



STATIONS OF THE GOSPEL
A Journey from Jerusalem to Calvary
Monday – Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Today is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. During this week we are reminded to reflect upon the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross.

Jesus had gone to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover with his disciples when he was caught in a web of events that would eventually lead to his death. The crowds who were waving palm branches and proclaiming him the messianic king would only five days later cry for his execution – a sobering reminder of the human tendency to want God on our own terms.

What happened one Friday in Jerusalem was not "once upon a time," but once for all time. As Christians we are called to follow Jesus on his lonely trek from the Upper Room through Gethsemane to Calvary.

Starting tomorrow (Monday) you will have the opportunity to journey with Jesus to the cross. The Stations of the Gospel will be set up in the Sanctuary Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. A booklet will guide you through the stations where you will be able to spend any amount of time you wish reflecting on the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross.

Let this truly be a Holy Week.

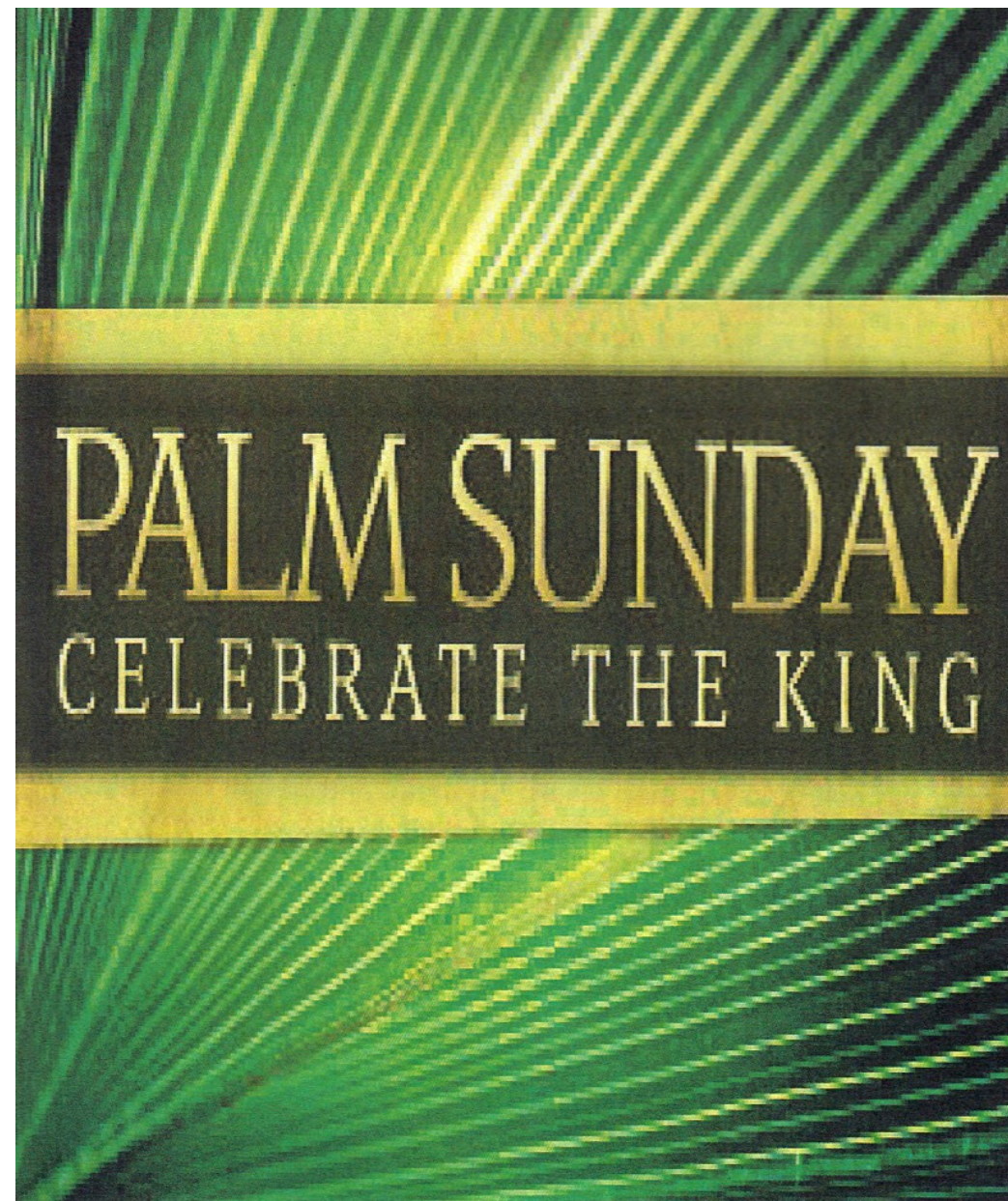
Central Church

912 Fourth Ave., PO Box 485, Lake Odessa, MI 48849

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(616) 374-8861

Rev. Karen Sorden, Pastor



CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Lake Odessa, Michigan

Rev. Karen Sorden

April 9, 2017

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Karen Sorden

Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.

Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)

Here comes your King, riding on a donkey!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Here enters your King into the City of Jerusalem!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

There is your King, dying on a cross.

Hosanna to the Son of David!

There rests your King, in a tomb hewn out of rock.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Your Messiah has fallen, how can you still go on?

Hosanna to the Son of David!

This path leads to death, and still you choose to follow him?

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Come, let us follow the Christ who lives and dies for us and lives again!

*OPENING HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Hymnal 280

Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets.

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, as we remember your Son’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we confess that all too often we have been part of the crowd. When things go our way we believe our lives are good because we worked hard; when things do not go our way we blame others for our troubles. God, help us to take responsibility, not only for our own lives, but for the lives of our neighbors. Forgive us when we have forgotten your commandments and

have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves but instead have judged others, believing them not worthy of our help or compassion. Forgive us of our faults, and renew in us a sense of your love, justice and mercy. Guide us in ways we might live out your commandments more fully in our lives. Help us to seek Christ in the suffering in this world, and guide us as the body of Christ to be your hands and feet. In your Son’s precious name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM

“Comes Riding Jesus”

Chancel Choir

David Bridges

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

“Crying Stones”

Rev. Karen Sorden

Luke 19:29-40

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Hymnal 278

THIS WEEK’S PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAISES

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

*SONG AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Hymnal 95

*CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

Hymnal 581

*BENEDICTION

*RINGING OF THE BELLS

*POSTLUDE

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



TRUSTEE'S SPRING CLEAN-UP

Please join with the Board of Trustees and other volunteers to help with our Spring Clean-up of the church property on **Sunday, April 23rd** after worship. Bring your gloves, rakes, brooms, shovels, and other outdoor tools needed to tidy up the lots and alley. There isn't anything major planned at this time.

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See Von Goodemoot or Kay Barcroft today if you'd like to walk in the **Lakewood Area CROP Hunger Walk** on April 30. If you can't walk, you can still help this worthy cause by donating to one or more of our Central walkers. Donation envelopes are in Fellowship Hall. One-fourth of all funds raised come back to our community to support the Lakewood Community Council.

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Roll Down, Justice! A Biblical Reflection for Lent

Everyone is welcome to attend the Lenten study, *Roll Down, Justice!*, a biblical reflection written by Faye Wilson and featuring the music and reflections of Mark A. Miller. Together we will look closely at the work we each have yet to do to "seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God."

Join us, along with Pastor Mark Jarvie and members of the Congregational Church, on Wednesdays during Lent for a light lunch and a time of study and reflection. This will be our last week of the series; on **Wednesday, April 12, we will meet at First Congregational Church at 12:00 pm**. We hope to see you there!

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If you missed the April newsletter in last week's bulletin, there are extra copies available on the Ushers' tables. *This month's Prayer Calendar is also available on the ushers' tables and in Fellowship Hall. Please pick one up and include in your daily prayer practice.*

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Habitat for Humanity of Ionia County is holding a fundraiser at the Ionia Bowling Alley. Bring your family and friends today from 11:00 to 5:00pm and receive 3 games and shoe rental for only \$6.95 per person. 15% of all food sales will be donated; there will also be a bake sale and silent auction.

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MINISTER: Every Member of This Church
PASTOR: The Rev. Karen Sorden
SECRETARY: Kim Stoepker
ORGANIST: Marilyn Noffke
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Jackie Cunningham
CUSTODIANS: Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela
TODAY'S SERVICE:

Audio/Visual

Today: Tony Barcroft / Shelly Reiser
Next Sunday: Same

Coffee Fellowship

Today: Open
Next Sunday: Open

Greeters

Today: Del & Jane Kostanko / Jane Lawther
Good Friday:
Next Sunday: Del & Jane Kostanko / Jane Lawther

Nursery

Today: Jean Cook / Marcia Bytwerk
Next Sunday: Brenda Steele / Penny Thelen

Ushers

Today: Kim & Dawn Deardorff
Good Friday: Del Kostanko / Mike McCartney
Next Sunday: Kim & Dawn Deardorff

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**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call
Pastor Karen at the parsonage (374-8294).**

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Jennifer	Toni Robinson	Susan McDaniels
Tom Noffke	Unspoken grieving	Unspokens
For healing of fears & for receiving encouragement for direction		
Praise: Karl Klynstra; God's love		
Safe Travel: Randy, Laura, Benjamin Noffke; all travelers on spring break.		

Continued in Prayer

Sgt. Branden Curtis	Karl Klynstra	Gary Smith
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston	Ginny Kruisenga	Ed Hilliker
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr	Dale Patterson	Dave & Sue Steeby
1SG Nicholas Ludema	Toni Robinson	Hank Minenna
PFC Jason Hilley	Phylis Armstrong	Susan Steele
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow	Pam Coleman	Sharon Brink
Ross McDowell	Susan McDaniels	Terena Galaviz
Nadine Speas	Karie Hilley	Jim Decker
Family of Dean Watrous		

Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott	Margot Bailey	Ada Dennie
Lois Goodemoot	Marian Klein	Joanne McDaniels
Phil Shetterly		

BIRTHDAYS

4/9 Jamie Everett
4/10 Aaron Reiser

OUR PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
Hastings First UMC, Hastings
Living Gospel Church, Lake Odessa

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Blood DRIVE TOMORROW - February 6th, 2017
12 to 5:45 pm.
Fellowship Hall.

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EVENTS

Mon 4/10	Missions Committee – Front Room	9 am
	Blood Drive – Fellowship Hall	12 – 5:45 pm
	A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
Wed 4/12	Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall	9 am – 12 pm
	Lenten Bible Study – <i>First Congregational Church</i>	12 pm
	Choir Rehearsal – <i>Sanctuary</i>	7 pm
Thur 4/13	Respite Care – Lounge	1:30 pm
	Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	4:30-6:00 pm
	Maundy Thursday Service – Sanctuary	7 pm
Fri 4/14	Community Good Friday Service – Sanctuary	1 pm
Sat 4/15	Easter Egg Hunt – Lake Odessa Park	10 am
Sun 4/16	Easter Sunday Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>	10:30 am
Mon 4/17	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
	Finance Committee Meeting – Front Room	6 pm
	A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
4/18-4/19	<i>Pastor Karen out-of-office to Workshop</i>	
Thur 4/20	Respite Care – Lounge	1:30 pm
	Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	4:30-6:00 pm
Fri 4/21	<i>Pastor's Sabbath - Church office closed</i>	
Sun 4/23	Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>	10:30 am
Mon 4/24	Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Lounge	7 pm
	A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
Wed 4/25	Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall	9 am – 12 pm
	Choir Rehearsal – <i>Sanctuary</i>	7 pm

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<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>April 13</i>	<i>7:00 pm service</i>
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>April 14</i>	<i>1:00 pm service</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>April 16</i>	<i>10:30 am service</i>