

The Lord's Day, March 6, 2016



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Worship Order

*Please stand as you are able.

Prelude

John Tidmore

Welcome

Dr. Tim Walker

***Hymn of Praise**

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Hymnal 139, vv. 1,2,3,5

Announcements

Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Rev. Melissa Shuler, 8:30

Rev. Macky Pitts, 10:45

Offering (Remember the extra dollar.)

Offertory

Lord, Here Am I

Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck

Message

Do We Bless?

Dr. Tim Walker

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Hymnal 13

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

(Pause while pastor gives thanks.)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

(Pause while pastor continues.)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(Pause while pastor continues.)

Amen.

Prayer of Approach

We do not presume to come to this Thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy table. But Thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this sacrament of Thy Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life, may grow into His likeness, and may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

Receiving The Bread and Cup

Please come forward as ushers direct. If you are unable to come forward, please indicate and an usher will meet you in the pew. Gluten free wafers are available.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Hymn

Pass It On

Hymnal 572, vv. 1,3

*Benediction

Postlude

Assisting in Worship

Worship Arts Director § John Tidmore

Assistant Worship Arts Director § Beth Garza

Acolytes § Sandra Hennings (8:30),

Gunner Meade and Logan Meade (10:45)

Media and Video § Jordan Middleton, Andrew Fields, and Tim Hennings

Sound Technicians § Duane Johnson, Jim Greene, and Billy Priebe

Welcome!

We are honored you chose to worship with us today. Our prayer is that God will lead you to belong to our church as a member. To join the church, come forward during the closing hymn. A pastor will meet you and receive you into membership. An alternative is to meet with the pastor immediately following the service.

Church News

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers are given in honor of the wedding anniversary of Cressinda and Blue Hyatt.

Christian Sympathy to

The Miller and Creswell families on the death of Lori's brother, Mark Fort.

The Shuler family on the death of Brent's grandmother, Francis Waits.

Growth Group Homework, Week 5 Getting to Know You

1. In your own understanding, what is a blessing?
2. When have you been most blessed? (Beyond your family and your faith?)
3. Do you feel this generation has been more or less blessed than those who have come before?

Going Deeper

Read Deuteronomy 7:12-13.

1. How does God promise to bless Israel?
2. What does Israel need to accomplish for these blessings to be realized?
3. Why would God bless the Israelites this way?
4. What would a comparable list look like in modern terms? Would you want to be blessed that way?

Read Matthew 5:1-12.

5. Who are the blessed in this passage?
6. How does the Kingdom of Heaven factor into blessings?
7. What is God's aim in blessing people?

Read Jeremiah 17:7-8.

8. Who are the blessed in this passage?
9. How can our "roots" reach deep into the water?
10. The trees near the river are not bothered by the heat and their leaves stay green. How is it possible for Christians to stay "green" in hard times?

Read James 1:12.

11. Who does God bless in this passage?
12. What is the reward promised? Why would we care about this reward in Heaven?
13. What areas of life have you had to "patiently endure?"

Take it Home

1. Can you recognize a blessing from God once a day?
2. How can you bless a person at least once a day?
3. Can you bless God (give thanks) for one part of your life today?

Sermon Notes



As a congregation, let us seek the Lord so that prayer will be the heartbeat of this church and the “glue” that binds us together.

During the month of March, please join us as we pray for our pastors and staff.

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan, and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter.

Lent 2016

March 20

Palm Sunday Services | 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt | 2 p.m.

March 21 - March 25

Holy Week Prayer Time | Noon to 1 p.m.

March 24

Maundy Thursday Music Service | 7 p.m.

March 25

Good Friday Service Featuring The Digital Age | 7 p.m.

March 27

Easter Sunday Services | 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.



JOIN US ON PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH!

ROAD TO RESURRECTION EVENT

This special family event will be led by our youth and 2016 Confirmation class.

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Upstairs on Main Street hallway

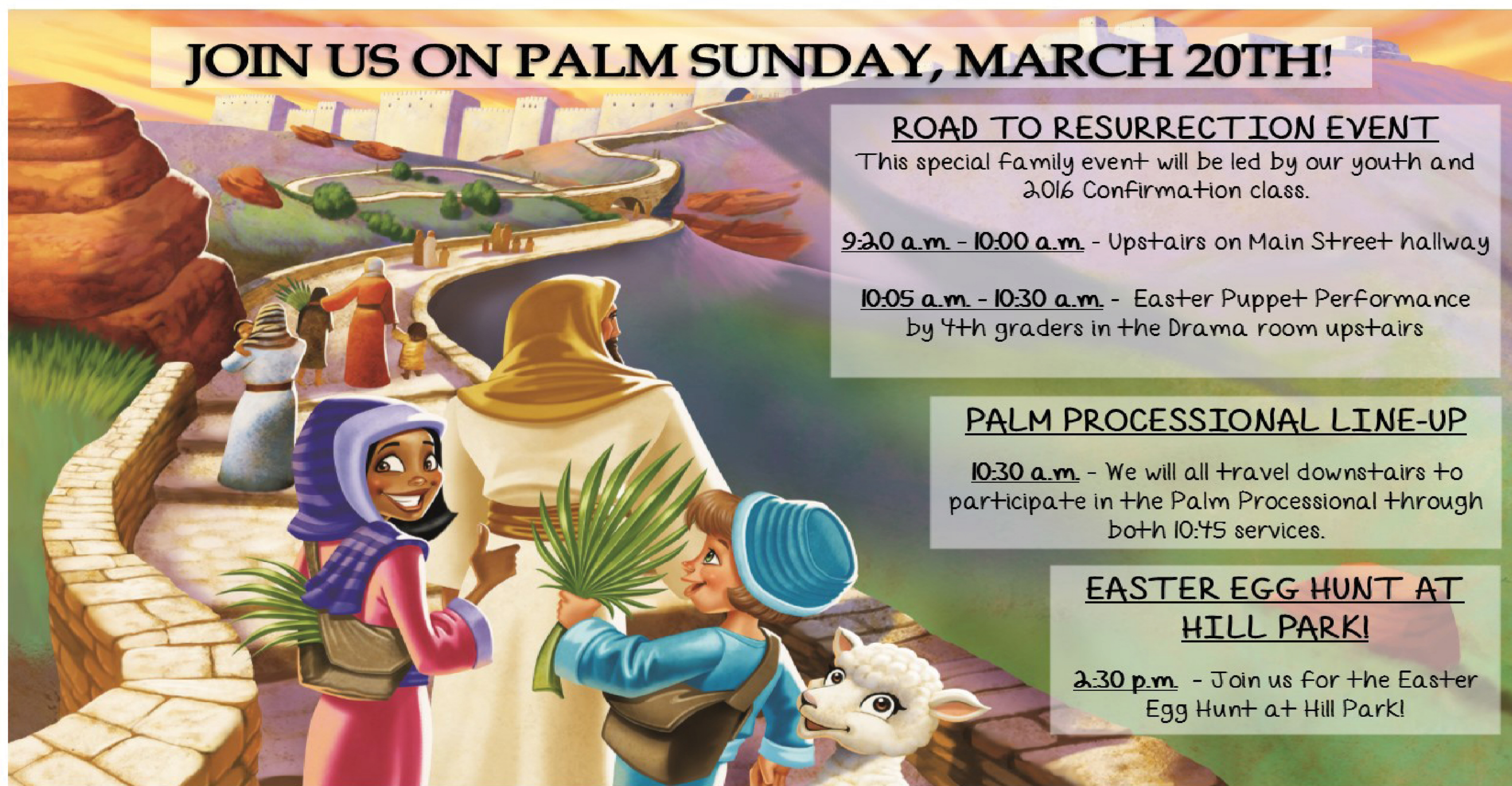
10:05 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Easter Puppet Performance by 4th graders in the Drama room upstairs

PALM PROCESSIONAL LINE-UP

10:30 a.m. - We will all travel downstairs to participate in the Palm Processional through both 10:45 services.

EASTER EGG HUNT AT HILL PARK!

2:30 p.m. - Join us for the Easter Egg Hunt at Hill Park!



The Digital Age



In Concert
Good Friday, March 25, 2016
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

What's Next?



Series: *Do We Bless?*
Next Sunday: *Me: So What?*

Upcoming Events



Important Notice!

Due to construction restraints the church office will be closed from Monday, March 7 until Monday, March 14. Emergencies will be handled by the answering service. *Regularly scheduled worship will resume Sunday, March 13.*



To order, fill out an envelope in the pew backs, or contact Audra Parker at audraparker@firstmethodistmidland.com.



Keep up with all the happenings at First Methodist Midland! Like us on Facebook, read the weekly *Tower Times* newsletter and visit our website at www.firstmethodistmidland.com.



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