

MINDFUL MONDAY MARCH 25th

Christmas and Easter are the two biggest events celebrated as a Christian. Jesus' birth and his death and resurrection. As we enter Holy Week, we think back to the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It holds so much anticipation, much like the birth of Jesus. At this time in Jesus' life he had performed miracles, been a witness of God to so many, and had started to earn what would be considered "celebrity status" in today's world. The crowds were excited and elated as he made his way into town. They waved branches and shouted out in adoration. As humble as his beginnings were being born in a stable, Jesus stayed true to this as he entered the town on a donkey.

Palm Sunday marked the time when Jesus was ready to reveal himself to the world. Jesus proceeded forward to be a witness of God, even though he knew his fate. As he revealed God's truth and took a stand against those in authority the crowd that celebrated his arrival, quickly turned and the excitement faded. Jesus was a threat to others, especially those in power. We know the rest of the story. God's plan was fulfilled. Jesus could have saved and convinced the crowds to support him, but God's plan was bigger. God was saving the world and future generations. This gesture of giving his Son to us was to speak beyond just this crowd of people, it was to exceed our expectations. Live this week in prayer and reflection for this gift given to us all.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16

Today we had many that we requested prayers for. We continue prayers for Lucy Walker's family. We are thankful for the great participation in the coin drive for Lucy and we are excited to present that gift to the family this week.

We continue to pray for Jan's mom who is still dealing with her health.

We lift up Sharon Payne and Ali Doran, members of our community that have been diagnosed with cancer and we ask for prayers for their treatment and health.

We pray for Chris's sister, Carla Foster, who had a mass removed.

We pray for all of those that are facing health ailments and need your strength, comfort, and presence.

We pray for the loss of Joanne Fry. Please lift up her family for peace.

We pray for our prayer list; Candy, Jerry & Bea, Craig, Floyd & Dona, Lorraine, Judy, Joanne, and Virginia.

We pray for this Holy Week and for our hearts to reflect on you Lord.

We pray for the pastors, congregations, and ministries on our Region's weekly prayer list.

Park Avenue Christian Church, Des Moines, IA, Doug Pfeiffer

First Christian Church, Woodbine, IA, Chuck Snow

George Lair

John Eilers

Darla Ewalt

Christian Church in Virginia