

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

MATTHEW 21:1-11



Contact us: Office Phone: 231-773-2812 office@connectionpointmi.com

Office hours: Monday - Thursday: 9am-3pm

Lead Pastor Aaron Gregory: aaron@connectionpointmi.com

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Youth Pastor Matthew Spear: matthew@connectionpointmi.com

Director of Nazarene Community Resource Center Sarah Klassen: nazcrc@gmail.com

Upcoming Events!

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Aaron will be postponed next week (Easter Sunday). It will return the 24th.

Good Friday service will be THIS FRIDAY, April 15 at 6:30pm.

Easter Sunday service is NEXT SUNDAY, April 17 with two services at 9 & 10:30am.

COVID Testing - The NCRC still has COVID PCR tests. Contact Sarah at 231-769-2323 to schedule Monday - Thursday.

Axe Throwing for the ladies will be Friday, April 22 from 7-9pm. Cost is \$10 per person. You can pay cash or Venmo. Sign up in the Welcome Center!

Community Garden is looking for volunteers! If you are available, please sign up in the Welcome Center. You will be contacted with more info and details!

Unity Music Festival is coming back this summer! If you would like to purchase tickets through the church, details are coming SOON!

Men's Group beginning Sunday night May 1 at 8PM in the classroom off the gym! We hope to see you there.

Things You Should Know!

Connect Cards can be found in the seat-back pocket in front of you! Please fill it out, take it to the Welcome Center in the Foyer and grab a gift! We want guests to feel welcome and we hope to see you again!

Prayer Requests can be submitted via the website under the Ministries tab. These prayer requests go directly to Pastor Aaron and are confidential.

Text to Give is available. Please text GIVE to 231-386-0644 and then follow the instructions given! You can also give online by visiting connectionpointmi.com and click the DONATE tab for a secure transaction. Thanks for supporting our ministries here at Connection Point.

The Bridge the Gap Fund sign is across from the Café. If you are interested in giving above your tithes/offerings there is a giving kiosk at the FOR store. Please email the church office for more information.

New Church Directory App is available now! If you need help accessing it please contact the church office and we can work on getting you set up!

Further Reflection for 4/10

Reflection:

1. Have you ever experienced something that didn't meet your expectations?
2. Tell about a time when you didn't get what you think you wanted, but instead, got something better.
3. AW Tozer famously said, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." Is this true? If so, how do you think it impacts our lives?
4. When you picture God, what do you picture?

Study:

1. Read Matthew 21:1-11
 - a. What stands out to you from this passage?
 - b. Why is that the people go from praising Jesus in this passage, to wanting him crucified only a few days later?
 - c. In what ways is Jesus a different kind of King than the people expected? Why were people so bothered with his way or ruling?
 - d. Read verse 10-11: Who is Jesus to you? How is that reflected in your life?
 - e. As a group, discuss what it looks like to grow closer to Jesus individually and as a community.

Challenge:

1. People are often introduced to Jesus through our behaviors, words, and actions. If this is the case, are we helping people to see an honest picture of Christ?
2. How can we better embody the real identity of Christ in our lives?

Prayer:

God, today we pray to know you. We want to know the real Christ, who is our hope and king. We pray for peace and joy this Easter season as we are reminded of your love and mercy. May we choose love over hate, and be ambassadors of Jesus this week and beyond. Amen.

For Further Discussion:

- Read *Expansive* by AJ Sherrill, *With* by Skye Jethani, and *Velvet Elvis* by Rob Bell. Each of these books touch on the beauty of faith, and the journey towards Jesus.

Sermon Notes

Weekly Gatherings:

Sunday Service: 10:30am

Kids Service: Sundays during 10:30am Service

Youth Group: Sundays from 6-8pm