

## **SPREAD** the Hope of Easter

On Easter! From your front porch or as you walk down your street, we're asking everyone to stop and **PRAY for your NEIGHBORHOOD**. Then snap a selfie or a family picture – on your porch or by your street sign – and **POST** it so we can stay connected and spread hope. Use hashtags #wonderstruck #loveisnotcanceled

## STAY Strong in the Word

All month! We have never needed to hear the voice of God like we do right now! What is happening is no surprise to Him and He has things to teach us and plans to use us. Let's search for the thread in Matthew together with a chapter each day. Check out the enclosed bookmark or you will also found the daily reading in the membership group on your Realm app. Also don't miss the daily *THREAD* study on our Facebook page (<u>facebook.com/groups/thread2020</u>).

#### PRAY like there's a Pandemic

Our world, our city, our families need our urgent prayers. Pray scripture and claim promises. Pray together as a family like never before, trusting the God who has the whole world in His hands. Join CCH to **PRAY at 8**. Watch for and then repost the prayer each day so that we can be a witness of hope to our neighbors near and far. #prayat8

#### **CONNECT** as Families

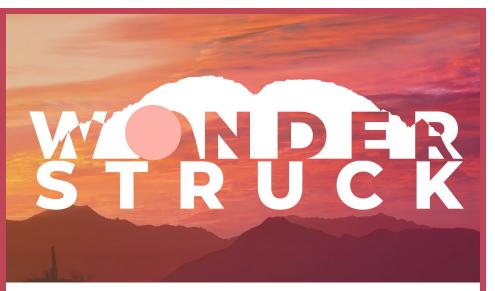
**Kids**—Parents be on the lookout throughout the coming week on the website for digital resources for your family pertaining to Easter. Some will be individual activities and some will be geared more towards the family as a whole. We wish we could spend Easter together, but we hope you will be able to have fun and use these resources to engage with each other.

**Youth**—CCHYTH are keeping connected by having online small groups, live social media videos, and more! Be sure to visit <a href="mailto:cchville.com/cchyth">cchville.com/cchyth</a> to see available resources and lessons, to connect with us on social media, and to email us with any questions, concerns, or prayer requests you have!

#### LOVE like it isn't Canceled

Watch for simple, safe ways to serve each day through our *Love is not Canceled* Facebook group. Spread hope while social distancing with notes to the isolated, masks for doctors, yard art for the lonely, hope eggs for families, chalk art scriptures, and more. When have we ever had a chance like this to highlight the practical love of Jesus? *cchville.com/loveisnotcanceled* 

We miss you, church family! We are praying for your health and for your loved ones every day. We are also asking God to do use us, people of the Thread, as hope bearers 'for such a time as this'! Your CCH Staff



Dear Community family,

Along with countless believers all around the world, we're now coming to terms with the "new normal" brought about by the Covid19 pandemic. The emotional, physical and financial impact has been felt as we maneuver through turbulent waters and the unknowns that lie head. Sickness and death. Businesses shutting down. Cancellations and postponements of events we took for granted only a few short weeks ago are not just commonplace but reflect the current norm. Please know that YOU are constantly on the heart of the Father and in our fervent prayers.

I want to remind you today that Easter is NOT CANCELED! We are going to celebrate the Resurrection a bit differently this year than we ever have. Like never before, we will believe and hold to the truth that Jesus rose from the grave and because of that we have tremendous hope for today, tomorrow and all eternity.

I want to invite you this Easter to experience Community Church where you can **ENGAGE**, **SEE AND HEAR** what has changed the minds and hearts of those who encounter Jesus. "Wonder Struck" is our 2020 Easter theme. Through Jesus' breathtaking words and limitless passion for each human heart, we will discover the **thread** in the Gospels the One who can and will birth awe and wonder in all of us. So join us online this Easter morning Sunday, April 12 at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. at <a href="mailto:cchville.com/live">cchville.com/live</a> and behold the Wonder! Then share this message that our world needs like never before!

-Doug Varnado, Senior Pastor

Show me the wonders of your great love, my God, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you! -Psalm 17:7



# **GOOD FRIDAY**

Join our guided reading on social media as we release videos of scripture being read starting at 3:00 p.m., the time of Jesus' death. Follow along with each video as it is released every hour on Facebook (facebook.com/cchville) and Instagram (@cchville).

### Romans 5:6-10

This God of Good Friday is jealous, completely unmanageable and very demanding. You can't fashion him with your own hands. You certainly can't get a leash around him to make him come just because you call. But that's only because the Lord is making room for you to have faith. Come and see. Before the tomb was found empty, the cross was embraced by One who fashioned it, and every other thing in heaven and earth . . . just for you.

## Matthew 27:33-50

The cross exposes this stunningly marvelous and exquisite declaration that God will not let this single life of mine, with all of its grotesque and pathetic filth pass into oblivion without declaring that my life carries a value worth the expenditure of His. And if I dare look upon the cross, I am utterly perplexed but wholly enraptured by the enormity of such a love as this. That's the THREAD of His love that is unending, binding us together in Him

# Psalm 22

Every freedom story has a beginning. The Hebrew's story began with the Exodus. Ours started at the cross. Both were prompted by love. God's love is the source of our liberation. Our sin is the cause of such a scandalous and incredible display.

# Isaiah 53:3-9

The cross is God's way of taking away all of our accusations, excuses, and arguments. The cross is God taking on flesh and blood and saying, "Me too."

Today, on the quietest day of the year, we have come before the presence of one who was fully who God created him to be every day of his life--who loved God with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his strength, and with all his mind--and who loved his friends so much that he stepped into the oncoming traffic of death in order to push them out of the way. He furthermore did it all with no more than the basic human equipment--a beating heart, two good hands, a holy vision, and some companions who could see it too--thereby showing the rest of us that such a life is not beyond our reach. Whatever else happens on Sunday, here is enough reason to call this, Friday Good. Amen.

# **EASTER**

WORSHIP ORDER: "Glorious Day/How Great Thy Art" || "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" || "Living Hope" || Communion || "Holy, Holy, Holy (Jesus Reigns)" || Message—"Wonderstruck" || "See the Light"

#### Wonderstruck

Psalm 17:6-8; Matthew 28:1-20

When was the last time you found yourself taken back by the wonder of God? When were you first amazed and overtaken by His the **thread** of his love and presence in your life? Or perhaps that's not the case for you at all.

Some saw Jesus as merely a man.

Some saw him as wise, moral teacher.

Some saw him as a controversial healer, a polarizing religious and political leader.

Some saw him suffer a horrific death and saw his movement die with him. *Until...* 

They saw and heard something that forever changed the world's point of view.

Won·der·struck

adjective (of a person) experiencing a sudden feeling of awed delight or wonder. Struck or affected with wonder and awe

Show me the wonders of your great love!!
-Psalm 17:7

Matthew 9:8 "the Crowds were filled with awe . . ."

Matthew 13:37 "Coming to his hometown . . . they were amazed!"

Matthew 27:54 "The Centurion was filled with awe and said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

In a year like none of us expected, may the eyes of the whole world be opened to see our remarkable Jesus with *awe* and *amazement*.