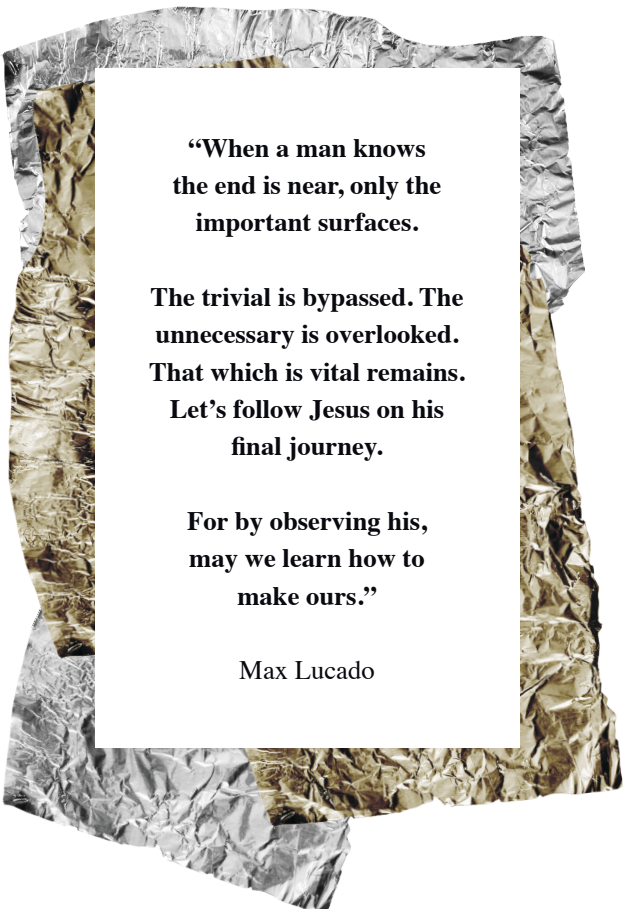




easter.

EXPERIENCE HIS STORY



**“When a man knows
the end is near, only the
important surfaces.**

**The trivial is bypassed. The
unnecessary is overlooked.
That which is vital remains.
Let’s follow Jesus on his
final journey.**

**For by observing his,
may we learn how to
make ours.”**

Max Lucado

I N V I T A T I O N

Dear Friends,

A pilgrimage is a journey to a special or unusual place. This Easter we invite you to go on a pilgrimage with us to the last week of Jesus' life. Often referred to as, Holy Week.

As you page through this beautiful piece and follow the narrative from "Palm Sunday" to our midweek "Stations of the Cross" through an intentionally prepared "Good Friday" service ending with Saturday and Sunday's "Resurrection" Easter experiences, you will relive the entire story in a deeply personal and meaningful way.

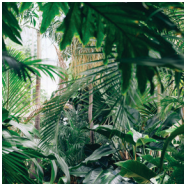
Through His story, our lives have purpose and meaning. Because of Him we are forgiven and loved. We have peace where there should be pain. This truth is greater than all the losses and sorrows of life. Because of Him death does not have the final word.

Our prayer, as we start this journey together is that we may recapture the weightiness and the gift of our Savior's sacrifice, death and resurrection that forever marks our lives.

With much love and anticipation for this season,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pierre & Marlice". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "M".

Pierre & Marlice du Plessis
Senior Pastors



Losanna.

PART 1 - THE PALM

“As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” - Luke 19:37-38

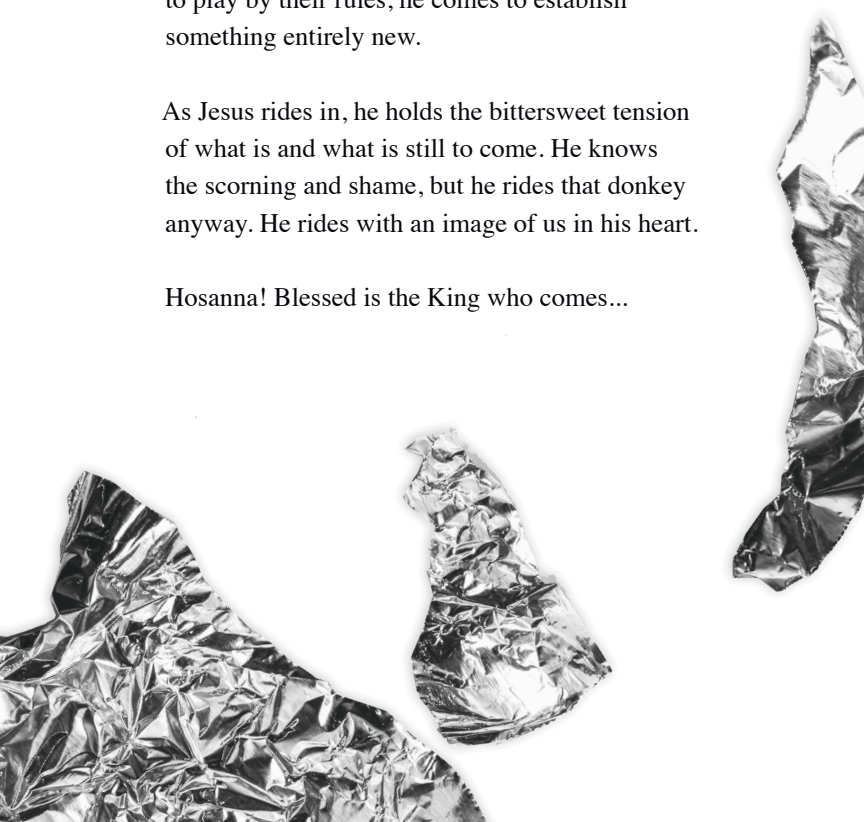
A crowd is gathering. Children are shouting. Palm branches are waving. They're being rolled out like a red carpet to make way for the King. Everyone surrounds Jesus. Both those who know him and those who do not. He is the fulfillment of the ancient prophecies.

*“See your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey...”
- Zechariah 9:9*

Most people do not understand what kind of king Jesus is. Many expect a political and military leader who will free them from the tyranny of the Empire. But he doesn't come to play by their rules, he comes to establish something entirely new.

As Jesus rides in, he holds the bittersweet tension of what is and what is still to come. He knows the scorning and shame, but he rides that donkey anyway. He rides with an image of us in his heart.

Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes...





it is finished.



PART 2 - THE CROSS

Imagine yourself in a final hour. What do you do? What do you say? Jesus prays. He chooses to pray on behalf of us.

He turns to a garden and he begs God for another way forward. For a moment, his humanity is at war with his divinity. But he knows the answer he hears is right because he prays with an image of us in his heart.


A disciple comes and gives Jesus a bitter kiss. He is marked. He is surrounded. He is arrested. He is betrayed.

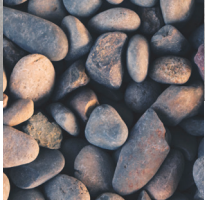
Jesus, now in chains, is once again in front of a crowd. This time they are not waving palms at him, they are yelling ‘crucify!’

He makes a shameful procession to Calvary. Nails to flesh, a mallet is beating Jesus to a cross. The blood streaks down the rugged wood as he stretches upward to catch an exhausted breath. His pain is unfathomable ... inhumane. He feels every bit of pain as to say to us “any pain you go through in this world, I have already been there.”

Jesus battles to exhale his last few words. And in an unassuming moment, he releases three of the most powerful words into the world:

“It is Finished.” - John 19:30





he is risen.

PART 3 - THE STONE

Jesus' body is wrapped in linen. A big stone is rolled in front of the tomb.

Everyone who once knew Jesus before he died, walks around today inhaling grief and exhaling confusion. Was anything he said or did true? What have we done to him?

The next day, the religious leaders ask Pilate to give an order for the tomb to be made extra secure. They say “we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said ‘After three days I will rise again.’ So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell people that he has been raised from the dead.” - Matthew 27:62-63

Slowly, Saturday turns to Sunday.

Heaven is patiently waiting. Earth is struck a moment it didn't expect: a violent earthquake. An Angel comes like lightning to roll back the stone of the tomb.

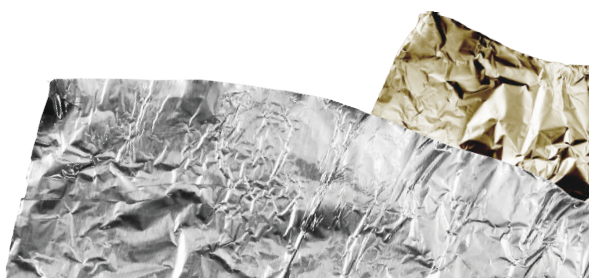
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary are at the tomb, they are confused. The angel says to the women:

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples” - Matthew 28:5-6

Friday's tragedy has become Sunday's triumph.

“Hope came dancing on an empty grave, death has lost its rule to the King of grace.” (Hillsong United)

Hallelujah! ***HE IS RISEN.***





K I D S B L A S T

4 weeks.

Starts on Easter Weekend for Kids (K-5 Grade)

Week 1: Friday, April 14 - Sunday, April 16

Week 2: Sunday, April 23

Week 3: Sunday, April 30

Week 4: Sunday, May 7

the great rescue plan.

Telling the story of Jesus through live puppet shows, BIG creative demonstrations, non stop fun, large group games and special prizes.

Note: Kids programs are always available every weekend for ages Birth - 5th Grade.

S T A T I O N S O F T H E C R O S S

april 10 - 12.

This self guided journey will engage your senses and heart through a series of significant moments through the last hours of Jesus' life. For these three days our Chili Campus will be transformed into eight stations that fully immerse an individual or small group into the passion narrative. At the first station receive a map with instructions to guide you through the experience. Start your journey through an installation on creation as you reflect on the beauty of God's plan, pause at the garden of Gethsemane, witness the betrayal of Judas and participate in reliving the last days of Jesus all the way to death, burial and forgiveness.

For more information, visit:

tfhny.org/easter



H O L Y W E E K

palm sunday.

Sunday, April 9

8:15am, *10am & 11:45am

Chili & Greece Campuses

A service of anticipation & preparation.

stations of the cross.

Monday, April 10 - Wed, April 12

12pm - 9pm

Chili Campus

A self-guided and interactive experience with art and installations as you journey through the Stations of the Cross.

good friday.

Friday, April 14

5pm & *7pm

Chili & Greece Campuses

A service of shadow & contrast "tenebrae."

easter weekend.

Saturday, April 15 - 5pm & *7pm

Sunday, April 16 - 9am, *11am & 1pm

Chili & Greece Campuses

A celebration of life & hope.

*ASL (Chili Campus)

Chili Campus

715 Paul Road, 14624

Greece Campus

150 Bellwood Drive, 14606



holy week.



“Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light.” - James 1:19

God uses everything to tell the story of His love for us. He wraps it up as gifts to be opened.

These aren't gifts wrapped in paper but wrapped up in passion.

Those palms, a symbol of victory. Prophetic greenery pulling a glimpse of the future triumph before the present tragedy about to take place.

The cross, our greatest gift. Once a symbol of death now transformed into a symbol of love.

Finally, the stone. Through the hard and heavy finality of its exterior, we now see the power of Life. ***Our hope.***



THE FATHER'S HOUSE

tfhny.org/easter