



## LAVINGTON UNITED CHURCH BULLETIN -5th April 2020

### PASTOR'S CORNER

#### **TOPIC: PALM SUNDAY - TURNING TRIALS INTO TRIUMPH**

#### **HABAKKUK 3.17-19; JAMES 1.1-4, MATTHEW 21.1-11**

The pastoral team extends the cavalry greetings and Christian love to all of you brothers and sisters, Men, Women, Youths, teens and our Junior Church wherever you are. We trust that God has kept you safe even as we go through this temporal phase of life when we can't meet in church. Our prayer is that God will reduce this duration so that we will resume meeting and worshipping together at His time.

Today we celebrate the Palm Sunday under the theme: Turning trials into triumph, as the day we remember the triumph entry of Jesus Christ in Jerusalem. This event marked the final stage of Jesus' ministry on earth. As Jesus nears Jerusalem with a huge crowd (approximately 2 million people) following him, He sends two unidentified disciples to get a colt (young donkey) that He was to use as He rode to Jerusalem. In asking for the colt to use as He entered into Jerusalem, Jesus was mirroring the Roman dignitary's method of entering a city either in a horse or donkey. As Jesus did, any time a Roman ruler or general needed to enter a city, his/her aid would commandeer a horse or donkey for the purpose. The only difference is that in most cases, the Roman rulers did not return the animal to the owner but we see Jesus promising to return the colt to the owner. By following this Roman custom, Jesus was sending a strong message that He was the messiah (Cp. Zechariah 9.9-12).

As we celebrate this Palm Sunday, we need to ask ourselves, are we willing to receive the king Jesus and allow him to be Lord in our lives? Are we willing to emulate Him in issues of humility like riding on a donkey not horses? Are we willing to stand for the truth even when standing for the truth will make us suffer as Jesus suffered just a few days after entering Jerusalem? Are we willing to offer our bodies as living sacrifices that is pleasing to God (Romans 12.1-3) just as Jesus offered Himself and died as atonement for our sins? May God help us as we make a very important decision of surrendering ourselves to Christ as our king? Jesus Christ, who is the lion of Judah will help us overcome all the battles that we are facing at this specific time. Jesus Christ is bigger and stronger than corona virus and any other threats in our lives. May God keep you safe.

The many trials we face today:

1. Makes us realize the importance of God.
2. Makes us know that we are equal in the eyes of God. This I hope will take away all forms of pride.
3. Makes us realize that God and not medical doctors heals.
4. This experience should bring back humanity. We see the difference between human being and being human
5. Take us back to the creator and to our morals
6. Push us to prayers- more prayers.
7. Human beings are now worshipping God rather than progress, science and technology
8. Has made us all stay at home and live simple lives.

With that understanding then we allow Christ to come and triumph over everything happening around us on this day and season. This is Easter season though we may be discouraged by what is happening around us, we will triumph in Christ.! The only remedy for us is to turn to God the author and the finisher of our lives.

Amen!



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### BULLETIN BOARD/NOTICES

#### **SUPPORT TO THE NEEDY**

The church is appealing for all to consider giving donations towards the support to the needy around us this time of Covid-19. We realize that many families are sleeping hungry for lack of food and other basic commodities. In this regard the church groups, i.e Men, Youths, Junior church groups and women fellowship are encouraged to mobilize to help in this. The church welcomes all support towards this noble work. God bless you

#### **HOLY WEEK**

The coming week is a very important season in our calendar as Christians. It is the Holy Week. The pastoral team will prepare short sermons to be posted between tomorrow and throughout the week from 6pm. We encourage members to take some time to watch and pray with us.

#### **PRAYER CIRCLE**

On Thursday, Friday and Sunday we purpose to do prayer circles as families and prepare to light a candle. Let each family prepare a candle to be lit and placed on a table at 8pm-8:30pm on those three days during which families will gather together for prayers. The prayer items and the guiding scriptures will be sent by the pastoral team.

Remember that in all things 'Christ is the Reason for the Season'!! Corona is not!! God bless you all.

We thank all our Christians for continually supporting the work of God here in Church even when they are away.

#### ***Mpesa Paybill***

1. Go to Mpesa
2. Lipa na Mpesa
3. Select paybill number
4. Enter Business No. **888150**
5. Enter account e.g. Tithes, New Sanctuary, Offering, Social Services, Grannies, Men's Fellowship, Flowers, Bulletin, Women's Fellowship etc.
6. Enter the amount
7. Put pin and confirm ok.

#### **Church Bank Accounts**

##### ***1. Tithe and Offering Account***

Account Name: Lavington United Church  
Branch: Absa (Barclays), Hurlingham  
Account No: 2023664529

##### ***2. New Sanctuary Account***

Account name: Lavington United Church  
Building  
Bank: NIC Account no. 1000005432  
Branch: The Mall, Westlands