furnishing have us ready to serve a household of up to four legal, Christian exiles fleeing persecution from anywhere in the world. Cash donations are still appreciated, in anticipation of moving costs and final items that depend on demographics of the actual clients. Please mark your donations "Migrants."

What's for Lunch During Lent? Brown Bag Bible Study

During our 2017 Lenten schedule we are delighted to once again host a brown bag lunch Bible study led by Sister Millicent Drake. This Scriptural study is focused on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, and invites us to explore the Biblical foundations of Lent, leading us through Holy Week and the celebration of Christ's Resurrection. Our final Brown Bag Bible Study for this Lenten season will take place this Wednesday, April 12th at 11:30 a.m. Please feel free to join the study.

Ladies' Aid Easter Candy

Get your sweet tooth ready! The Ladies' Aid has made Easter candy again this year. There are chocolate covered peanut-butter eggs and coconut eggs, as well as a few other sweet surprises. The candy will be for sale **today**.

Brown Bag Lecture Series @ SLHC

This Wednesday, April 12th, at noon come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center to hear a presentation by Allen Viehmeyer entitled *Wird der Schwenckfeld nicht gelesen, Acht man nicht wer Frell gewesen*. There are not too many verses written about Caspar Schwenckfeld. This program focuses on a longer poem, found in several different manuscripts, that starts with the lines of the title for the presentation. Throughout this poem appear not only Schwenckfeld's name but also those of several Schwenckfeld followers. There are even variations of the original poem written by immigrant Schwenckfelders whose names are well-known.

Knotting Party

On Monday April 24th and on Tuesday May 2nd, at 9:00 am, the Ladies' Aid will be sponsoring Knotting parties. No experience needed. Come and help make blankets for the migrant ministry project. For the April 24th party, make sure to bring a bag lunch, and for the May 2nd party, also bring a bag lunch and plan to stay for the Ladies' Aid monthly meeting at 1:00 pm.

Mission Accomplished!

Our Relay for Life Committee is happy to announce that through the generosity of our church family, Palm has once again become a "Presenting Sponsor" for the 2017 Upper Perk Relay for Life. Many thanks to our donors, and our fundraiser sponsors and supporters for helping us to achieve this goal. Through your efforts over the years Palm Schwenkfelder Church has been able to provide more than \$100,000 to the American Cancer Society for their research programs and cancer patient services. The 2017 U.P. Relay for Life will be held from Friday, June 2 at 6:00 p.m. to Saturday, June 3 at 2:00 p.m. at Camelot Park in Upper Hanover Township, 1124 Church Road, East Greenville.

Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost for flower sponsorship is \$50. The cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15. Please sign up on the chart located outside the office. You could also call or email the office, or drop a note in the office drop box. Any Deacon or Church Officer will help you with any questions about the process. Getting your name in an available slot will hold the date for you. Thank You.

Upcoming dates for flower sponsorship: May 28th

Upcoming dates for bulletin sponsorship: May 7th

Did You Know?

We are starting a new feature in our bulletins entitled "Did You Know?" Items of interest to members and visitors will be listed. If you have any items to add, please call or email Dan Ferry in the church office. Thank you.

Did You Know?

- LARGE PRINT bulletins are available from an usher. LARGE PRINT Bibles are also available for use during worship services, located on the table to the left between the front and back sections of pews.
- Listening devices are available for those who would like them. Please see an usher to assist you.
- A fully accessible restroom is located in the hallway, across from the office. A baby changing table is there, also.
- There are greeting cards on the podium as you enter the sanctuary. Anyone is invited to sign – you don't need to be a member of the congregation to add your name to the well wishes.

Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 9th
Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 10:15 a.m.

Youth Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 12th
Brown Bag Bible Study with Sister Millicent at 11:30am

Maundy Thursday, April 13th
Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14th at 1:00 p.m.
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Walk begins at 12:00 p.m.
Fellowship at McDonald's Following the Worship Service

Easter Sunday Sunrise Worship, April 16th
Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 a.m.

Covered-Dish Breakfast Following the Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Easter Sunday Communion
Worship Service

**UNITED
CHURCH**
OF CHRIST



Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464

484-949-8774

April 9, 2017

Communitas Taking a New Direction

The church highlighted in the Prayer Partner section of Communitas on April 2nd completed our 3 year rotation of honoring churches within our conference.

Going forward we will be taking a break from the church Prayer Partner traditional presentations and are asking churches to submit articles on unique things that they are doing. We want to hear, and share, the ways you are touching your communities, touching lives, and spreading the good news of the gospel.



Now, before you starting rushing to your computers to submit articles, keep in mind that many of us do the same thing. We hold dinners and honor scouts and emergency personnel. We invite children to our Easter Egg hunts and Christmas events, *but what is it that your church is doing that is different and unique?*

How have you gone “outside the box” of traditional ministry to spread the word of God in your communities? How have you touched children and shared God’s good news? What is your church doing that isn’t being done anywhere else? We’d like to hear!

Please send your article to Sue at the PSEC office at susan@psec.org. Try to keep articles to 275 words if you are submitting (no more than) two pictures—you can write more words without pictures (but you may say more *with* them).

This will be an exciting way to share new ideas with one another and to further God’s work in our communities!

Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday

Whenever a popular rock star appears in concert or when a professional sports team wins a championship game, people get whipped into a frenzy and literally go a bit crazy. Before you know it what started out to be a celebration goes bad and there is big trouble. People are injured or killed, personal property is damaged, and what started out as fun ends up a disaster.

Palm Sunday is much like that. People hear that Jesus is about to enter Jerusalem and everyone gathers to greet him. They gather palm branches to wave. Children shout “hosanna” and it is a wonderful celebration. And yet we cannot watch this parade without a sense of doom for we know the rest of the story. That is what makes Palm Sunday a very difficult Sunday to preach. Even the church is confused. Is it Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday? Is it time to celebrate or a time to mourn? Here we are celebrating when we know that in just five days the cries of “hosanna” will change to “crucify him!” The phrase, “It is the best of times, it is the worst of times” is very appropriate for this Palm Sunday.

Christ’s journey on the road from Bethphage to Jerusalem reminds us of our Christian journeys as well. It would be nice if our life’s journey could be a journey of nothing but happy times and celebrations. It would be nice to know that if the journey became too much that we could just push a button and everything would be hunky-dory. But that is not the case, and the fact of the matter is, to reach our destination of personal healing and wholeness, to remain faithful to the demands of the Gospel, it may require us to endure our own personal passions.

Christian discipleship is hard work. There is nothing easy about it. It requires us to be obedient, dedicated and committed to the ideals of the faith. It is not a journey for the weak at heart. It is a journey that will at times call us to suffer in pain and anguish just as Jesus suffered. The passion of our Lord reminds us of the cost of discipleship.

Today is Palm Sunday and it is a day of celebration. But let us be clear as to the source of our celebration. For what we celebrate is the person of Christ; “Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking on the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.”

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, April 9

- 9:00am Teacher Easter Egg Hunt During Sunday School
- 10:15am Palm Sunday Worship Service
- 11:30am Youth Easter Egg Hunt
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Matthew 21:1 - 11)

Monday, April 10

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Exodus 12:1 - 14)
- 6:30pm Buildings & Grounds Committee
- 7:30pm Board of Trustees

Tuesday, April 11

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Psalm 116:1 - 2, 12 - 19)
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts of America - Troop Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting
- 7:00pm Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 72134

Wednesday, April 12

- 11:30am Brown Bag Bible Study with Sister Millicent
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(1 Corinthians 11:23 -26)
- 12:00pm Brown Bag Lecture Series @ SLHC
- 6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 13

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(John 13:1 - 7, 31b - 35)
- 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Friday, April 14

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(John 18:1 - 19:37)
- 12:00pm Good Friday Walk
- 1:00pm Good Friday Worship Service @ St. Mark's Lutheran
- 2:00pm Fellowship Lunch @ McDonald's

Saturday, April 15

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (John 19:38 - 42)

Sunday, April 16

7:00am Easter Sunday Dawn Worship Service

7:30am Easter Sunday Breakfast Immediately Following
Dawn Worship

9:00am Sunday School

10:15am Easter Sunday Worship Service

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (John 20:1 - 18)

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

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Palm PA 18070

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Pastor Nick's Cell Phone: (267) 374 – 5691

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday 8:00am – 2:00pm

Friday 8:00am – 2:00pm

www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

Church Administrator E-mail: palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net

Church Office Email: palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net

Pastor's E-mail: palmpastor@comcast.net

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Serving You at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Ministers: All Church Members

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Pence

Director of Music: Ed Bieler

Junior Bells: Beth Croll

Senior Bells: Joanne and David Luz

Organist: Peg Jacob

Church Administrator: J. Daniel Ferry

Youth Director: Barbara Master

Sexton: Kevin Master 484 – 358 – 1684

Greeter: Deb Callodonato

Ushers: Alex Jalowy, Joanne Jalowy, Blake Master, Jeff Stauffer

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman

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