



*The First Congregational Church  
of the United Church of Christ  
Stockbridge, Massachusetts*

PALM SUNDAY

*March 24, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.*

Each week in worship we welcome people to share their prayers. If you would like for a worship leader to read your prayer, fill out a prayer slip. Nursery care is available during the worship service, please ask an usher.

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

Peter Frost

PRELUDE *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, arr. by Jason Krug Bell Choir

FRAMING WORDS / WELCOME

Pastor Brent Damrow

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

INTROIT *All Glory Laud and Honor*, arr. by B. Kinyon Bell Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP written by Thom Shuman Ron Hanft

One: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**All: We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;  
we will travel through betrayal and death,  
cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

One: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,  
for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.

**All: We wave palm branches in anticipation,  
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

One: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:  
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

**All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.**

READING

Mark 11:1-11

Elisabeth Bellows

INVITATION TO THE PARADE

\*HYMN

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

See page 5

TIME WITH CHILDREN

The Lord's Prayer

**Our God, 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.**

Children may go to music / story time.

BELL ANTHEM

Bell Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION adapted from Ann Siddall

Sarah Conly

One: Though we have known hardship and pain,  
though life has not always turned out as we had hoped,  
we will stand here and say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

One: Though life becomes more complex,  
the deepest questions remain unanswered,  
and the mystery of faith deepens, we will say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

One: Though the pain of the world  
often seems more than we can bear or address,  
we will stand firm in our faith and say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

One: Though we stand with the throngs on Palm Sunday  
We know how the events of Holy Week went  
And because we know how we still betray, deny, and abandon today  
We stand in need of mercy and say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

(time for silent prayer of confession)

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE / PASSING THE PEACE

CONTEMPORARY READING *Goodtime Jesus*, James Tate      David Anderegg

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM      *Who Comes Riding?* Green/Larson

\*DOXOLOGY      *A Lenten Doxology*, by G.W. Dub Shepherd\*      Old 100th

**Praise God throughout these forty days.  
Praise Christ, our Lord, who God did raise.  
And praise the spirit who imparts  
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

\*BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

BRINGING OUR PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE      *Seven-fold Amen* by J. Stainer

## THE GIFT OF THE WORD

\*HYMN      *Ride on! Ride on In Majesty!*      See page 8

REFLECTION      *Moments to Remember*      Pastor Brent

SCRIPTURE READING      Mark 14:3-9      Donna Jacobs

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

CHORAL RESPONSE      *Lenten Meditation* by Craig Carnahan

# GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

## INVITATIONS

- \*HYMN *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, vss. 1-2 See page 6
- \*SENDING CHARGE
- \*BENEDICTION Pastor Brent
- POSTLUDE *Pie Jesu* by Andrew Lloyd Webber,  
The Choir, Amy Shake and Rich Geiler, soloists

## Holy Week & Easter

### **Maundy Thursday – March 28 - 7:00pm**

Gather with the disciples in the upper room to share the Last Supper with Jesus. Go to the Garden of Gethsemane to join in the story of love, prayer, betrayal, and denial. The service will conclude with a service of light and include Communion and beautiful music.

### **Good Friday – March 29**

#### Lunchtime Service 12:15pm – 12:45pm

Take our places at the foot of the cross to bear witness to the fateful events of the trial, beating, crucifixion, and burial. We will have the chance to confess the ways we continue to betray or deny Christ. We will face truth in love.

#### Evening Guided Meditation 5:30 p.m.

(sanctuary open until 7:00 p.m.)

This contemplative self-guided time of prayer bathed in soft music will bring

each person likewise to the foot of the cross with the same chance to confess and reflect. We will livestream this time and provide the guide on-line as well.

### **Easter Sunday – March 31**

#### Sunrise Service 6:30am – Sanctuary Balcony

Christ is Risen! Using a beautiful text from Isaiah we will gather facing the sunrise to celebrate the Easter truth of life and resurrection. A time of simple food and fellowship will follow.

#### 10:00am – Festival Worship

With special music and cries of Alleluia we will sing, pray, and celebrate Easter! Following worship will be the Egg Hunt for children and a time of food and fellowship.

# Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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ELLACOMBE 7.6.7.6 D

*Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen  
Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt. 1868*

Jennette Threlfall, 1873

1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;  
2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'Mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The joy - ful an - them rang;  
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, And chant - ing clear and loud;  
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav - en our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them Close fold - ed to His breast,  
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state,  
O may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice,

The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.  
Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.  
And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

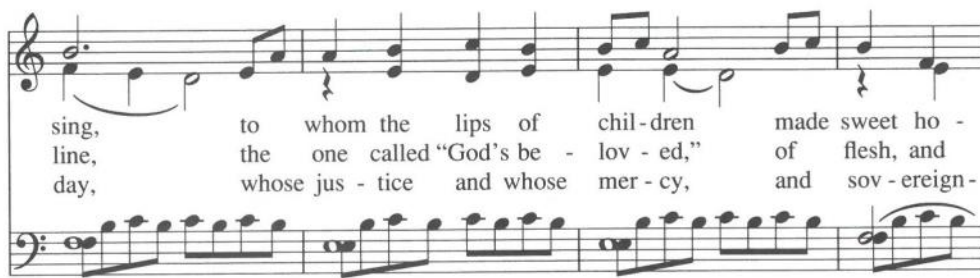
*Matt. 21:8-9*

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

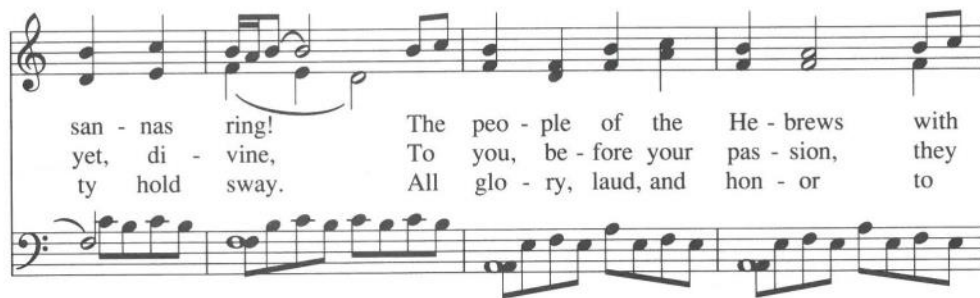
*Unison*



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



sing, to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho -  
line, the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh, and  
day, whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy, and sov - ereign -



san - nas ring! The peo - ple of the He - brews with  
yet, di - vine, To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they  
ty hold sway. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to



palms a - dorned your way; our praise and prayer and  
sang their hymns of praise; to you, now high ex -  
you, O Christ, we sing, to whom the lips of

an - them's we of - fer you this day.  
alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

### Music Notes ~ Peter Frost

**Sir John Stainer** (1840-1901) was an English composer and organist. His compositions were extremely popular during his lifetime. Today the choir will sing his "Seven-fold Amen" which remains popular today. On Maundy Thursday the choir will sing his *God So Loved the World* which is from his most highly regarded oratorio called *The Crucifixion*.

When he retired due to his poor eyesight and declining health, he returned to Oxford to become Professor of Music at the university. He died unexpectedly while on holiday in Italy in 1901.

## News and Announcements

### Easter Flowers

The sanctuary will be filled with beautiful pots of flowers for Easter. You may order a plant in memory of or

in honor of a loved one; the deadline is today. The recommended donation is \$20 per plant. There are forms and a drop-box in the JE Room.

*Welcome! We are an Open and Affirming Church which means that we invite persons of every sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, racial and cultural identity, age, physical ability, economic circumstance, faith background and family structure to share fully in the ministry, leadership and fellowship of this congregation's life in Christ.*

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# Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

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ST. DROSTANE LM

Henry Hart Milman, 1827

John Bacchus Dykes, 1862

1. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the  
2. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly  
3. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! The wing - ed  
4. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly

tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, pur -  
pomp ride on to die: O Christ, Thy tri - umphs  
squad - rons of the sky Look down with sad and  
pomp ride on to die; Bow Thy meek head to

sue Thy road With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.  
now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.  
won - dering eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.  
mor - tal pain, Then take, O God, Thy power, and reign.