

# The Psalm Reader

Vol.1, Issue 2 March, 2021

A newsletter by the Honolulu Church of God Family

## We Are Back In Church!!

It's been months since Honolulu Church of God has been having Sunday morning service, and we can't tell you how thrilled we are to be meeting back in Church!



We're moving to Tier 3, and observing the requirements therein. Although some restrictions are eased, we are physically constrained by the size of our building.

Wearing a mask is mandatory and the seating arrangement MUST provide social distancing, but there is seating available to accommodate most everyone.

As much as we would LOVE to see everyone YOUR SAFETY is the #1 Priority!

If you're not quite ready, or able, to come and join us for Sunday morning service, be sure to catch Pastor Evan's message live on Facebook at 10:30 a.m. It's AWESOME!

Just go to  
[www.facebook.com/HonoluluChurchofGod](http://www.facebook.com/HonoluluChurchofGod)

## Services

**Our in-person service times are:**

**Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00AM and Wednesday Night Bible Study at 6:00PM**

We have recently resumed our in-person Wednesday Night Bible Study. Our current series is an inductive study of the book of Romans. We invite you to join us as we explore this exciting book!

## Outreach - Ronald McDonald House Hawaii

On February 13th, the Honolulu Church of God brought dinner to feed the families who stay at the Ronald McDonald House while their children are in the hospital.

Pandemic restrictions dictate that prepared food be in individually wrapped portions and, of course, that people involved with delivery be minimized.



## Upcoming Events



**GOOD FRIDAY**  
THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE  
**APRIL 2**  
AT 6:00PM

**APRIL 4**  
AT 9:30AM  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
HE IS RISEN

**Palm Sunday**  
Hosanna to the King  
**MARCH 28**  
AT 10:00AM

## The Importance of Easter!

For Christians, Easter is of the utmost importance. The true meaning of Easter is the truth of the Christian faith.

The Christian faith is centered around the things that are celebrated at Easter: Jesus came. Jesus Died. Jesus defeated death. Jesus Rose from the Dead. And Jesus promises to come back for His people. Easter is a time of celebrating the truths that we hold dear to our hearts, and focusing on His promises of eternal life to us. The tenants of Easter are the crux of the Christian faith.

Unfortunately though, we often get side-tracked on Easter just as we do on Christmas. Between the gift-guides for age-appropriate Easter baskets, egg-dying, and all the candy, it's easy to see why Jesus isn't always center-stage even when we intend Him to be.

Jesus comes first. We must do everything we can to celebrate Him above all else. Not because gifts and activities are bad, but because the importance of Easter in the Christian faith is too big to skim over- it's too big to let other things take its place.

The whole point of Jesus being on this earth was to be our sacrifice. In the Old Testament, God's people made animal sacrifices to God in repentance for their sins, since death was the punishment for sin. But God knew what we needed, a sacrifice that was more effective and permanent. He knew we needed someone completely perfect and innocent to take our place as a holy sacrifice.

But Easter is not just about Christ's death; it's also about His resurrection. If Christ had died, but wasn't powerful enough to overcome death and hell (the punishment for sin), we would still have no hope. Death had to be defeated. This doesn't mean that people won't die physically, it means people don't have to die spiritually. Hell was defeated. Jesus, when He rose from the dead, gained victory over eternal punishment (Colossians 3:1). Jesus overcame death and rose back to heaven to be with God the Father. Now we have victory through Him!

### Isaiah 53:5

**But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;  
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.**

## A Note From Pastor Evan

Greetings in Christ!

We are looking forward to celebrating the Resurrection of our Savior on Easter Sunday. Though this past year has certainly been an unprecedented challenge for all of us, we are encouraged knowing that we can celebrate a great salvation through the work of Christ on the cross. I encourage you to become intentional in your relationship with Christ and in the way you live out the Gospel in your own life.

We are praying that you are able to experience this great hope and peace that comes from the Lord. We hope to see you soon!

From all of us at the Honolulu Church of God, have a blessed, safe Easter.

## Prayer Requests;

There is no shortage of needs worthy of prayer these days; and our church is here to lift up your concerns to the Lord. If you are in need of prayer and would like us to pray for you, please email your prayer request to us and we will include you in our daily prayers.

