



Our Purpose is to expand God's Kingdom, as we reach, teach, disciple and activate people for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Morganton First Church of God Weekly Schedule

Communion in the Prayer Room	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School:	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evenings	6:00 p.m.
Power House Youth and Prayer Service	
Wednesday Fellowship Supper	5:45 p.m.
Wednesday Small Groups	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Services	7:00 p.m.
Adult Bible Study, KidsPlace & PowerHouse Youth	

Our Website: www.mfcog.com



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PROCLAIMER



From Pastor Don

A WEEK OF PASSION

Palm Sunday and Easter are in April this year. Palm Sunday, known by many as the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem anchors this special week on one end; Easter Sunday, known by many as Resurrection Sunday of our Savior and Lord is at the other end. By many this week is known as Passion Week. Recognizing that the passion of God, the passion of Christ, are the motivations for these awesome events, we can humbly take a look at this time as being the

fulfillment of God's communication (Word) to us. "In the beginning was the Word..." "the Word was with God...was God." "We beheld his glory...glory of the only begotten."

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a lowly donkey, a burden-bearer, to the swelling cries of mobs waving palm branches. He has become our burden bearer (wave your palm branches, or pine boughs, in gratitude). Triumphal? Yes! The God of all creation was triumphing in His purpose and design for the salvation of the world. Lowly? Absolutely not! The donkey may be lowly, but the work of God through His Son is certainly triumphal -- over sin, over death, over the grave, over satan. So, as Jesus rode the donkey, he knew what he faced in the days ahead. But, not only in the days ahead, but for all eternity. It is therefore, that He rode in victory, in triumph.

The passion of Christ -- triumphal-entry Sunday, proclamations in the synagogues and in the streets and houses, the Last Supper, the instituting of the Eucharist or Communion, footwashing, betrayal, prayer (as it were great drops of blood) in the Garden of Gethsemane, the arrest, the trials, the mockery, the choice between Christ and a condemned murderer, His stand before Pilate and before the Sanhedrin and the High Priest, the beatings, the walk carrying the cross (the Via Dolorosa), the crucifixion including the hammered nails and sword-pierced side, the utter abandonment on the cross, the mockery by one being crucified and the plea by the other, the death, the bearing of our sins, the burial, and then the resurrection -- is rightly named so. More passion than any human would face in ten lifetimes.

Why? For the redemption of your sins, and for mine. You see, Jesus paid the eternal price for our sins, a price that required great passion, commitment, resolve and action. He did not back down; He did not flinch; He did not waver; He did not compromise; He did not backslide, sideward or miss a step. He put his face to the task, and was faithful. "Nevertheless, not my will but yours be done."

Now, where is your passion? In gratitude, and praise, and honor, and obedience, put your face to the task of bringing glory to the One Who has bought you with a price. Your redemption, your salvation are covered in the greatest Passion that the world can ever know. "I bowed on my knee and cried, 'Holy! ... Holy! ... Holy!'"