

**Welcome!** The mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ is to: Live by faith, embody love, proclaim hope, and seek justice. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we hope that you will find God's presence among us. When the Friendship Folder is passed during the announcements, please sign it, and then pass it back across the pew to the inside aisle.



**Palm Sunday** Christians began Holy Week with a procession of the whole congregation to remember Christ's entry into Jerusalem as early as the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Palms were blessed and used in the

procession. The dual nature of this Sunday is evident in how quickly the joyous cries of "Hosanna!" become cries to "Crucify him!" May our worship this day be a fitting beginning to this Holy Week of betrayal, suffering, death, and glory.

**The Lenten Fair** Following today's worship, please join us in the Community Room for the Lenten Fair and finger foods. Everyone is welcome.

**Children are welcome in worship!** Activity bags are available in the narthex. There is an area for parents and children at the front of the nave which allows children to be close to the action in worship. Our staffed nursery (downstairs) is an option as well. Our kids are invited to go to their classrooms after the kids' message.



**Please ask an usher** if you would like a large print bulletin, or if you need directions or any other assistance. A Hearing Loop system is available. Turn your hearing device to the "T" setting.

## Serving in Worship Today

Preaching & Leading Worship	Laura Wright
Leading Worship	
Choir Director, Organist, & Pianist	
Reading Scripture	-
Head Usher	
Greeter	Emmie Runyon
Nursery	Zali Stanton

<sup>\*</sup> In the order of service indicates all who are able, please stand.

## Gathering Music

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Michael Burkhardt

### Welcome and Announcements

Thank you for joining us this Sunday where all are welcome. You are invited to pass the Friendship Folder through your row and share your name. Pass the folder back down the row and take note of those worshipping with you.

#### Prelude Music

"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness Lord"

Michael Burkhardt

#### The Word for Children

Kids will gather in the back of the sanctuary to learn about Palm Sunday. The children will process down the central aisle waving their palms as the crowds did for Jesus. The congregation will waves their palms in response and sing the hymn.

## \*Blessing of the Palms

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Let us bless these palms.

All: O God, who in Jesus Christ

triumphantly entered Jerusalem,

heralding a week of celebration and sorrow,

be with us now as we follow the way of the cross.

We thank you for these branches that promise to become for us signs of martyrdom and majesty.

The congregation waves their palms and sings the following hymn as the kids process while waving their palms & sharing shouts of "Hosanna!"

\*Hymn 265 (All join in singing the hymns.)

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

St. Theodulph

### \*Litany of Palms

One: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna in the highest!

One: O God, who in Jesus Christ triumphantly entered Jerusalem,

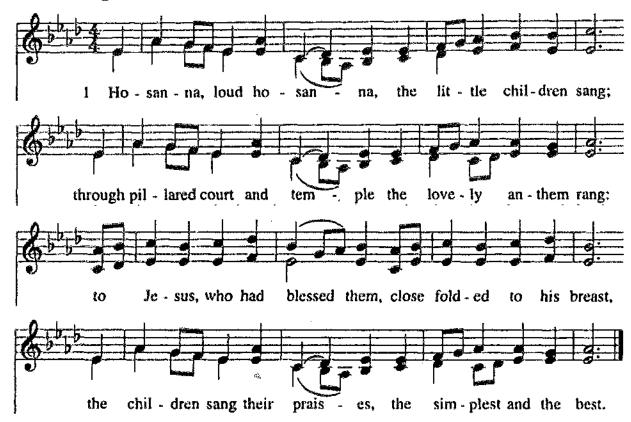
Be with us now as we follow the way of Christ.

Bless these palm branches that they might become for us symbols

of your sacrifice and majesty.

All: Hosanna in the highest!

One: Let us sing to our God:



### Moment of Silence

Take this moment of silence to be still and listen for God.

## \*Sharing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Please greet those near you with a wave or bow and with words such as: "Peace be with you. / And also with you." Kids are dismissed at this time to go to their classes downstairs.

# **& Listening**

### for the Still-speaking God

#### The Psalter

Sue Heuer

Psalm 126 (Read Responsively)

One: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: Let Israel say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

Many: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them

and give thanks to the LORD.

One: This is the gate of the LORD;

the righteous shall enter through it.

Many: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

One: The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone.

Many: This is the LORD's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

One: This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Many: Save us, we pray, O LORD!

O LORD, we pray, give us success!

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD!

Many: We bless you from the house of the LORD.

## The Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

### Sermon

"When Rocks Shout"

Rev. Dr. Laura Wright

# **80** Responding

with the voice of hope

\*Anthem

"Hosanna to the King"

The Sanctuary Choir Purcell, Arr. by Liebergen

## The Community Invited into Prayer

### Prayers of the Church

The petitions end with: God, in our stillness, The people respond: hear our prayers.

The Prayer of Jesus (Said by all. Use language that reflects your view of God.)

Our (Father / Mother / Creator) who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

# **20 Thanksgiving**

for the gifts of God

Stories of Generosity

Music at the Offertory

\*As the Gifts Are Presented: Sing to the tune of Old 100th (Hymn 34).

(All who are able are invited to stand and sing.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Praise God, for all that love has done,

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

# **80** Going

to be messengers of good news

\*Hymn 268 (All join in singing the hymns.)
"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!"

Truro

## \*The Blessing

#### Postlude Music

"All Glory Laud, and Honor"

Paul Manz

Acknowledgements: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna," words and music in the public domain. "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," words and music in the public domain. "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!" words & music in the public domain. Hymns and service music reprinted and streamed with permission under Onelicense.net #A-728014.

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To celebrate a successful rummage sale and to thank all those who made it happen. by Diane and David Schumacher.

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Do you mind	if we	share	your	gift to	God	with	the
congregation	? Yes		$No_{-}$				

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This Week in our Church: Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday Worship w/JAM & Nursery	10:00 am	Friday, April 18 Good Friday Office Closed		
MS/HS Donuts & Discussions Lenten Fair (CR)	10:30 am 11:00 am	Saturday, April 19 Jerry Soffa Visitation	10:00 am	
Monday, April 14 Christian Education (Zoom)	7:15 pm	Jerry Soffa Memorial	11:00 am	
Tuesday, April 15 Finance (L)	6:00 pm	Sunday, April 20  EASTER!  Worship w/Nursery	10:00 am	
Wednesday, April 16 Sip & Scripture ~ Cancelled	and the control of th	Fellowship (CR)	11:00 am	
Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday Worship Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6:00 pm 8:00 pm	CALENDAR KEY  CR = Community Room, C = Chapel, L = Lounge,  N = Narthex, S = Sanctuary, J = JAM Rooms		



# Join us for Holy Week

Experience the journey from Maundy Thursday to Easter as we reflect on Christ's passion, sacrifice, and resurrection.

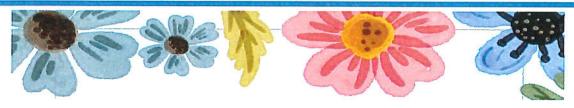
#### **Maundy Thursday**

Walk through the final two days of Jesus' life in this meaningful worship service.

April 17th at 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday Worship
Celebrate the glory of the
Resurrection! Jesus has overcome the
grave!
April 20th | 10:00 AM

We invite you to walk this sacred journey with us. All are welcome!



💋 Lenten Fair 🥬

Join us after Worship for our annual Lenten Fair in the Community Room!

This beloved intergenerational event invites all ages to explore Easter symbolism and traditions through hands-on crafts and activities. Thank you for being part of this meaningful and joyful celebration!