

March 24, 2024

10:00 AM

# PALM SUNDAY COME WORSHIP THE LORD!



## PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS

(Entering worship, let us prepare our hearts in quiet meditation.)

"Many in our churches hope to have a part in "something big and exciting." But God calls us back—back to the simplicity of the faith; back to the simplicity of Jesus Christ and His unchanging Person!" ~ A. W. Tozer

"Our civilization teaches us how to take possession of things when it should rather initiate us in the art of letting go, for there is neither freedom nor real life without an apprenticeship in dispossession." ~ Gabriel Marcel



**EACH ONE INVITE ONE** (One I pray for this week)

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## WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### March Scripture: (Isaiah 55:6-7)

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

## PRAISE TO AN AWESOME GOD

### CALL TO WORSHIP (Hosanna means "save now")

Pastor: Hosanna, ruler of all, creator of all!

Ministers: [Reclaim this suffering world.](#)

P: Hosanna, righteous Jesus, saving Lord!

M: [Redeem us from sin's deadly grip.](#)

P: Hosanna, renewing Spirit, living Word!

M: [Restore us to the joy of your salvation.](#)

### INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

#### \*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

Hymnal #805

## \*THE PEACE

\*HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"  
(Sharing of Palms).

Hymnal #92

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (unison)

Generous God, you have given us so much. Yet we ask you to give us one more thing. Give us thankful hearts because we know our hearts can be hard and cold. Too often we hold on when we should let go. We clutch when we should spend, hoard when we should be generous, doubt when we should lean on faith. We are fearful instead of trusting in your everlasting care. Open our hearts, to see the overwhelming bounty of your love, which cares for the flowers of the fields, the birds in the air, each child who toddles, each parent who worries, every person who struggles. If you care so much for every aspect of your creation, how can we doubt your care for us, your presence in our lives, walking and reaching out to us each day? Yes, you have given us so much. Give us now the assurance of your love and care and fill us with grateful hands and hearts that we may offer our lives for you who is the savor and Lord of life. Amen

## WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

\*OLD TESTAMENT: Amos 6:1-7

Bible p.909

## PRAYER TO A LISTENING SAVIOR

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERING SENTENCE AND PRAYER (Matthew 10:38-39)

Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

OFFERTORY: The Sherman Church Choir

*(Children are dismissed for Sunday School)*

### \*DOXOLOGY:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*praise him, all creatures here below;*

*praise him above, ye heavenly host:*

*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

\*HYMN: "This Is My Father's World"

Hymnal #808

Hymnal #384

## PREACHING THE WORD

\*GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-40

Bible p.1031

SERMON: "What Do We Really Need?"

## PROCLAIMING THE GLORY OF CHRIST

\*HYMN: "He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought"

Hymnal #635

\*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE (\*Congregation, please stand if able.)



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Brian Barnier, health.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Nicole Thorp, health.
- Amos Munch, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Willis Stephens, (Jon Stephens' father), health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Jill Finch, health
- Betty Beatty, health
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health
- Mark Gerber, health

## OUR MISSIONARIES:

Nic & Christy Brenner; Robert & Nina Bruneau; 4C Church Planting; Lion of Judah Academy.

## DONATIONS FOR THE VETERANS HOSPITAL

The church continues collecting items for the Veterans Hospital in West Haven. There is a list of needed items in the Fellowship Hall.

**HOPELINE** is in need of several items. Please bring them to church and place them in the basket in the narthex.

**(List of needed items is in the Narthex)**

## UPCOMING:

### Women's Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

### Lenten Luncheon (Sunday)

Mar. 24

**DEACONS** of the church are always available to meet with you, pray with you, and hear your concerns.

## PRAYER TEAM

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at the Sherman Church.

A Prayer Team meets every Thursday to pray for our Church Family.

If you have an immediate prayer concern, please call or email the church office or the Pastor. We will share the need with the Prayer Team.

**FIRE EXITS** are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**March 23, 10:00 AM**

### A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

Humbling Ourselves Before a God of Grace and Love.

**March 24 – 10:00 AM**

### PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

Celebrating a Misunderstood Messiah

**March 28 – 6:30 PM**

### MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER & THE LORD'S SUPPER

A Suffering Servant Shares New Life with Disciples

**March 29 – 7:00 PM**

### GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF TENANBRAE

The Seven Last Word of Christ

**March 31**

### 6:30 AM EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Rejoicing in the Risen Son!

### 10:00 AM CELEBRATING EASTER HOPE

Jesus is the Living Hope

# LIVING SIMPLY

Jesus said, "A person does not fulfill his life by the accumulation of material possessions"

Luke 12:15



THE SHERMAN CHURCH  
March 24, 2024

THE SHERMAN CHURCH

A MEMBER CHURCH OF  
THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784

860-354-6114

info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

## A SIX-POINT SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL

Here's a summary of the gospel to help you understand it and enjoy it and share it!

1) *God created us for his glory.*

"Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory" (*Isaiah 43:6-7*). God made all of us in his own image so that we would image forth, or reflect his character and moral beauty.

2) *Therefore every human should live for God's glory.*

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (*1 Corinthians 10:31*). The way to live for the glory of God is to love him (*Matthew 22:37*), trust him (*Romans 4:20*), be thankful to him (*Psalms 50:23*), obey him (*Matthew 5:16*), and treasure him above all things (*Philippians 3:8; Matthew 10:37*). When we do these things we image forth God's glory.

3) *Nevertheless, we have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory.*

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (*Romans 3:23*). "Although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him . . . and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images" (*Romans 1:21-23*). None of us has loved or trusted or thanked or obeyed or treasured God as we ought.

4) *Therefore we all deserve eternal punishment.*

"The wages of sin is (eternal) death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (*Romans 6:23*). Those who did not obey the Lord Jesus "will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might" (*2 Thessalonians 1:9*). "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life" (*Matthew 25:46*).

5) *Yet, in his great mercy, God sent his only Son Jesus Christ into the world to provide for sinners the way of eternal life.*

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us" (Galatians 3:13). "Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18).

6) *Therefore eternal life is a free gift to all who will trust in Christ as Lord and Savior and supreme Treasure of their lives.*

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (*Acts 16:31*). "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (*Romans 10:9*). "By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (*Ephesians 2:8-9*). "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (*Galatians 2:20*). "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ" (*Philippians 3:8*).



**First Friday April 5 at 6:30pm** will feature a game called Fishbowl which all ages can play. Slightly older kids will find it easier, but littler ones can help. It involves two teams seated around a table, every participant writing out 5 slips of paper with anything that can be acted out in charades. This may be a movie title, a character in a book, items in the room, a famous phrase, items of clothing, or anything that you can think of. This easily adapts to include Bible characters, items used in

worship, famous scripture (short), and again, anything you can think of. In the first round, the first person to choose a slip of paper from the Fishbowl may say as many words, use as many gestures, point, etc., to get his/her team to guess what is on the slip of paper. The person has 1 minute to get through as many slips as possible. The game continues until all the slips have been at least attempted (1 pass allowed per person). The number of correct clues answered will be that team's first-round score.

Next round is charades with the same slips of paper. By now, the teams may slightly remember the earlier clues. But no words may be used.

Third and final round is one word only, no gestures, no pointing. Again, by now the teams have heard the clues twice, and sometimes it requires only one word for them to guess the answer. But the clue-giver may use only one word, so he/she must choose wisely. The winning team may get a prize (TBD), but the prize is the fellowship and fun of testing our brains and competing against our friends.

There WILL be ice cream.

Aimée Suhie

## FOLLOWING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE JOIN US FOR OUR LENTEN LUNCHEON

A time of learning and discussion around the series  
"The Journey: The Story of the Bible  
from Creation to New Creation."

**NEXT WEEK:** We finish the series "Journey to Jerusalem" – our theme for Lent – with the joyous celebration of Easter. Prepare each week by reflecting on the Word of God through the devotional material inserted in this bulletin. As always this is a special service to share the Gospel Hope in ways that open us to the love of God in Christ Jesus. Come to worship having read the scripture for the day, which Mar 31 will be **Luke 24:1-35**.

### TRANSITION TEAM WANTS YOUR INPUT

What qualities do you want in a pastor? Personable, caring, magnetic? What skills and abilities do you think are most important for the next pastor of this church? Your opinion is important as the TT puts together a profile of "pastor next" for The Sherman Church. Surveys were emailed Monday, March 11; check your inbox. Hard copies are in the Narthex. **Please respond by March 31, 2024.**

## WARNING

**Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting  
of The Sherman Church will be held in the sanctuary  
April 7, 2024, at 11:30am  
Immediately Following the Worship Service  
In-person and via Google Meet**

- **To approve expenditure of more than \$5,000 for painting of the parsonage.**
- **To approve the new church vision as created by the Transition Team.**
- **To hear and act upon any business proper to come before the congregation.**

**Dated at Sherman, Connecticut, this 24th day of March 2024.  
Aimée M. Suhie, Clerk**

## OUR CHURCH:

**Pastor:** Rev. John Loring Carpenter, Interim Pastor  
**Ministers:** The Congregation  
**Minister of Music:** Carolyn Kopsick  
**Moderator:** Edna Coons  
**Chair of Deacons:** Charles Mastroni  
**Co-Chair of Trustees:** Don Coons and Lynn Paulovicks  
**Flowers:** Lynne Gomez  
**Announcements:** Aimee Suhie  
**Prayers of the People:** Suzanne Browning  
**Reader:** Penny LeMasurier  
**Greeter:** Suzanne Browning  
**Coffee Hour Host:** Debbie Thorp  
**Nursery:** Aimee Suhie  
**Usher:** Paul Voorhees

### CALENDAR

**March 24th - March 30th**

(Links for online meetings may be found at [shermanchurch.org](http://shermanchurch.org))

#### SUNDAY:

**WORSHIP SERVICES** at 10:00 A.M. (Also Live Streamed)  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**Lenten Luncheon - Palm Sunday (After Worship)**

#### WEDNESDAY:

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00 AM - Fellowship Hall  
**CHURCH COUNCIL** at 6:00 P.M. Online  
**AA** at 7:00 P.M - Fellowship Hall

#### THURSDAY:

**MAUNDY THURSDAY POTLUCK** at 6:30 PM  
And Communion Service at 7:30 PM

#### FRIDAY

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** at 7:00 PM

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Pot- Luck  
The Last Supper*



If you will be joining us each family is asked to bring either a main dish, casserole, large salad, or a dessert.

To R.S.V.P. you can either drop this form in the collection plate, call or email Jess in the Church Office or you can call Jill Finch .

The Church Office: *Jill Finch:*  
(860)354-6114 (860)355-8707  
Info@shermanchurch.org

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_

*I will bring:*

Main dish: \_\_\_\_\_

Casserole: \_\_\_\_\_

Salad: \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert: \_\_\_\_\_

*Our pot-luck supper will be followed by a  
Communion Service at 7:30 PM*



## EASTER FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

*Last Day*

The flower committee is making plans to decorate the church sanctuary and the outside of the church for the Easter season.

Memorials will again be done by free-will donations to the Flower Fund in place of individual plant ordering. Flower donation envelopes are available in each pew as of **March 3, 2024**. Simply place your donation in an envelope, with "In Memorial or In Honor of..." and place it in the offering plate.

The amount of your donation will only be known to the Financial Secretary of the church. If you do not live in the local area and wish to donate to the Flower Fund, please mail it, clearly marked, to the church office and your gift will be entered into the memorial folder. To be included in the memorial folder your donation should be received by **March 24th**. Donations to the Flower Fund will go to all decorations unless otherwise noted.

If you have any questions, please call the church office or speak with Penny LeMasurier, Edna Coons or Anna Galasso on Sunday morning! Keep an eye out for the next Flower Committee meeting. Anyone interested in this ministry is welcome to join us.

JOIN US FOR A

## SHERMAN CHURCH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY!



**Please bring your own rakes, tree trimming tools and cleaning supplies.**

**APRIL 6TH  
START AT 9:00 AM**

In the event the weather does not cooperate with us, the rain date will be **April 13th**.

**Help keep our church beautiful and join us on Saturday, April 6th at 9:00 am for our annual spring clean-up day.**

# LENT INSERT - WEEK 7

## Holy Week

### March 25-31st, 2024

## Celebrating Life In Hope



Getting to the cross is not all there is. Crucifixion is a way station where journey experiences transition, and identity is realized; where nourishment is needed and accountability is demanded; where fellowship is celebrated and decisions rewarded.

Beyond the cross stretches the same road on which you began your pilgrimage. Just when you think you have arrived, an eternal itinerary calls you on. You have died as you knew you would, but now there are claims to stake, stories to tell, growing to do, a church to unleash.

You thought if you could only get it over with, you could call it quits, but it is never over. The cross's shadows are perpetual and persistent; you fall heir to the cross's message and that message knows no boundaries of time, no limitations of geography. The journey goes on.

But there is a difference, and that difference is Easter! The presence of Christ you suspected, hoped for, experienced occasionally on the way to the cross, is now a certain truth you cannot deny. You cannot argue with His Spirit, so sanctified and supernatural you call Him holy. There is no reasonable debate with the power of God let loose in the resurrected life of Jesus Christ. What was becoming, has become!

This is the hope of Easter! New life. New focus. Eternal life, bound in His Spirit, experienced on the rest of the journey, knowing you are not alone. God is with you. That is what followers experienced on the rest of the journey. That is what you can experience when centered in Him and Lord and Savior. Thanks be to God!

This week let's journey together to the empty tomb, the hope of new life, as we seek the resurrected Savior, Jesus Christ.

# READINGS FOR THE WEEK

*(After each day is space for reflection)*

MONDAY 3/25

Psalm 116

TUESDAY 3/26

1 John 3:16-24

WEDNESDAY 3/27

Philippians 1:12-26

THURSDAY 3/28

John 13:1-7

**MAUNDY THURSDAY, 6:30 PM**

FRIDAY 3/29

Romans 5:6-10

**GOOD FRIDAY, 7:00 PM**

SATURDAY 3/30

Psalm 31

SUNDAY - **EASTER**

Luke 24:1-35

**SUNRISE SERVICE 6:30 AM**

**EASTER CELEBRATION, 10:00 AM**