

Mikes Monday Message

Palm Sunday

"They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!'"

John 12:13

Dear Friends,

I have a Jewish friend who asked me, "As Christians, what is your most holy time of the year?" I guess the most obvious answer is Easter; certainly that is when we have the best attendance in the Christian church. But sadly, many of the folks that show up for worship on Easter morning have given no thought to the events of Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday. I am not even sure how many people who claim to be Christians know about the season of Lent... which is 40 days preceding Easter (not counting Sundays). At New Wappetaw we have been blessed to have Lenten suppers and a study on Wednesday evenings. The last one is this Wednesday. If you haven't attended one of these Wednesday evening gatherings, I invite you to join us this week at 6:30.

For our Palm Sunday service this Sunday (April 2nd) we have special music planned. We have a guest soloist, an expanded choir, the children will process in with the palm branches and we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism (the third in four weeks). If you have not been to worship in a while, I invite you to join us and experience the excitement and feel the energy as the pews are filling up, new folks are joining our church family, we are doing some great mission initiatives, and I hope the new church landscape plan will be completed by Easter.

Since our friends at St James-Santee joined us for our Ash Wednesday service, they will host Maundy Thursday service, April 6th, at 6:30pm. I look forward to Easter and the special service we have planned for that "most holy of days on the Christian calendar!!"

It is a joy to be your pastor.

Blessings,
Mike

Upcoming events in the life of the church:

Lenten meal and Study, Wednesday March 29, 6:30pm
Wisteria Parade Saturday April 1, at 10:30 am
Palm Sunday Service, special music and baptism, April 2, 10:00am
Maundy Thursday service at St James-Santee April 6, 6:30pm
Easter Sunday service, April 9, 10:00am
Men's dinner, Thursday April 13

Upcoming Missions:

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 2nd and Easter Sunday, April 9th. This special offering supports Presbyterian missions for disaster relief, feeding the hungry, and self-development of people. Please consider making a generous gift.

Vacation Bible School - July 10-14

This annual community event will be hosted by St. James Santee Episcopal Chapel this year. Please call Rev. Roy Hills (843-437-6366) to volunteer. Teachers, snack providers, helpers of all ages are needed.