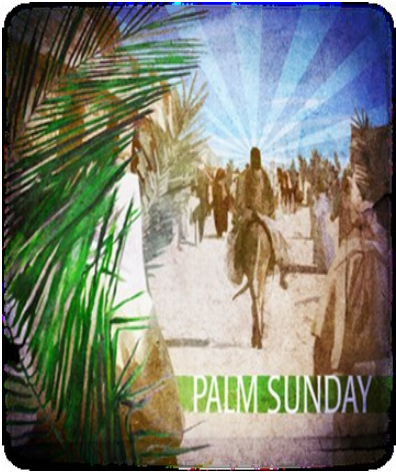


A photograph of a stone wall with a large, dark stone block in the foreground. The text "Into JERUSALEM" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the wall. The wall is made of large, rectangular stone blocks with visible mortar lines. The foreground stone block is rough and textured, with some shadows and highlights. The overall lighting is somewhat dim, giving the scene a somber and historical feel.

Into JERUSALEM



UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*We welcome all people to experience God's love,
grow spiritually and engage in meaningful service.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT/ PALM SUNDAY

April 13, 2025

*Please stand as you are able.

This service is livestreaming. Thank you. ♥

ENTER TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

*When you hear the music, please gather. Be seated and prepare for worship.
Lighting the Candle, we remember God's presence with us.*

PRELUDE

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Trumpeter,
Tom Richards

PROCESSIONAL

Palm Sunday Parade

"Pave the Way with Justice"

Jesus is coming. Pave the way with branches.

Jesus is coming. Hosanna! Jesus is coming. Pave the way with branches.

Jesus is coming. Hosanna.

Refrain: Hosanna! Jesus is coming, Hosanna, to the Prince of Peace. Hosanna! Jesus
is coming, Hosanna, to the Prince of Peace.

Hope for the down trod. Pave the way with branches.

Hope for the down trod. Hosanna! Hope for the down trod. Pave the way with
branches. Hope for the down trod. Hosanna! *Refrain*

Release for the captives. Pave the way with branches.

Release for the captives. Hosanna! Release for the captives. Pave the way with
branches. Release for the captives. Hosanna! *Refrain*

The suffering servant. Pave the way with branches.

The suffering servant. Hosanna. The suffering servant. Pave the way with branches.
The suffering servant. Hosanna! *Refrain*

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Words of Welcome & Announcements

INTROIT

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Youth Handbell Choir

*Chorus:

***We are one in the bond of love; we are one in the bond of love, we have joined our
spirits with the Spirit of God, we are one in the bond of love.***

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Steadfast God,

All: Lent has been a long journey.

One: Now the long shadow of the cross and the footsteps of Jesus find us waiting at the gates of Jerusalem.

All: We have arrived.

One: Yet it seems the journey is still not complete; there is a deeper journey still to make.

All: This Lenten wandering has been just the beginning.

One: The greatest story is still to be told.

INVOCATION

Christ is with us!

Christ is in our midst!

May we be your disciples today, O Jesus, where we know what we cry, where we take to heart the hosannas and live them beyond the parade. May we be your supporters today, O Jesus, where we know the saviour you are, where we intend to follow you from gate to garden. May we be your voice today, O Jesus, where we stake our faith and lives on what you begin here today. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

PASTORAL PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Our Father, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Handbell Choir

OFFERTORY MOMENT "Every Praise" Soloist, Brandon Guillaume
Small Ensemble & Sunday
School Liturgical Movement

**Ev'ry praise is to our God, ev'ry word of worship with one accord. Ev'ry
praise, ev'ry praise is to our God.**

***DOXOLOGY** (*Deacons George & Nathan to bring offerings forward.*)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT

(All children and youth are welcome to attend the Sunday School Class.)

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 50:4-9

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to God, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

"God's steadfast love endures forever."

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to God.

This is the gate of God;

the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is God's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that God has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O God!

O God, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

We bless you from the house of God.

The Sovereign is God, and God has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to God, for God is good,

for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Luke 19:28-40

After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem. When he got near Bethphage and Bethany at the mountain called Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions: "Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a

colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says anything, asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'His Master needs him.'" The two left and found it just as he said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said, "What are you doing untying the colt?" They said, "His Master needs him." They brought the colt to Jesus. Then, throwing their coats on its back, they helped Jesus get on. As he rode, the people gave him a grand welcome, throwing their coats on the street. Right at the crest, where Mount Olives begins its descent, the whole crowd of disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed: Blessed is he who comes, the king in God's name! All's well in heaven! Glory in the high places! Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!" But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."

Thanks be to God!

SONG OF PREPARATION

"Ride On, King Jesus"

Small Ensemble:
Michelle Benghtt, Carly Gaefe,
Tom Richards & Pastor Sheila

SERMON

"Into Jerusalem"

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

***CLOSING HYMN**

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

"Ride On, King Jesus"

DEPART TO SERVE



**Journey to
EASTER**

PALM SUNDAY PARADE
APRIL 13, 2025
10:00AM
Multicultural Taste-Testing

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 17, 2025
6:00PM Soup Fellowship
7:00PM Service

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 18, 2025
6:00 PM Fish Fry
7:00 PM Service

**Ecumenical Good Friday Service at
Tabernacle Baptist Church, 801 Eighth
St., West Palm Beach, FL. All are invited.**

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION
APRIL 20, 2025
10:00AM
Intergenerational Easter Party to follow!



We **WELCOME** each of you to this celebration of worship. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our Guest register in the Narthex. Offering envelopes are found in the pocket on the back of the chairs in the sanctuary for your convenience.

Participating in Today's Service:

Readers

Dorothy Bates, George Gerson, Rebekah Gay

Assisting

George Gerson

Union's Joys & Prayer Concerns

Joys: All Birthdays in April! Our Church Family! Live Streaming! Palm Sunday! Holy Week!

Concerns:

Sabita Shah; Linda Harvey; Susan Young's sister, Genie; Kirk Dorhout; Evelyn Chouris; Charlotte Snowden; Renna McGinnis; Beth White's family & friends; Frank Byrd's family & friends; Melanie Shepherd; Ada Harvey and family; Charlene Buck; Linda Padmore's niece, Yvette & sister, Christine; Alice Payne; Bonnie Avery's family member, Greg; Rosemarie Lightfoots's sister, Anita; Marion & Criss Gaetano's family & friends; Charlie Rodriguez's family and friends; Richard Lightfoot; Beth White; Louise's friend, Martha; Susan Harrell's husband, George; David's family members, Evelyn Soza, Jerman Rodrigues, Carmen, Malgarita; Donna's brother, Clevert; George Gerson's Brother, Michael; Melanie's Friend, Donna; Borjana's son, Petar; Ruth Deischer's sister-in-law, Susan Deischer; Renna McGinnis; George Gerson's friends, Diane & Timothy Scott; George Gerson's nephew, Glenn; Ruth Cassidy's husband, Bill; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; Jan Mark; Rod Jennings; Jan Mark's son, Gary; Justice & Peace efforts; grieving, depression and anxiety; all refugees; Ukraine War; Puerto Rico; Haiti; Gun violence everywhere; Environmental concerns; Maui, HI, Florida; Israel conflict; Hurricane victims; Wild fires; Immigrant families; Attack on DEI; Medicaid & Food Assistance Programs



Flowers are presented by Peg Lafferty in memory of her husband, Frank Lafferty.



Flowers are also presented in memory of Dr. Rosemarie Rose Spencer on the occasion of the 2-year anniversary of her passing.

Sunday School Highlight

Palm Sunday is here! We'll begin with the Great Palm Parade during worship honoring the start of Holy Week! Following our participation in worship, join us in class as we review the week of Jesus's life between Palm Sunday and Easter morning, reminding each other of all that happened.

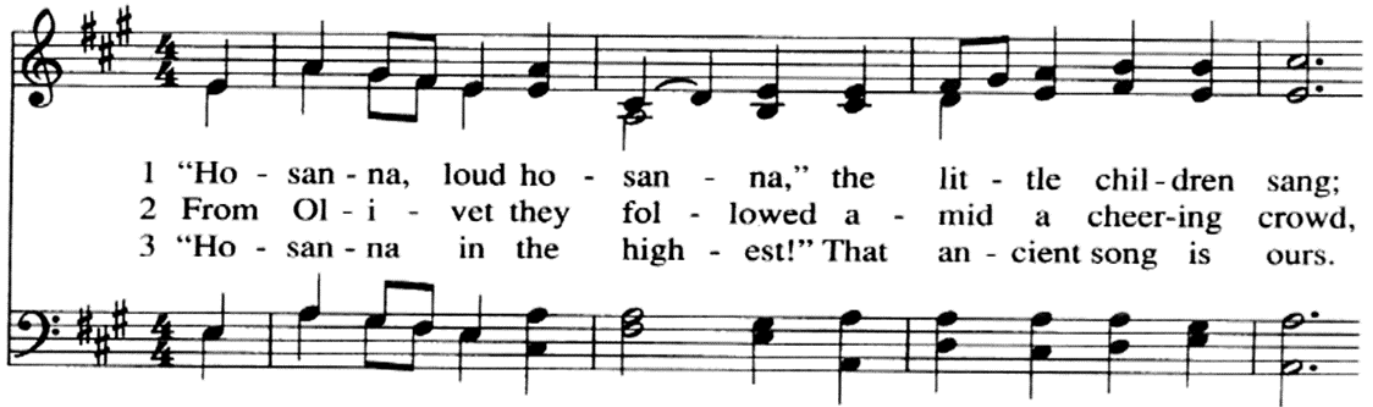


"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

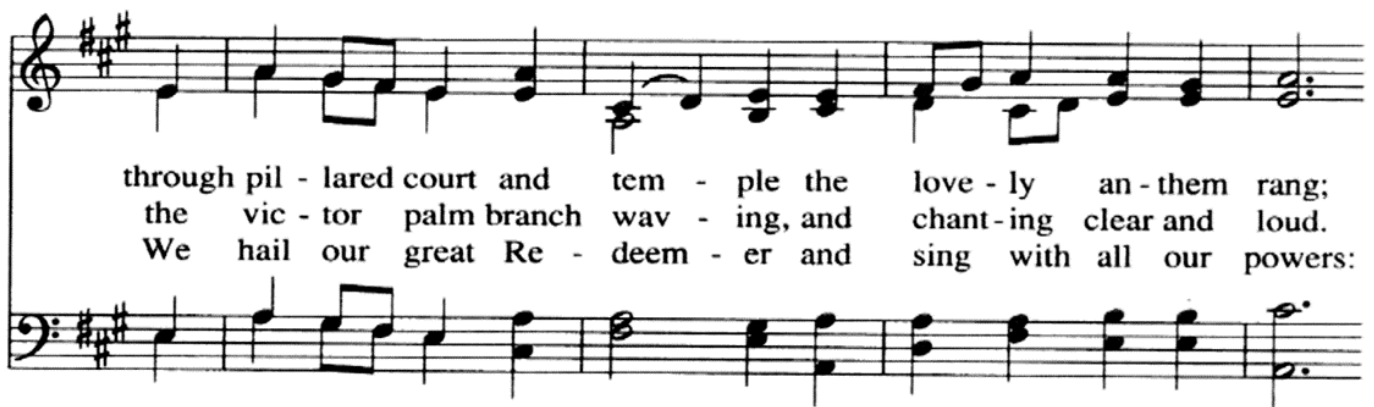
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Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.

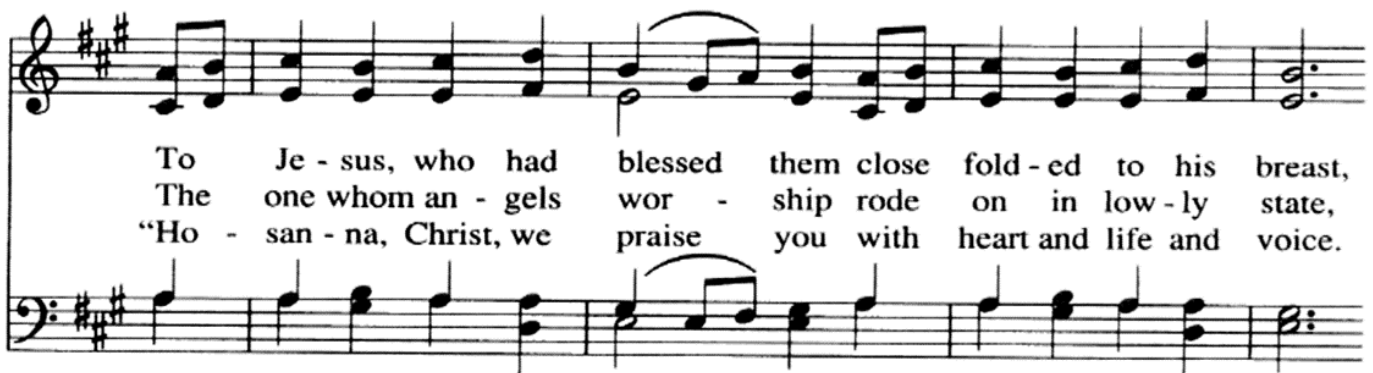
Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21



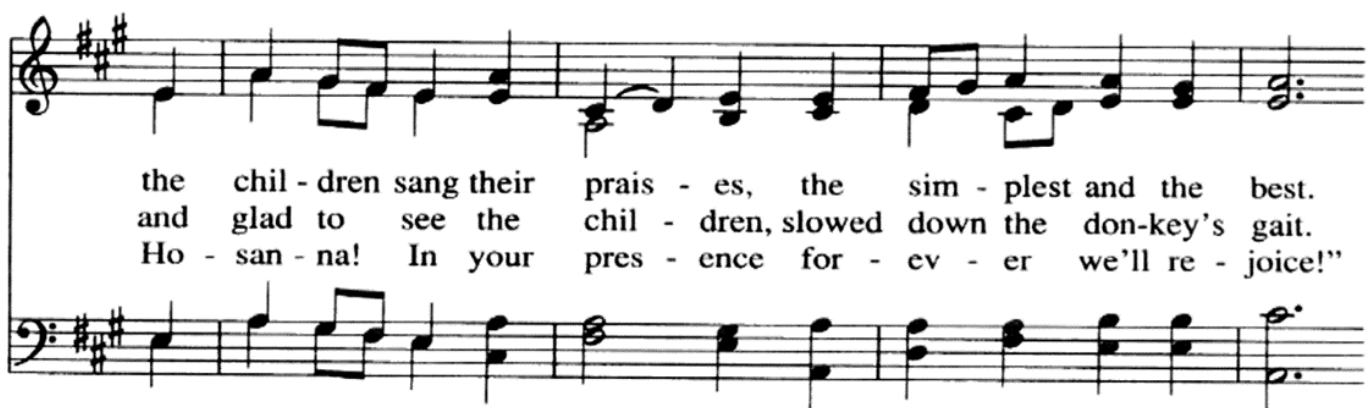
1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:



To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

GLEANNING: Feeding Our Neighbors



All are invited to participate in our annual Gleaning mission – to gather fresh food for families in need. There is a sign-up sheet on the soundboard for all who would like to participate in gleaning. We will meet at the church parking lot on **April 26, 2025 at 7:45 am.**

Donna Minott, Mission & Outreach

EASTER LILY SALE

The Christian Education/Youth Ministry Team is selling **EASTER LILIES** to decorate our sanctuary for the Easter season celebration!

They are \$10.00 each to support CE and Youth ministries.

Forms are available on the sound board where you can fill in your name and the name of the person(s) you are remembering or honoring. These names will be listed in the bulletin and the lilies can be taken home following the Easter worship service.

For more information or to turn in your form and payment, please see Rev. Michael-Ann or Cunny, CE chair.

Thank you!!!



Support our Children and Youth!



Get your Car
washed on
April 27th!



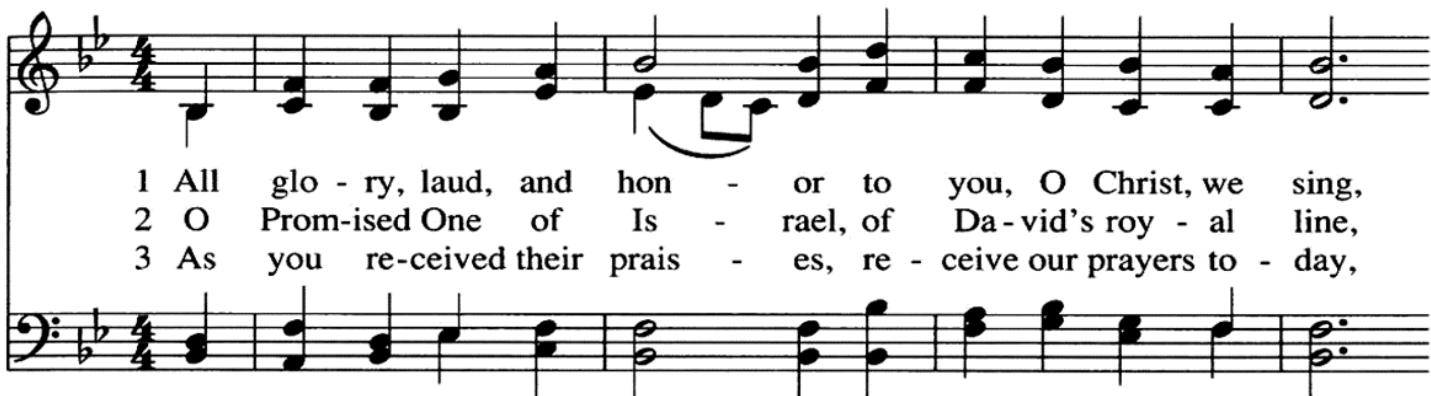
Donations accepted
and will go to
Youth Activities!

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

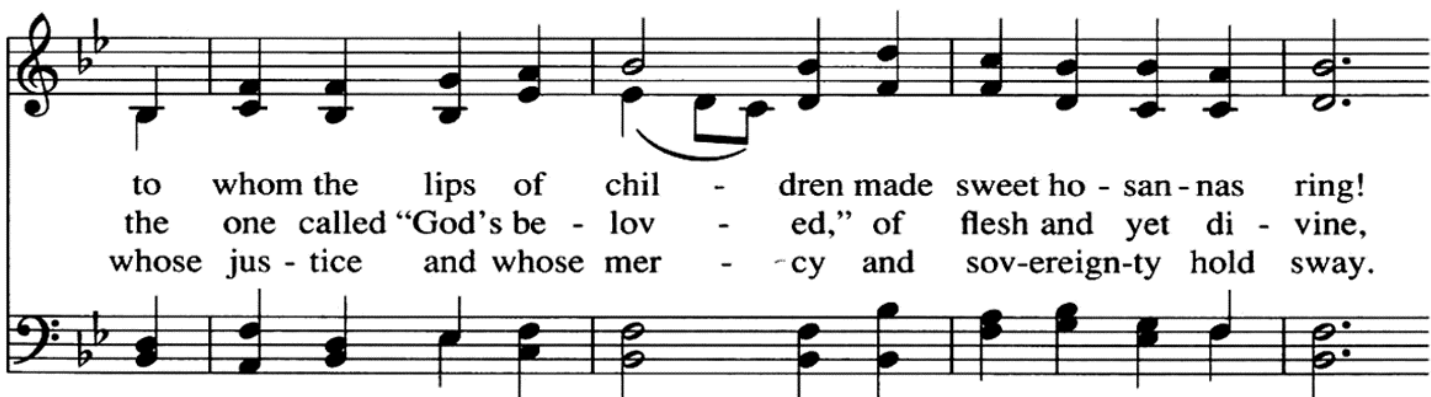
216

Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.

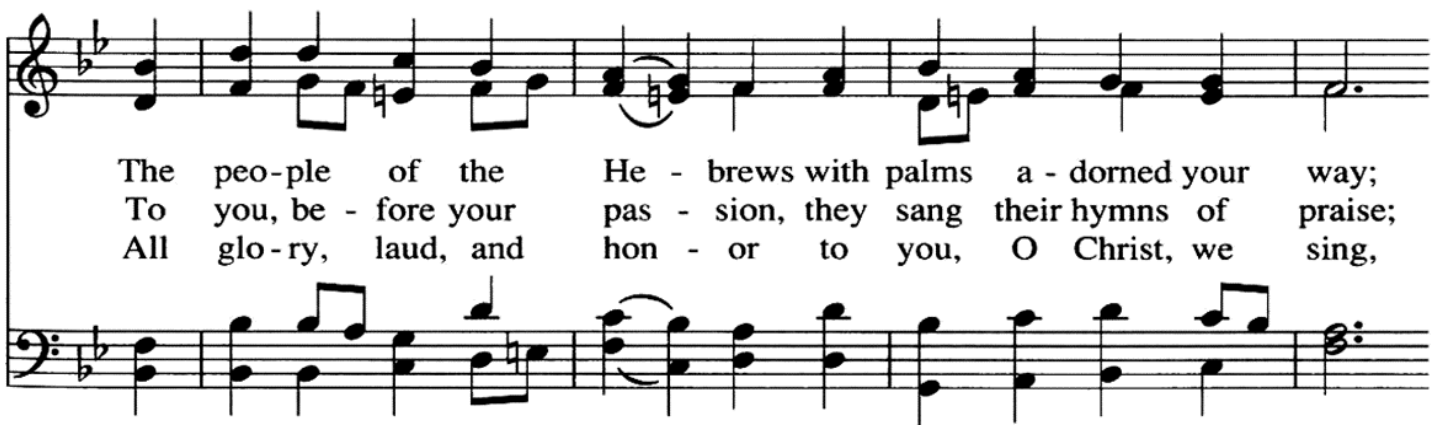
Matt. 21:8-9



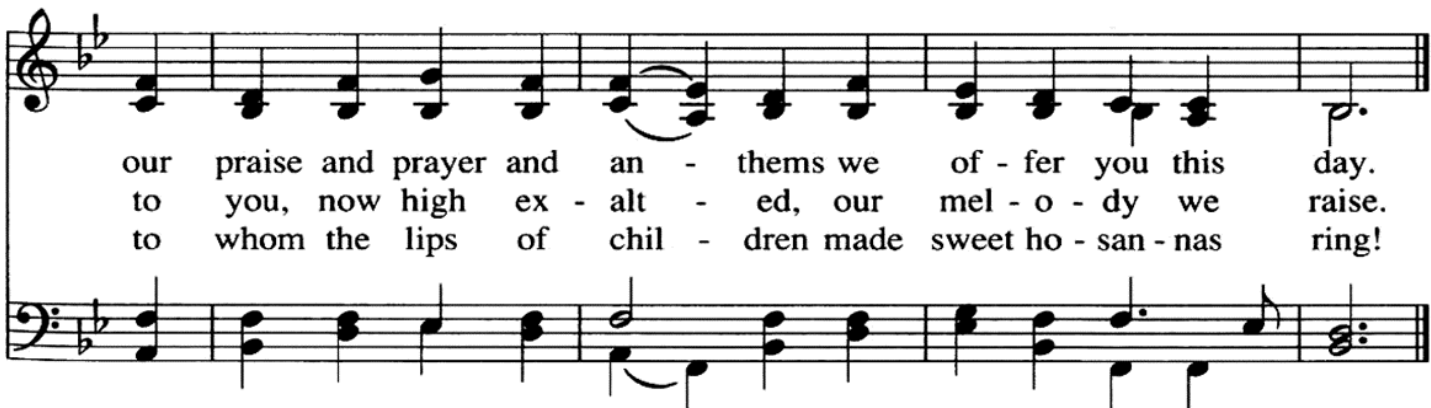
1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da-vid's roy - al line,
3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.



The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,



our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!



JOURNEY TO EASTER

- Palm Sunday, Today, APRIL 13th
Palm Sunday Parade & Multicultural Taste-Testing Fellowship
- MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17th
6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner Fellowship
7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service
- GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 18th
6:00 PM Fish Dinner
7:00 PM Pastor Sheila & Rev. Michael-Ann will be two of seven ministers in the area to preach at the Ecumenical Good Friday Service.
- EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH
Resurrection Day!!!
10:00 AM Worship Celebration & 11:15 AM Fellowship and Easter Party – Sunday School Egg Hunt! All are welcome



Thank you to all who participated in the PEACE event on April 7th.

This year, we addressed actionable efforts towards:

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- MENTAL HEALTH
- POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

thank you



New Member Sunday will be on **April 27th.**

Please plan to attend and welcome our newest members.

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
5088 SUMMIT BLVD, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415**

Ministers of the Church

All of Us

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

Music Director

Donya Lane

Email Address:

Pastor Sheila

sheila@unionucc.net

Office - Zaida Pacheco

zaida@unionucc.net / office@unionucc.net

Union Congregational Church, UCC:

unionucc.net

Florida Conference, UCC

www.uccfla.org

National UCC:

www.ucc.org

Office Phone: 561-686-0330 - please leave a message.

Go to www.unionucc.net to see more of our news.

Office Hours are: Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00AM – 1:00 PM.

THIS WEEK AT UNION UCC

Sunday, April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM Handbell Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Multicultural Taste-Testing Fellowship - All are welcome!

7:00 PM Trustee Zoom Meeting

Tuesday - Friday - Prayer Room is Available

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Open during office hours!

Thursday, April 17, 2025 Maundy Thursday Service

6:00 PM Soup Fellowship Dinner

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29, 2024 Ecumenical Good Friday Service

6:00 PM Fish Fry Fellowship Dinner (\$10.00)

**7:00 PM Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Tabernacle Baptist Church,
801 Eighth St., West Palm Beach, FL. All are invited.**



Saturday, April 19, 2025 Handbell Rehearsal

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal

Sunday, April 20, 2025 Easter Sunday

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM Handbell Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:30 AM Easter Party – Sunday School Egg Hunt!



PALM / PASSION SUNDAY
(SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT)

April 13, 2025

Luke 24:36b-48

Into Jerusalem

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week, where the passion of our Lord will play out before us, ending in his death on the Good Friday cross. But for now, we gather with that ancient crowd, waving palm branches and shouting, “Hosanna! Hosanna!” (which means “save us!”).

On this day, we praise Christ our King who gave new meaning to that title “king.” For Jesus wasn’t like King Saul who towered in physical strength nor was he like King Solomon who was surrounded by wealth and great wisdom. Jesus was a king who chose the way of servanthood and who rode a humble animal rather than a warhorse. And yet the streets still overflowed with people wanting to welcome this man who had stirred the countryside with his radical message of God’s all-encompassing love.

Before riding into Jerusalem, Jesus asked his disciples to get a donkey and a colt. The disciples questioned Jesus if the animals’ owner would give them freely. Jesus replied, “Just say the Lord needs them.” Sure enough, the disciples didn’t run into any hesitation and were able to secure the animals for their friend.

We rarely linger on this detail in the story of Jesus’ passion, preferring to focus on the palm-waving fanfare. But let’s leave that cheering crowd for a moment and linger, asking ourselves what it is that the Lord needs of us.

Perhaps not a donkey, but a trusting heart? Perhaps not a colt, but our time to help others no matter how stretched our time seems to be?

Can we give drink to the thirsty, food to the hungry and clothing to the naked? Can we give Jesus our commitment to stay by his side when others fall by the way-side? Can we wait in patient faith for resurrection promises amid our dark nights of the soul?

My friends, the truth is that the Lord needs much more than a humble animal to ride on. He needs our hearts.

Come, let us rejoin that Palm Sunday crowd knowing that all too soon those hosannas will fade. Hold on to your palm branch tightly, though. Hold on and listen for all the Jesus is asking of you.

Redeeming God, we are quick to sing Your praises when things go our way, but when life’s cheers turn to jeers, we quickly doubt and run from the grace of Your Son Jesus. Help us to be present now and always to our Savior, giving whatever it is He asks of us this day. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.