

*This month in Sunday School we will be studying Palm Sunday, Easter and post-resurrection stories.*

**The Worship Table schedule will be as follows:**

April 1— EASTER—Worship table available at 9:00am & 11:15am services for children up to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

April 8— Grade 1/2 and Grade 3 at Worship Table

April 15— (no class at Worship Table this week)

April 22—Children's Musical—No Worship Table(see article for more information)

April 29—Grade 4/5 at the Worship Table

## Easter & Holy Week



**Did you forget to bring your fish banks on Palm Sunday?** It is not too late to bring them in—we will still be receiving banks on Easter Sunday and in the week or two after.

**Celebrating Holy Week with your children**—the holiest season of the Christian year can provide a challenge for parents. How can we share the story of Easter in age-appropriate ways? How can we fill-in the gap between what they hear in worship on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday?

- We hope you bring your children to worship on Thursday at 7:30pm and/or Friday at 12:15pm. You might want to prepare by pre-reading story. You could either read the Holy Week portion from a children's Bible, or contact me for the exact texts for each service.
- As you preview the texts, talk about what they know, what they wonder, and how the story makes them feel. Remind them that after the somber and sad days in Holy Week, Easter is a Joyful day when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.
- If you aren't able to attend worship, consider visiting the ["Stations of the Cross Interactive Prayer experience"](#) being hosted in partnership with other local Presbyterian congregations. This self-guided experience is housed at ROC SALT (Calvary/St Andrews).



**On Easter Sunday, there will be two services of worship: 9am and 11:15am.**

- The Nursery will be staffed for both services
- The worship table will be available (for up to second grade/as space allows) at both services
- We will have worship clip-boards available for children with special Easter activities on them



**The Junior Choir and Glorious Voices are singing together on Easter Sunday** for our anthem at the 9am service. Warm-up will begin at 8:00am in the Moot Room. We are singing "Sing Out with Joy!" by Mark Patterson. We will also rehearse this Wednesday (March 28) from 5:30-6:10pm.

## **Children’s Musical—“The Old Testament Fast Forward”**

**On April 22, the Junior Choir and Glorious Voices will be presenting the children’s musical “The Old Testament Fast Forward”** by Allen Pote and Tom Long. It is a fun musical telling of many of the Bible stories in the Old Testament. Invite your friends, family and Neighbors to join us for this wonderful presentation at the 10:45am worship service on April 22.

**Attention young children!** We are inviting all younger children to play the role of animals on Noah’s Ark for a short scene in this musical. Rehearsal is minimal, and an animal hood costume will be provided. You can wear your own clothing in a color(s) that will match your animal hood. Please contact Mary Ann ASAP or by April 3<sup>rd</sup> for more specific details or to sign up!!!

**Children’s Musical Production Week rehearsal dates and times** – Junior Choir and Glorious Voices (these rehearsals are mandatory!)

Mon. April 16	5:30-7:30 PM (bring a bag supper) <i>*note new day from previous years</i>
Wed. April 18	5:30-7:30 PM (dinner provided)
Thurs. April 19	5:30-7:30 PM (pizza dinner provided)
Sat. April 21	9:30-12 noon, Dress Rehearsal—in costume!

**Cast Costume Notes:** t-shirts, no-skid socks, and most other costume parts will be provided. Children should wear khaki/light tan colored pants (please, no leggings!).

**The Qabats program has been a cornerstone of children's ministry for 25 years.** In that time, we have refined and evolved our program to meet the needs of families. We believe it may again be time to evolve, and we wonder if that may include be expanding beyond our traditional first to sixth grade model. If you haven’t done so already, *please fill out [this short form](#) to help us think about this program for next year and beyond.* We will have a follow-up in the coming weeks for those interested.

**Children’s Ministry will be hosting Coffee Hour on April 29.** Please contact Becky if you can bring a treat to share and/or help staff the coffee hour table that morning.

**Attention families with young children! In April and May, we will be offering our next music class for children 14mos-3yrs.** (A

parent/caretaker will be required to participate along with the child.)

Led by Mary Ann Rutkowski, it will feature a format similar to other child/caretaker music classes, but with a sacred music focus. Songs, movement, stories from scripture, and rhythm instruments will all be a

part of the experience each week! ***Classes will be held on Mondays, April 16, 23, and 30, and May 7, 14, and 21 from 10:30-11:00am and are offered free of charge.*** After class on the 21<sup>st</sup>, we will offer light snacks sponsored by the Children’s Ministry Committee. We welcome those in the congregation and invite you to spread the word to your friends and neighbors, as well. Contact Mary Ann Rutkowski with any questions or to register!



## Leadership needed!

It is coming to that time of year when we give a hearty thanks for the many people who have made our programs for children (including Sunday School, Qabats, and choirs) run so smoothly. **As we thank our leaders, we realize that many will be taking a break and we will need to recruit new leadership.** We will need people to be a part of a **short-term conversation group looking at the Qabats program, as Nursery Shepherds (see below) and some new Children's Ministry Committee Members.** To learn more about any of our volunteer opportunities, please contact Becky D'Angelo-Veitch.

**Nursery Shepherd volunteers!** We are looking to expand our team of nursery volunteers. Qualifications include: a love of children, willingness to undergo a background check, having been a member/regular attender of Third Church for a minimum of 6 months, and a commitment of at least five Sundays a year in the nursery. Please contact Becky if you would like to help out!



## Camp Cory Junior Choir Retreat will be August 20-23

Children currently in grades 2-6 are eligible to attend. At camp, we have the great opportunity to join with several area churches at beautiful Keuka Lake. The camp gives us an opportunity to be together, get to know each other, sing together, learn some music skills and **HAVE FUN!!!** Registration forms with complete information will be sent out in May. See the Third Church website for photos of past years at Camp Cory, and visit Camp Cory's website for information about the camp facilities. [www.campcory.org](http://www.campcory.org)

## Looking Ahead...

**Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>** – In addition to Mother's Day, it is Worship, Music, and Arts Recognition Sunday. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will receive their choir crosses in rehearsal to begin wearing, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir members will receive their hymnals in worship. The Junior Choir will be singing an anthem that Sunday as well.

Faithfully,

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