

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

March 29, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Palm Sunday

PRELUDE (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

WELCOME – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. See an usher.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**Indicates please rise in body or spirit*)

Leader: As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them,

People: **"Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."**

Leader: This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

People: **"Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"**

Leader: The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

People: **"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

Leader: When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked,

People: “Who is this?”

Leader: The crowd answered,

People: “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

***OPENING SONG** *Hosana, Loud Hosana* **UMH 278**

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** **UMH 95**

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.

***BLESSING THE OFFERING**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** *Tell Me the Stories* **UMH 277**

SCRIPTURE **Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29**

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

²Let Israel say: “His love endures forever.” ¹⁹Open for me the
gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may
enter. ²¹I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have
become my salvation. ²²The stone the builders rejected has
become the cornerstone; ²³the Lord has done this, and it is
marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴The Lord has done it this very day; let us
rejoice today and be glad. ²⁵Lord, save us! Lord, grant us success!

²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the
house of the Lord we bless you. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has
made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal

procession up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you. ²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

MESSAGE

“Celebrate and Wait”

CLOSING HYMN

His Name is Wonderful

UMH 174

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE

Mark 14: 10-

11, 53-65, 15:6-15

Mark 14: 10-11, 53-65

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. ¹¹They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over. ⁵³They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. ⁵⁴Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. ⁵⁵The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. ⁵⁶Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. ⁵⁷Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹Yet even then their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” ⁶¹But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶²“I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked. ⁶⁴“You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?” They all condemned him as worthy of death. ⁶⁵Then some began to spit at him; they

blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy!” And the guards took him and beat him.

Mark 15: 6-15

⁶Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. ⁷A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. ⁸The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. ⁹“Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, ¹⁰knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. ¹²“What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them. ¹³“Crucify him!” they shouted. ¹⁴“Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!” ¹⁵Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

We Sang Our Glad Hosannas (vs 4)

FWS 2111

Please leave in reflective silence and join us for our Holy Week services:

April 2 – Maundy Thursday- 6 p.m.

April 3 – Good Friday- 6 p.m.

☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞

BIBLE STUDY – Meets on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. There is still time to join. See the Pastor for a copy of the book.

OUTSIDE CHURCH SIGN – Please see Roger if you would like to donate and support the purchase of the new sign.

EASTER SUNDAY (April 5) – Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. prior to the service. After the service, the children will enjoy an Easter Egg hunt and there will also be the regular fellowship hour.

FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK – Requests include canned vegetables (potatoes, corn, green beans, carrots), canned meats, corn bread, and spaghetti sauce. Please bring donations by the first Sunday of the month.

APRIL DINNER GET TOGETHER – Will be Monday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Bob Evans. Let Jean know if you will attend.

PRAYER CHAIN – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

NEWSLETTER – Submit information to Paul Nelson at pnelson37@gmail.com

SOCIAL HOUR – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

Music Director: Mike Nelson
Videographer: Roger Vandegrift
Liturgist: Pat Kern