

EASTER SEASON - A TIME FOR CELEBRATION

There is a common misperception in our society that Christmas is the most important day on the Christian calendar. We know, though, as important as Christmas is, no day is more important than the day Christ was vindicated by God and was resurrected. It not only corrected what was and is wrong in this world, but it also opened the door to eternity for us all. The only real question is, "How much will we integrate these eight important days into our lives?"

At Parkway, it all begins on **Passion Sunday** (also known as **Palm Sunday**), **April 9**. In our traditional service, through music, prayer, children's time, and sermon, we will tell the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and what happened to him during the first four days of Holy Week.

Palm Sunday Cantata – at **6 pm** on **Sunday, April 9**. Our choir will present *The Magnificat* by **Pergolesi** and other choral pieces. Joining the choir will be organist Joseph Cieslak, co-conductor of the New Orleans Volunteer Orchestra and Voices of New Orleans Choir. A dessert reception will follow the concert.

On **Maundy Thursday, April 13**, we will gather at Parkway in our Fellowship Hall with our sister church, **Kenner Presbyterian**. We'll start with a **meal at 6:00 p.m. followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.** In this service, we will focus on everything that happened to Christ from the Last Supper through the Crucifixion. This is an interactive service for all ages.

Labyrinth – Starting on **Maundy Thursday**, we will have a labyrinth available for walking, reflection, and meditation.

On **Easter Sunday, April 16**, we will gather for an ecumenical **Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. in Lafreniere Park**. The service lasts for about 30 minutes and is a great way for us to celebrate the Resurrection with the community. This Sunrise service has become a wonderful Parkway tradition that draws not only our members, but also many families from the community wanting to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Look for signs in the park directing you to the location of the service. Please bring a chair if you are able.

We continue the celebration of our Risen Lord at Parkway as the children will gather at 9:30 a.m. to build the flower cross with donations of flowers from members and friends and hide empty Easter eggs for the younger children.

At our **Easter worship at 10:30 a.m.**, we will tell the Easter story with a focus on participation by our children and youth.

Following the service, we will have the **Easter Egg Hunt** in the playground for the younger children. And a certain bunny will be there to greet them, too. Bring your camera. The collected eggs will be traded in for donated goodies, like little people candy (no gum, please) and simple toys.

The celebration of Christ's resurrection is a joyous time for us to come together as a Parkway family and a wonderful time to spread Christ's love to our neighbors.