

THE DOORWAY TO EASTER

Holy Week, Palm Sunday through Easter, is a study in contrasts. Palm Sunday is a day of acclaim such as our Lord knew at no other time in His life. Then the mood changes rapidly and drastically. First comes isolation; then emerges hostile intent with ominous portents. Jesus confronts His adversaries even as He counsels and comforts His disciples. The Last Supper comes in the middle of the period. This is followed by the betrayal, a farce of a trial, the harsh reality of condemnation, terrible scourging and punishment, finally the Cross and then the tomb. Then after a long period of hopelessness comes the earth-shaking, fact of the resurrection.

In a very few words, such is the doorway to Easter which Christians traverse each year. Because so much of Holy Week is violent and painful, we like to thrust it aside saying that the real meaning is found in Easter. So it is. And yet - what is Easter if we do not understand how all this came about, at least to the extent that mortals are capable of understanding such tremendous tidings?

". . . Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures" - these clauses from the Nicene Creed put the emphasis where the real meaning of these events is found. ". . . who for us men and for our salvation . . ." there it is. The doorway to Easter for us cannot be as traumatic, as painful, as fatal, as it was for Jesus. But, God forbid that in lightness of spirit we come to Easter. God grant rather that so far as His Spirit empowers us, we grasp at least something of the reality of what this blessed season cost our Lord - and in so grasping, remember that it was all for us.

Once we get a firm and clear grip on that, then Easter Day is a time of supreme rejoicing. If we slide by the dreadful events, our sense of deliverance is accordingly diminished. Join me in a covenant that this year, we will come to Easter by the doorway of faithful remembrance of the suffering and death of Christ. Then will we rejoice in such uplifting of our spirits that we truly enter a new life with Him.

-- Ed Smith

HOLY WEEK SERVICES in addition to our regular activities:

Palm Sunday	9:00	Holy Communion
	9:45	Church School
	10:55	Morning Worship
Wednesday	12:10	Lenten Devotions, led by J. V. Hoyle
Thursday	6:00	Seder Meal, Whitford Hall, led by Ashley Randall
	7:30	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
Friday	7:30	Good Friday Service, with meditation on some meaning of the Shroud of Turin for understanding the crucifixion, Dr. Alan Whanger
Easter	9:45	Church School
	10:55	Resurrection celebration, Floral Cross, Special Music

EASTER MONDAY is a holiday and the Church office will be closed. For emergencies, call Mr. Smith, 489-2210, Mrs. Massey 489-5179 or Mrs. Early, 477-8496. Thank you.

THE FLORAL CROSS on Easter morning is an almost unique way for all of us to worship our Lord on the day of Resurrection.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Office volunteers are needed for the hours 9:30 - 12:00. Your help would be greatly appreciated in this very important community project. Contact Pat Delaney 286-3148.

JOIN US FOR A SEDER MEAL on Maundy Thursday, April 8 at 6:00 p. m. This meal is for people of all ages. Traditionally, it has been a way to sustain the story of God's deliverance of his people. We will explore its meaning for our faith. Don't let this opportunity pass over you.

HOMEcoming AND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY are now within the one month period in our future. This is a good time to invite friends, family members and others interested in Duke Memorial to plan to attend. In so doing, make your own plans and hold the date. The occasion will resemble in agenda what we have done in other years including a luncheon on the lawn following the morning service. Pray - write - telephone! We'll be a hale, hopeful 96 that day and we can together make a great birthday celebration of it.

EARLY DEADLINE: Because of the Easter Monday holiday, the deadline for copy for the Messenger for the week of 18 April is Wednesday, 7 April. Thank you for your cooperation.

SUNDAY, 4 APRIL 1982 - PALM SUNDAY

The Gospel: St. Mark 14:3-9
 The Sermon: For Gift, For Sale
 Acolytes: Denise Griffin and Koren Sickles
 Greeters: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Green

THE BULLETIN
DUKE MEMORIAL
METHODIST CHURCH (USPS 553-880)
504 West Chapel Hill Street
Durham, N. C. 27701

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Church, 504 W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, N. C. 27701

LET'S COMMUNICATE:

SUNDAY, APRIL 18th REMINDER: Our morning worship service will be blessed with a visit from JULIA WILLIAMS, President of Conference Board of Missions, who will speak to our congregation on exciting mission news. Immediately following, plan to attend luncheon in Whitford Hall (hosted by CFC & HBC), followed by an interesting slide presentation on mission work in Haiti by Dr. William Bingham. Adjournment will be at 1:15 p. m. Don't miss this exciting program!

VOLUNTEERS, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Para Drake needs our assistance in driving the Seng's to Durham Tech for their English classes. Please offer your assistance by calling Para at 682-7032.

-- Lynn Porter

EMERGENCY ENERGY FUND - In order for EEF to continue through the 1982-83 year \$3,000 must be raised. If your Sunday School Class is seeking a worthy project to be active in, your help could certainly be used here. Contact Haywood Holderness, 489-4974.

SPECIAL PLANS are being made for Maundy Thursday evening, April 8, and we want you to share in these events. We will observe Passover with a special Seder at 6:00 p. m. followed by Holy Communion at 7:30. Make plans to attend.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN will meet Monday, April 5, at 11:00 a. m. in the Bradshaw Room. The program is entitled "Portrait of a Global Neighbor". The meditation will be given by Louise Ervin. Ruth Morrison, guest speaker, will be introduced by Isabel Engelhart. A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering will be taken.

Circle 1, 2 and 3 will meet at 10:00 a.m.

Circle 2 will serve the luncheon.

All women of the church are invited.

PEACE MOVEMENT MARCH: As part of a world peace march, four Buddhist monks of the Japan Nipponzahn Myohoji Order will come through Durham, en route to Washington from New Orleans. A march from the Chapel Hill Blvd., via NC 751 Duke University Drive to Immaculate Conception RC Church is scheduled on Monday, 5 April, 4-6 p.m. At six o'clock, an ecumenical prayer meeting at Immaculata will be held. A press conference is planned at St. Joseph AME Church, Tuesday, 6 April, at 11:00 centering on the subject, "Disarmament and Human Needs". Interested persons are invited to share in all these activities.

ATTENDANCE: Sunday, 28 March 1982

Church School. 269
Morning Worship 294

HOSPITALIZED:

DCGH: K. B. Prince 4101
Lester Smith 5329

THE KATIE JOHNSON CLASS has given a gift to the Methodist Home for Children in honor of Reverend and Mrs. Edward F. Smith.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:

In memory of Mrs. Imogene Hix Ausbon by:
Mr. and Mrs. Thoms S. Coble, Jr.
Circle 4, Duke Memorial UMC

In memory of Mrs. Elsie S. Graham by:
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Vaughan, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Dillard Teer
Mrs. Elther B. Vaughan
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Foulke, and
Frank and Danny Vashaw, Atlanta, Ga,
Marjorie S. Ivie and Janice L. Graham,
Nieces, Simi Valley, Cal.
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Smitherman, Sr.,
Troy, NC

THANK YOU--To each senior high for giving of yourself and your love in the worship service Sunday.

The Lord said to me, "I knew you before you were formed within your mother's womb; before you were born I sanctified you and appointed you as my spokesman to the world."

"O Lord," I said, "I can't do that! I'm far too young! I'm only a youth!"

"Don't say that," He replied, "for you will go wherever I send you and speak whatever I tell you to. And don't be afraid of the people, for I, the Lord, will be with you and see you through."

-- Jeremiah 1:4-8

Jeremiah was afraid to go and spread God's message, but God gave him the strength he needed. It is that first step that gives us the courage to take the second. My prayer is that our youth will feel the love and support of Duke Memorial so they will continue in their efforts to serve God willingly and joyfully.

-- Laura Early

CHURCH CALENDAR APRIL 4 - 10, 1982

Sun.	9:00 a. m.	Holy Communion
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	4:00 p. m.	Confirmation Class
	5:00 p. m.	UMYF
Mon.	11:00 a. m.	United Methodist Women
Tues.	6:00 p. m.	Methodist Men
	7:45 p. m.	Administrative Board
Wed.	10:00 a. m.	Fall Festival Workshop
	12:10 p. m.	Devotions & Lunch, Leader: J. V. Hoyle
Thurs.	6:00 p. m.	Seder Meal; 7:30 Communion
Fri.	7:30 p. m.	Good Friday Service, Sanctuary