

The image features a vibrant green background with a pattern of diagonal brushstrokes that create a sense of movement and depth. A white, cursive script word, "Hosanna", is centered in the middle of the frame. The word is rendered with a slight 3D effect, appearing to float above the background. Below the word, there is a faint, mirrored reflection of the text. Two horizontal dashed white lines are positioned above and below the word, suggesting a template for a card or a page layout.

Hosanna

PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 2, 2023, 2023
11:00 A.M.

*All children are welcome to join in the traditional palm processional
in celebration of Palm Sunday*

Prelude: *Marche Religieuse* on the theme of the chorus
"Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates" from Handel's "Messiah" (A. Guilmant)

Welcome and Call To Worship

As the time came for Him to be taken up into heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

***As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road,
while others cut up branches from the trees and spread them on the road.***

When He came near the place where the road goes down to the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted,

***"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"***

Hymn of Praise 146: ***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Scripture Reading: Mark 15:33-41

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. ***All: Thanks be to God!***

Sermon: ***Why Are You Abandoning Me?***

Pastor Wes Oden

Time of Prayer

*Please feel free to sit, stand, kneel, or come to the altar
as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.*

Witness: Emily Spateholts

Songs of Adoration:

He's Always Been Faithful; Death Was Arrested; Your Grace is Enough
(Offering will be received during the third song)

Children's Sermon: ***Stick With It***

Hymn 43: ***Great is Thy Faithfulness***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon **Acolyte:** Addie Boon **Scripture Reader:** Luke Huizenga

Music Ministry Team:

Nayellis Perez, Levi Webb, vocals; Christopher Moeller, guitar; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jill Jordan, violin; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals; Dan Zambrano, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. On this day when we celebrate Christ's entry into Jerusalem amid the cheers and adulation of the crowd, we are reminded that by the end of the week he will be jeered and nailed to a cross. As we worship God with our songs and words, with our mouths and ears, with our hearts and minds, let us open ourselves to our loving Father.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Join in the church sanctuary this Thursday at 6:30 as we commemorate, through scripture, song, communion, the stripping of the church and Tenebrae, the last night of Jesus's life. We plan to stream this service as well.

THURSDAY: Celebrate Recovery does not meet this week.

GOOD FRIDAY: We are hosting a Day of Silent Prayer and Meditation in the church sanctuary, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Pastors will be available for prayer 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Judy Congdon will present an organ meditation from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! We will gather for a Baptism Service (7:45), Breakfast (8:30) and Worship Service (10:00). The Baptism Service and Worship Service will be streamed.

HWC Kids .

- "Rise & Shine," it's April! On a farm, life has a daily rhythm (for plants, animals, and people, too). "Life" is what this series is all about, because we're talking about Easter and Jesus' triumph over death! In this five-week series, kids will explore the stories leading up to and following Easter Sunday. Together, they'll discover we can stick with Jesus even when our days are dark, and that because Jesus is alive, we can spend our days meeting with him, trusting he's there for us, and sharing his love — not just today, but every day!
- This week in Kids Connect, kids hear about the time Peter denied knowing Jesus. **BIG IDEA:** I can stick with Jesus when my day is dark. **BIBLE:** Matthew 26:31-35; 57-75; Philippians 2:5-11
- Easter story search: come to the Sanctuary anytime the Church is open for an Easter story search. Start at the first page, then search for the next and the next until you've read the whole story. An Easter "gift" waits for you at the end.

EASTER LILIES: The Church welcomes your Easter lilies for Easter Sunday, April 9th. We have purchased several lilies which you may purchase for \$15.00 each or you may bring your own lily to drop off at the church office by Good Friday, April 7th. If you would like to purchase one or more lilies, you may use the online giving option, mail a check to the church office (indicate Easter lilies), or drop off payment at the church office. If you wish to purchase a lily in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email (pattystalker@hwchurch.org) or call Patty (567-2264) with your information by Monday, April 3rd.

MISSION MOMENT- Joel and Barbara Trudell resettled in New Mexico last month but are continuing their African continent-wide leadership related to literacy and Scripture use. After Wycliffe team meetings in Dallas they travel back home and then here to join us for Mission Weekend on April 22-23. They need our prayers and a rousing welcome.

PERSECUTED CHURCH - We often focus on Christians in hostile areas, but let us during Ramadan season pray for those bound by Satan to rely on good works for salvation and pour out our prayers for our gracious God to reveal Himself to millions seeking peace and acceptance.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITY: Interested in a unique, intensive, 2-evening, group Bible study of the book of Jonah? (7-10 pm on Apr 21 & 22) Ask Katrina Koehler or Pastor David for more details about *Secret Church!*

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$690,194.72 / Budget Received: \$677,732.95

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jerry Brown, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, Karen Gaerte, Bill Getty, Don Yeddo (Paul Rowley's step-father), Andy Mikolajczyk (Mary Lingenfelter's brother), Denise Zambrano, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Lenore Paige, Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Elijah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters particularly the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, the school shooting in Nashville this week and all of the recent acts of violence; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained for more than a year; for Our Lady of Angels Roman Catholic Church, Cuba.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 6 (Maundy Thursday)

6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)

7:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary

3:00 p.m. Organ Meditation (Church Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 9 (Easter)

7:45 a.m. Easter Baptism Service

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

On Good Friday (April 7th), the sanctuary will be open 7am to 7pm for silent contemplation and prayer. Retreat from the busyness of life before the cross in the sanctuary. Prayer guides and children's materials will be available. Pastoral staff are available between 10am-3pm to pray with you. There will be an Organ meditation 3 – 4pm.