

Palm Sunday

10:30 a.m.

March 24, 2024

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name

Prelude - *Prelude on Ellacombe* - Alfred Fedak

Call to Worship

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest!

Processional - Fedak

Opening Hymn No. 278** - *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

*Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang,
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang.*

*To Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.*

*From Olivet they followed
mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
should on his bidding wait.*

*"Hosanna in the highest!"
that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer,
the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice!*

Invocation

Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way. Let those branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our Lord, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. In his name we pray. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading - Psalm 118:21-26

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gloria Patri (sung)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Children's Anthem - *Lift up Your Heads* - Jody Lindh

Lift up your heads, O ye gates. Be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of Glory shall come in. Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Who is the King of Glory? 'Tis the Lord, strong and mighty.

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem - *Hosanna to the Living Lord* - Helvey

Hosanna to the living Lord! Hosanna to the incarnate Word! To Christ, Creator, Savior, King Let earth, let heaven hosanna sing! Hosanna, Lord! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! "Hosanna, Lord!" your angels cry. "Hosanna, Lord!" your saints reply. Above, beneath us, and around, The dead and living swell the sound: Hosanna, Lord! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! To Got the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Be honor, praise and glory giv'n By all on earth and all in heav'n. Hosanna, Lord! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to the Lord!

Scripture Reading - Mark 11:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon - *Jesus Did Not Resist the Cross*

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response No. 289** - *Ah, Holy Jesus*

*Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!*

*Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!*

*'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.*

*Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered.
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.*

*For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.*

*Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *When You Prayed Beneath the Trees* - Lloyd Larson
(In memory of Bob & Edna Keyser by Millie Keyser & Dale Gilbert)

*When you prayed beneath the trees,
it was for me, O Lord;
when you cried upon your knees,
how could it be, O Lord?
When in blood and sweat and tears
you dismissed your final fears,
when you faced the soldiers' spears,
you stood for me, O Lord.*

*When their triumph looked complete,
it was for me, O Lord,
when it seemed like your defeat,
they could not see, O Lord!
When you faced the mob alone
you were silent as a stone,
and a tree became your throne;
you came for me, O Lord.*

*When you stumbled up the road,
you walked for me, O Lord,
when you took your deadly load,
that heavy tree, O Lord;
When they lifted you on high,
and they nailed you up to die,
and when darkness filled the sky,*

it was for me, O Lord.

*When you spoke with kingly power,
it was for me, O Lord,
in that dread and destined hour,
you made me free, O Lord;
earth and heaven heard you shout,
death and hell were put to rout,
for the grave could not hold out;
you are for me, O Lord.*

Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith

Closing Hymn 285** - To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord

*To mock your reign, O dearest Lord,
they made a crown of thorns;
set you with taunts along that road
from which no one returns.
They did not know, as we do now,
that glorious is your crown;
that thorns would flower upon your brow,
your sorrows heal our own.*

*In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord,
they snatched a purple cloak,
your passion turned, for all they cared,
into a soldier's joke.
They did not know, as we do now,
that though we merit blame
you will your robe of mercy throw
around our naked shame.*

*A sceptered reed, O patient Lord,
they thrust into your hand,
and acted out their grim charade
to its appointed end.
They did not know, as we do now,*

*though empires rise and fall,
your Kingdom shall not cease to grow
till love embraces all.*

Benediction and Response - Amen - Peter Lutkin

Postlude - *The Kingsfold Trumpet*



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God,

In loving memory Gerald Lewis by Carol Lewis;

In honor of the gift of salvation from Jesus

The anthem, ***When You Prayed Beneath the Trees***, was donated in loving memory of Bob and Edna Keyser, by Millie Keyser and Dale Gilbert.

Thank you to Cathy Poremba, our guest organist this morning.

Service Music: Service Music: All Children's Choirs; Epworth Choir; Chancel Choir, Cathy Poremba - Organist

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

Choosing his path

2 Sam. 15:30 –David fled Jerusalem over the _____ of _____

Mark 11:1 - Jesus approaches from east, _____ David's flight

Telling God's Story

Zech. 9:9 – borrows a donkey to _____ the story, making it his own

each _____ of Holy Week Jesus placed himself in the greatest _____

Thy Kingdom Come

The story of Holy Week leads to the _____

God's kingdom comes not through _____, but through _____

Questions for Reflection: Jesus's triumphal entry was somewhat ironic. He rode on a small, young donkey and was accompanied by none of Israel's soldiers or leaders. His arrival was hardly a display of traditional power. Despite the fact that he appeared weak, this week from Palm Sunday to Easter morning would change history.

How has God worked through humble or unexpected ways to bring needed change in your life?

Question for Discussion: What steps do I take in my daily life to place myself into God's story?

Memory Verse: **Mark 11:10** – *“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”*

Readings for this Week: Mark 14-16

CHURCH NOTES

Holy Week Worship

March 28	8:30 a.m - 4 p.m.	Silent Communion	First Church
	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday	First Christian
March 29	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday	Pilgrim
March 31	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise	St. John's
	9:00 a.m.	Easter Worship	First Church
	11:00 a.m.	Easter Worship	First Church



All Day Silent Communion: If you can't make the Maundy Thursday service, you may come to First Church between 8:30 am and 4 pm on March 28 for Silent Communion in the Sanctuary.

Multipling Love: Join us for a study on the book *Multipling Love* by Dr. Paul Chilcote. **It will begin on Sunday, April 7, at 9:30 am** in the parlor. In the book he shows us how we can find new vision and vitality through an orientation, or reorientation, to the values and understanding of the Christian faith that have made Methodism a force for so much good in the world over its history. The sign up sheet is on the Welcome Center or you may call the church office.

Home Concert: On Sunday, April 7, at 7:00 p.m. the Epworth Choir will present a home concert featuring music from throughout the year and also the Lenten Sketches by Joseph Martin with a large orchestral ensemble. Come support the gem of our church!

Montgomery Scholarship Applicants: Applications for the Reid and Roberta Montgomery Scholarship may be picked up at the main office any Monday - Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. **The deadline for returning the application is Friday, April 5.** An applicant must be a member of First Church and a high school graduate planning to be enrolled in college or technical school this coming fall for the 2024-25 school year.

We Need You! The International Welcome Center is a local agency that works with the State department to resettle refugees. This year, they'll begin welcoming six to eight families whose refugee status has been granted. We're being asked to provide a team of 4-6 people who are willing to welcome these new persons to the US and journey with them as they make their house a home, find a job, and get their children enrolled in school. Email Pastor Pippin (fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com) right away if you are interested in being part of this team!

Men's Time Out: All the men of First Church and the community are invited for a morning of fellowship and breakfast! The meetings take place on the first Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The next meeting will be on April 6.

New Handbell Choir: Do you love seeing the handbells on Sunday mornings? Here is your chance to play them. Dean Wagner is putting together a new handbell choir for beginning to intermediate players. Rehearsals will be on Thursdays from 6 - 6:45 p.m. The beginning date yet to be determined. Please contact Dean at Ext. 221 or email him at hdwagnerfumc@gmail.com.

Annual Golf Outing: It is time to mark your calendars again for the 18th Annual Bud Mills Memorial GolfOuting to benefit the Epworth tour of 2025. The outing is at Brookledge again on June 22 at 1:30. You may play in the event for \$90. We will be seeking hole and cart sponsors as well at the \$150 and \$25 levels. As always, we thank you for your support in this our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please feel free to share this with the other churches.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
MARCH 24, 2024**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie	Jim Henes
Bob Ahonen	Jack Holforty
Debbie Amundsen	Kathy Jackson
Jim Beebe	Lew King
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Lee Minier
Don Corbett	Kathi Sawyer
Fred Dodson	Bonnie Shultz
Mary Griest	Karen & Michael Taucher
John Gullion	Ken Tunstall

DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Karen Doubrava on the death of her mother, Brenda Doubrava on 3/15.