

**A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ
April 2, 2023**

ALL JOY!

The word “happy” (or variations of it) appears 13 times in the English Standard Version while the word “joy” (or variations of it) appears 203 times. [Results via word search through LOGOS Bible program.]

Happiness is usually associated with good or pleasant circumstances while joy can be experienced even when circumstances are not good. Though happiness may relate to good things of the moment, joy goes much deeper and can abide even when the moment’s experience is not necessarily pleasant. Therefore, happiness may be fleeting while joy can be unending; not all happy, but all joy!

This is seen in how Christ viewed the cross endured on our behalf as the writer of Hebrews noted. . . “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV)

We know that cross was not fun. It was not a happy feeling to have been in agony in the garden (Luke 22:44) knowing what He was going to experience. However, there was abiding joy in acknowledging the purpose and the blessing that would be provided by way of the cross; forgiveness of sin and hope of eternal life by the power of His precious blood. As we have been called as Christians to follow in the Lord’s steps (1 Peter 2:21), let us remember James exhortation to. . .

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” (James 1:2-4 ESV)

Trying times are not fun. Trying times can bring us down. However, joy can still be the experience in knowing the opportunity for growth that might not come otherwise. When tested we begin to glimpse what has been becoming of our character as Christians. When challenged, our faith is proved and shown to be genuine. Because of faith resting in the Sovereignty of God as remaining over all, challenging times don’t crush us, but bring us toward completion of the maturing process. May we therefore find joy in our identity as a Christian pressing on in Christ toward the eternity He has assured.

Have a great day SHARING IN THE JOY OF CHRIST AS A CHRISTIAN

- Carl Hanson

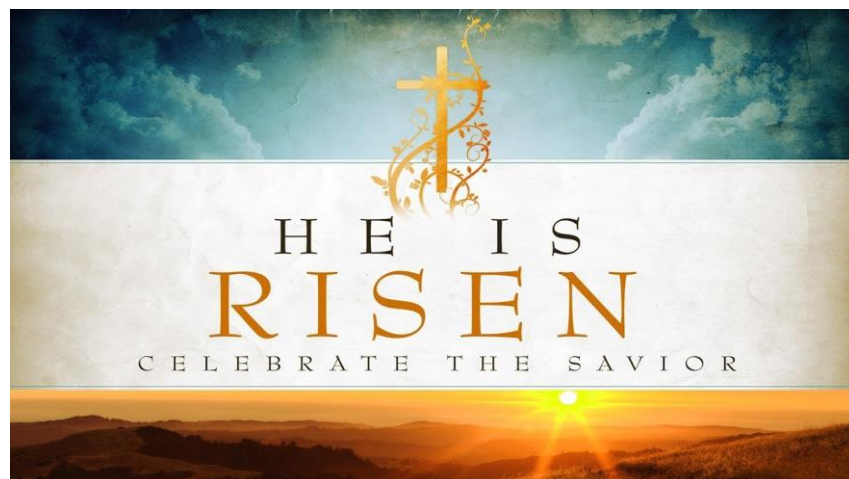
Easter Month:

For the four Sundays in April, we will focus our worship time on Jesus; from His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, His arrest and trial, His death, His burial, His resurrection, His ascension, and all the way thru to Pentecost and the beginning of the church.

Please join us as we worship our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Our Prayer List

- Pray for healing for Heather's aunt who is in the hospital.
- Brooke Armenta's cousin, Joe passed away. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Brooke is on a new medication. She's having dizzy spells and bad headaches. Pray this will pass for her.
- Prayers for Matt and Dallita Goins whose son, Jadon was killed when a truck lost control and killed him. Keep the family and all the loved ones in your prayers as they deal with this tragedy.
- Continued prayers are requested for Daniel (Fry's grandson) and his mother, Lisa.
- Lynn and Virginia Chapman aren't recovering very quickly from the flu they had. Pray for their recovery.
- Rosalie Palmer had surgery on March 20. Pray for her recovery.
- Lift up Evelyn Savage in your prayers. She is recovering from a heart attack.
- Lift Mary Carter and her loved ones in prayers over the passing of her husband Ruben.
- Keep Barbara Byrd in your prayers. She isn't doing very well.
- Pray for Paula Hill's father, Ken Stratton who is recovering from a fall and is in a lot of pain.
- Pray for Jim Scott and family over the passing of his wife Theresa.
- Greg Heymann's father, John passed away this week. Please keep his family in your prayers. Greg is Sarah's [Powless] husband.
- Pray for Jon Powless' brother, Fred. He has sepsis causing his colon to shut down. He is in a lot of pain and is not expected to live much longer. Pray for his wife Barb and the rest of his family.
- Please continue prayers for Zach and Meredith's twins who are now at 2 lbs. and are growing. The concerns are their brains are ok.
- Please add our recent baptisms to your prayer list so we can help them grow: Greg Wood and his daughter Alexia Wood, Stafford Carter, Stan Whisenant, Hal Williams, Rich Hurd, Barbra Hurd, Ben Thomas, and Danika Armenta.
- Pray for the Mercy Mobile ministry, led by Cisco and Heather Velez as they minister to the homeless.
- Pray for Ukraine.
- Remember to thank and praise God for our many blessings, both physical and spiritual.
- Pray that the rampant drugs running in our community can be curtailed.
- Pray for wisdom for those who enforce drug abuse and for their safety.
- Pray for our leadership team and all our ministries.



POCOC Web Site (<http://pococ.weebly.com/>)

- Weekly Bulletin – Go to <http://pococ.weebly.com/> then click on Bulletin & Newsletters
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online. Click on Teachings
- Current Event Calendar - Click on News & Events
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous video recordings, too:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ then click on the desired video.
 Please subscribe to be notified when new videos post or when we go live.



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| Sunday Worship for April 2, 2023 (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon) (Children are dismissed for Children’s Church after communion) Watch live-stream or after our worship time: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ | | | |
| Speaker: Trent Herbert | Singing: Bob & Praise Team | Scripture: Trent Herbert | The Passion: “It is Finished.” |
| April Servers – Brian Bungart Dave Lawrence Elijah Herbert Terry Bratcher | | | |
| 9:30 am Adult Class: Auditorium Trent Herbert | | Children Class: Downstairs Two Classes: children and pre-teen | |
| Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID | | | |
| Men’s Fellowship Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am | | Ladies in the Word Conference Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am | |
| Bible Class & Prayer Ephesians (in person or on Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:00 pm | | Ladies Prayer Group LaDonna's home Thursdays 10:00 am | |
| Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com | | March 26, 2023 Tithes & Offerings – \$ 1,319.00 | |
| | | If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104 | |
| Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID | | | |

Communion and Tithes & Offerings

The bread and fruit of the vine will be served during our communion time. You also have the option to pick up your communion supplies as you enter the auditorium. It contains both the juice and the bread.

There are also a few options for giving your tithes & offerings:

- 1) The collection box is in the foyer at the entrance to the auditorium.
- 2) Online bill-pay with your bank or credit union. Your bank will mail your check for you.
- 3) Mail your tithe/offering check directly to the Church address below. We have a lock mailbox.

Happy Birthday!

April: Jim Snead – 6, Jacob Hammock – 10, Brandon Karn – 10, Rick Velasco – 13, Misty Hammock – 15, James Greer – 17.

May: Isaac Benjamin – 2, Gary Chasteen – 3, Julia Karn 17, Barbara Chasteen – 25, Levi Herbert – 26.

God Is In This Story

Verse 1

There's torn up pages in this book
Words that tell me I'm no good
Chapters that defined me for so long
But the hands of grace and endless love
Dusted off and picked me up
Told my heart that hope is never gone

Chorus

God is in this story
God is in the details
Even in the broken parts
He holds my heart
He never fails
When I'm at my weakest
I will trust in Jesus
Always in the highs and lows
The One who goes before me
(God is in this story)

Verse 2

So if the storm you're walking through
Feels like it's too much and you
Wonder if He even cares at all
Hold on tight to what you know
He promised He won't let you go
The song of healing's written in His scars

Bridge

If it reads like addiction
If it reads like disease
He's the One who frees the prisoner
He's the healer of all things
If it reads like depression
If it reads broken home
He's the One who holds your sorrow
He won't leave you here alone

Tag

Always in the highs and lows
The One who goes before me
God is in this story



<https://youtu.be/G7aCPamhvWA>

God Is In This Story

CCLI Song # 7180561

Ethan Hulse | Jeff Pardo | Katy Nichole

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