



# Emmanuel Newsflash

[www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca](http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca)

## A Message From Rev. Roni

Palm Sunday on March 28th 2021, may feel like a non-event to you, as we are not gathering in-person. We were unable to celebrate in-person in 2020 and now in 2021, due to the pandemic. Many historians suggest that the Palm Parade in Jesus's day though energetic, it was comparatively small and its purpose was hidden from the hearts of the people in the crowd. Prophecies and ideas circulated that the Messiah would overthrow the oppressive Roman Empire. No one expected the Messiah to die a shameful death on a cross.

Did you know that there would have been a cavalry parade from Caesarea, a city named after the Roman Emperor, lead by Pilate on a white stallion, flanked by other soldiers, from the West gate? Jesus comes through the East gate. The purpose of the Calvary Parade was to intimidate and discourage any uprising. It was meant to let the people know who was in charge. Institutional power rules for a significant while casting a long shadow. Jesus does not take the kind of decisive strike the world anticipates.

**Here is an interesting reflection by Henri Nouwen on the hiddenness of Jesus:**

### Jesus' Hiddenness

I don't think you'll ever be able to penetrate the mystery of God's revelation in Jesus until it strikes you that the major part of Jesus' life was hidden and that even the "public" years remained invisible as far as most people were concerned. Whereas the way of the world is to insist on publicity, celebrity, popularity, and getting maximum exposure, God prefers to work in secret. You must let that mystery of God's secrecy, God's anonymity, sink deeply into your consciousness because, otherwise, you're continually looking at it from the wrong point of view. In God's sight the things that really matter seldom take place in public. . . . Maybe, while we focus our whole attention on the VIPs and their movements, on peace conferences and protest demonstrations, it's the totally unknown people, praying and working in silence, who make God save us yet again from destruction.

Written by: Henri Nouwen

Peace, Rev. Roni

Join us for an online **Palms to Passion Service**, accessible from our youtube channel **this Sunday**.

Hit the "subscribe" button and you can view the service as early as 6:30 am each Sunday morning. Alternatively the link will be sent out no later than 10:00 am.

Please set aside some bread and juice for a special time of communion.



### **Scriptures for March 28<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Mark 11:1-11

Mark 14:1-11

Mark 14: 12-31

Communion meditation

Mark 14: 32-51



- ◆ This Sunday : **“Virtual Parade” Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** . In addition, do set aside some juice, bread or crackers for **communion on Palm Sunday**.
- ◆ On **Maundy Thursday, April 1st, at 5:30 pm**, Rev. Roni will offer a Maundy Thursday, Meditation and Kitchentable communion on Facebook Live. Please like Emmanuel United Church, North Bay on Facebook, so that you can participate in this meditation to be livestreamed on facebook.

**April 2: Online at 10:30a.m.** Trinity will host a virtual worship service featuring leaders from United Churches from throughout the North Bay area.

**April 4: Online at 10:30a.m. Easter Sunday service.**



### Status of Services of Worship at Emmanuel United Church

Friends,

Following closely the announcements from our Chief Medical Officer. At this time, the Worship Committee of Emmanuel United Church, is not proposing a fixed return date for in-person worship. We are possibly online for all of April.

Our capacity to participate in virtual services varies greatly in our congregation. It is with regret that some of our folk have limitations accessing technology, due to no fault of their own, and we struggle to meet their needs at this time. We would benefit greatly if a person can help us to transfer some of our services to DVD, and/or individuals can drop off copies of the sermons to some of our members who have no access to technology.

If you are able to help to burn DVDs please call Rev. Roni at 705-472-1806; or if you can help with in-person delivery of liturgies and sermon copies please also contact Rev. Roni at [eucnbminister@gmail.com](mailto:eucnbminister@gmail.com) or call 705-472-1806.

Thank you!



### Online options for Holy Week and Easter:

Facebook Live, **“Maundy Thursday Supper Service”** from my kitchen table at 5:30 pm. Check out Emmanuel’s facebook page. Please include bread and juice as part of your meal.

**Easter Sunday Worship**, available from 6:30 am Easter morning to subscribers of our Youtube channel. The link will be circulated by email no later than 10:00 am.



### Sunday Services are available online:

**Website:**

[www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca](http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca)

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/EUCNorthBay/>

**Twitter:**

[https://twitter.com/emmanuel\\_united](https://twitter.com/emmanuel_united)

**YouTube:**

[youtube.com/channel/UCPVP169Gy7mErMBp\\_uaQr9w](https://youtube.com/channel/UCPVP169Gy7mErMBp_uaQr9w)



**“Known by Our Love”**  
Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring, welcoming faith community, nurturing spiritual life and sharing God's love and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.

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