## **Worship Announcements**

**1. Communion Service:** We'll have Communion today during worship to remember Jesus Christ's sacrifice for our salvation.

**2. Congregational Meeting:** Today there will be a Congregational Meeting right after the benediction to discuss the Annual Report and to amend our church's bylaws regarding the quorum for Session members.

**3. Passion Week:** Passion Week is a time when Christians around the world remember and honor the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, who endured immense suffering and died on the cross to save us from our sins

**4. Special Morning Devotional:** Monday through Saturday during this Passion Week, there will be special morning devotionals led by Pastor Joe in sanctuary from 7AM to 7:30 AM.

**5. Good Friday Service:** Our church will gather this Friday at 3pm to hold a Good Friday service. Please arrive at least 10 minutes before the service starts to ensure a reverent worship experience.

**6. Easter Sunday:** The next Sunday will be celebrated as Easter Sunday. With joyful and grateful hearts for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, I encourage you to prepare your Easter thanksgiving offering to give back to the Lord.



## **El Estero Presbyterian Church**

490 Camino El Estero, Monterey, CA 93940 Lead Pastor: Rev. Joe Park Church Home Page: elesteropc.org Pastor Joe's Email: joerock3712@gmail.com

March 24, 2024

## **Sunday Worship Order**

Prelude

Announcements	Richard Marquez
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	
*Opening Praise	"Blessed Be The Name of the Lord" & "Hosanna!"
Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Joe Park
Scripture Reading	Pastor Joe Park
Romans 5:1-11; 1 Peter 2:19-24; Galatians 6:14	
<b>Message</b> The Fundamental Truths of Christianity(4): <b>"The Significance of the Cross"</b>	
References:	Pastor Joe Park
Communion	Congregation
*Hymns	"My Hope Is Built On"
*Benediction	Pastor Joe Park
Fellowship Time	Richard Marquez
*Congregation Standing	

Pastor Joe's Column No. 5

## "With a heart set on Experiencing even a 'one hundred millionth' of Jesus' suffering!"

Let me share a humorous story with you. It's a bit embarrassing. When I was learning English, I understood the word "Passion" in "Passion Week" only as "enthusiasm." So, I was puzzled why we referred to the week of Jesus' suffering as Passion Week. Later, I discovered that "Passion" also means "suffering." Indeed, this week is to remember and reflect on the suffering of Jesus.

Before my children started elementary school, whenever they were sick with fever and pain, I wished I could take their place and bear their pain, but of course, that wasn't possible. Jesus, however, suffered and even died for us to give us life. While we can't die for Jesus, what if we could voluntarily experience a fraction of His suffering?

Imagine if your closest friend or a family member passed away. How do you think you would spend that week? If you were shedding tears of sorrow and anguish, how would you feel if you saw your friend claiming to love you, laughing and having fun beside you, seemingly indifferent to your pain?

Christ's suffering wasn't for someone else; it was for you and me. The person who has suffered understands another's suffering. In this spirit, why not practice restraint this week? Fasting a meal might be tough for some, staying off social media could be painful for others, and waking up early might be challenging for those not used to it. But these acts of discipline are not without purpose; they help us to better understand the heart of our Lord Jesus.

Therefore, as we enter Passion Week, let's live a life of restraint and spend time reading the Bible instead of watching media or dramas. Since reading the Bible might be challenging for understanding, I'll explain it during our morning devotionals. And, I'll let you know the Bible passages to read each day from Monday to Saturday. I love you all.