JUDSON
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Bring your Hopes. Bring your Doubts. Feed your Soul.

March 24, 2024, 9:30 am

Welcome to Judson Memorial Baptist Church. Today is Palm Sunday, the day when Jesus rode a donkey into the city of Jerusalem. As the donkey trotted with Jesus on his back, people waved palm branches as he rode by shouting Hosanna. It had to have been an odd day!

This morning's welcome, offered by Karla McGray, is from Coventry Cathedral. Bob Clague will offer the Personal Reflection (a time, 5-7 minutes, when people from the community offer what is on their heart). Carolyn Kolovitz will share a Guided Meditation. I will offer a brief homily (think 4-6 minutes) of American Fiction, Satire, and Palm Sunday. Lastly, Jim Frederickson will offer a Stewardship moment (yes, it's that time of year again). There will be other people too in the worship service like the choir, maybe a puppet, and someone will for sure have an announcement. As always, feel free anytime during worship to help yourself to a cup of the Midwest's best cup of church coffee (which isn't saying much, but it's something nevertheless) or tea.

Peace of Christ be with you,

Travis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date: Jackie Thureson's memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 11 am.

Help is needed for the reception following the April 6th service for Jackie Thureson. We need your help with set-up, serving, and clean-up for the reception following the service for Jackie. We will also be providing bars for the reception.
We need two (2) folks for some initial set-up on Friday morning, April 5th, at 10 am. On Saturday, April 6th, we need:

- Two (2) folks at 10:15 am. to cut and plate bars.
- Four (4) folks immediately following the 11 am. service to assist with food and beverage set-up and monitoring.
- Four to five folks (4-5) for clean-up.

If you can help with the reception and/or provide bars, please let Polly Schrom know at schrompolly@gmail.com or text 612-704-1673. Thank you so much!

Tuesday, March 26, we will have our Zoom Spiritual Voyagers Bible study, 7:00-8:30 pm Minnesota time.

Consider yourself welcomed and encouraged to join in, whether you have been a regular or whether you have not been with us for a while. Either way, we would be blessed by having you with us on Tuesday, and we trust you would be blessed, as well. Contact Keith Ford for the Zoom information at kjff11@gmail.com.

After we reintroduce ourselves and share any updates, we will return to Matthew, starting at Matthew 17:24-27. This portion of scripture is especially timely as we approach the April 15 deadline for filing our tax returns. We can discuss Matthew 17:24-27 from three perspectives:
1. Jesus' time, when a temple tax was collected from Jewish people.
2. The time of the early church, 60 years later, when taxes were paid to the Romans.
3. Today, when we pay taxes to the U.S.A. and state governments.

A few springboard questions...
* How do you react to the temple tax collectors' question to Peter, and his answer?
* What do you make of Jesus' comments about this, and his miracle "solution"?
* What about us and taxes? What is your attitude about it all, and implications?

If we complete our tax discussion, we will move into Matthew 18, a fascinating chapter which gives us some extensive insights to Jesus' perspectives about children, about handling others' sins and faults, and about forgiveness.

I look forward to seeing you and hearing your comments on Tuesday.

Wayne

Save the Date: Dinner and a Show returns on Saturday, April 13. More details to follow.

Presentation by Travis. On April 7, following worship, I am offering my presentation Embracing Your Inner Child: How Mister Rogers, Sesame Street, Ted Lasso, and Howard Thurman Can Strengthen Faith at Any Age (yes, my titles, like my sermons, are generally too long). I will offer this presentation at Space for Grace, a conference in Philadelphia. If you can attend, please let me know, I will provide pizza and drinks, you provide honest feedback.

Baptism Class. Our first baptisms since COVID-19 will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th. The four-week baptism class will start the week of April 15th. Please see the pastor if you are interested. This class is open to everyone.

Apples in Winter – a Play by Jennifer Fawcett, directed by Brian Balcom, will be presented at the Gremlin Theatre March 22 – April 7. www.gremlintheatre.org. The play won the coveted Smith Prize from the National New Play Network and received a Rolling World Premiere in 2019. "Beautifully written… an enthralling, emotional, impactful play… a remarkable piece of theater" – The Family Stage, UK / "An Intimate, artful, must-see show…This is a play that everyone needs to see" – Little Village Magazine.

TRUST Happenings: The meal scheduled for Sunday, March 24, has been **CANCELLED.**
April 4, 2024, is the next TRUST Lunch & Learn from 11:30 am to 2 pm. It is hosted at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis, MN. **Registration required:** call 612-827-6159 or Trust@trustinc.org

If you are planning on bringing treats for our college students, please coordinate with Gayle Foster Lewis at 952-808-9893.

Calendar: Please try to let the office know when you are meeting at 612-822-0649 or info@judsonchurch.org. There are many groups starting to meet again, and I want to make sure that everyone gets the spot they would like to meet in. Thank You.

Donations from Loose Offerings

So far this fiscal year, [6-1-23 to 3-17-24] We have given away $6,880 to various causes from our loose (cash) offerings each week. On the first and third Sundays, we give to Starfish and Joyce Food Shelves.	Starfish	$2,815
	Joyce Food Shelves	$ 730
	Shaw University Choir	$ 325
	Meals on Wheels	$ 575
	AWAB	$ 324
	Planet Care Road Show	$ 309
	Shapan Orphanage	$1,802
	Total	$6,880

We thank you for your generosity to these causes.