

WHAT'S HAPPENING? – MARCH 24, 2024 – PALM SUNDAY

Hello Westminster folks:

As captioned above, this coming Sunday, March 24 is Palm Sunday. And yes, we will have palm branches for you to wave, and we'll be singing the beloved Palm Sunday hymns as well. In addition, the Westminster Singers will have a special anthem for us that day. Palm Sunday is a great and joyous celebration in our Christian tradition, one always worth attending and being part of.

And don't forget! We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion that day too. In light of this, I remind those attending Zoom-church to have appropriate communion elements at hand. Let me remind you too that we at Westminster have an open communion table, and everybody, regardless of denomination, Christian tradition, or no denomination and/or tradition are invited to take part. In short, all are invited.

Our assigned Palm Sunday gospel readings will be Mark 11:1-11 (Jesus Enters Jerusalem) and Mark 14:12-26 (The Passover with His Disciples). My sermon for Palm Sunday will focus on the power of joining together to eat, either a 'real' meal or a symbolic one like communion. No less important, I'll talk about the significance of bread for Jesus himself and throughout the Christian tradition, and what (from God's perspective) makes a meal or bread, or communion 'holy'. You might be surprised at the answer because, when you get right down to brass tacks, the 'holiness' customarily associated with bread itself, or a 'real meal' or communion actually has little or nothing to do with religious rites, rules, ritual and pageantry. It's more basic, and more important, than these things.

Do you think you might know the answer to what makes a real meal with family and friends, bread and communion 'holy'?

To hear my reply to this 'holiness question' stay tuned for our Palm Sunday service of worship and celebration of life.

I'll conclude this issue of "What's Happening?" by letting you know that on Sunday, April 7 (the Sunday after Easter) we will be celebrating 'New Members Sunday'. And we're asking anyone who might be interested in becoming a

member of Westminster United Church to get in touch with me by email at 4del@cogeco.ca ; Text at 519-324-2741; or telephone at 519-733-3341 for more details. Or if you prefer, you can visit me in my Church Study on Tuesday mornings between 10 and Noon. By the way, at last count, four individuals will be participating in formalizing their membership in our congregation so please consider joining with them.

Whether you plan to worship and celebrate in-person or virtually, I look forward to being with you again this coming Sunday.

Peace and Joy,

Rev. Del

A Special Announcement from Michael Oddy, Westminster's Pianist

"If you happen to be in the Windsor area this Sunday, March 24th at 7:30 pm and enjoy art songs then please consider coming to hear a baritone sing songs in German, English and Italian by composers such as Schubert, Vaughan Williams, Donaudy, Caccini and more. The baritone, Hayden, has also be selected to sing as a member of the National Youth Choir of Canada later this Spring. The hour or less concert will take place in the Performance Hall at the School of Creative Arts (SoCA) at UWindsor. Admission is FREE." Please see attached flyer.

The **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS** for this coming Sunday have been attached to this email.

INSIGHTS – I couldn't resist. See below, LOL!



Palm Sundae