

CHRIST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Palm Sunday

Passion Sunday

April 13, 2025

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

10:30am Worship Service

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Phil Jennings

PRELUDE

*Today we will be part of the participatory drama **The Cry of the Whole Congregation** written by Walter Wangerin¹ There will be four readers: The Narrator, read by Tamara Norris, Peter, read by Emanuel Mora, Pilate read by Jane Thorkelson, the Pharisee, read by Jane Thorkelson and Judas read by Derek Oesterreich.*

THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM – THE PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Narrator: When Jesus drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say, 'the Lord has need of it.'"

Narrator: So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them

People: **And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them “why are you untying the colt”?**

Peter: And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it.

Narrator: And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying

¹ Copyright © 1984 Walter Wangerin, Jr. Used by permission. From the book **RAGMAN AND OTHER CRIES OF FAITH**, Published by Harper San Francisco."

(refrain from The Palms)

Let ev'ry voice resound with united acclamation

Hosanna! Praised be the Lord,

Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation.

Pharisee: And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried out to him,
"Teacher, rebuke your disciples! They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to shut up!

Narrator: He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones themselves would cry out."

Opening Hymn and Procession with Palms – "The Palms" (insert)

Narrator: And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying,
"Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace!
But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall
come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you
and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to
the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not
leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the
time of your visitation."

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ride On, King Jesus

arr. L.L. Fleming

Ruth Ann Cunningham, soloist

(The Congregation holds its Palm branches high during the anthem.

After the anthem, the branches are laid aside.)

THE PREPARATION AND EATING OF THE LAST SUPPER

Narrator: Now, the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the
Passover. And the Temple Priests were seeking how to put Jesus to
death; for they feared the people

Judas: Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the
number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple
priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they
were glad, and engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and
sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of the
multitude

Narrator: Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it."

People: **They said to him, "but where Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?"**

Narrator: He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; there make ready." And they went and found it as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined: but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

People: **And they began to question, "Who Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?"**

Narrator: He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

Judas: Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Is it I, Master?"

Narrator: Jesus said to him, "You have said so."

Peter: Simon Peter was indignant. "But not I!" he said. And he declared, "Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you"

Narrator: "Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

Peter: Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!"

People: And so said all of the disciples, over and over again.

THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

HYMN

Go to Dark Gesthemane

UMH 290 v. 1

Narrator: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us

Narrator: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done."

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done.

Narrator: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

Judas: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him.

Narrator: But Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Judas: Judas said, "Hail, Master."

People: When the disciples saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

Peter: And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear

Narrator: But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

People: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Narrator: Jesus said to those who had come out against him, "When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of darkness." Then they seized him –

THE JUDGMENT

HYMN

Go To Dark Gethsemane

UMH 290 v. 2

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest's house

Peter: Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them

People: Then a maid, seeing him sit in the light, said, "This man was also with him"

Peter: But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

People: Then a man, seeing him sit in the light, said, "You also are one of them"

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I am not."

People: An hour later, another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean"

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!"

Narrator: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

Peter: And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and he wept bitterly.

Narrator: Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

People: "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

Narrator: But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God

People: And they said, "Are you the Son of God, then?"

Narrator: And he said to them, "You say that I am."

People: And they said, “Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, Blasphemy!”

DAWN FRIDAY: JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Narrator: Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pontius Pilate

People: And they began to curse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!”

Pilate: And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: And he answered him, "You have said so."

Pilate: And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes, "I find no crime in this man."

People: But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place”

Pilate: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod,

Narrator: Where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.

Pilate: Pilate said to the rulers of the people, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him -- "

People: But they all cried out together: “Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas!”

Narrator: Barabbas! A man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and for murder –

Pilate: Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus –

People: But they shouted out, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate: "Why? What evil has he done? I've found no crime in him deserving death. I'll chastise him. I'll release him -- "

People: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified.

Narrator: And their voices prevailed

Pilate: So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder. But Jesus he delivered up to their will.

FRIDAY MORNING: CRUCIFIXION

HYMN *Go to Dark Gesthemane* UMH 290 v. 3

Narrator: Jesus he delivered over to their will.

Left Side: **And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus**

Right Side: **And there followed him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented him**

Narrator: But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughter of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!"

HYMN *Were You There?* UMH 288 v. 1

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

HYMN *Were You There?* UMH 288 v. 2

Narrator: And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

Left Side: **Forgive us our trespasses**

Right Side: **And they cast lots to divide his garments**

Left Side: **Forgive us our trespasses**

Right Side: **And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others, let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!"**

Left Side: **Forgive us our trespasses.**

Right Side: **The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar**

Left Side: **There was an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews”**

Right Side: **Forgive us our trespasses, forgive us O Lord, our trespasses!**

Judas: One of the criminals who were hanged with him railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Peter: But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

People: **Forgive us our trespasses, deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom –**

Narrator: And Jesus said to him –

People: **And the power –**

Narrator: “Truly, truly I say to you – “

People: **And the glory –**

Narrator: “Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

People: **Forever and ever. Amen!**

HYMN

Were You There?

UMH 288 v. 3

Narrator: It was now about the sixth hour - and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failedAnd the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottomThen Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!" And having said this, he breathed his last. And all the multitudes who had assembled to see the sight,

People: **When they saw what had taken place, they returned home beating their breasts**

All Women: And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things. –

LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON: BURIAL

HYMN

Were You There?

UMH 288 v. 4, 5

Pilate: Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a righteous man, one looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid.

Narrator: It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning

All Women: The Women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments –

Narrator: On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment

The congregation is seated for a time of silent reflection

HYMN OF REFLECTION

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

UMH 286

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

OFFERTORY PRAYER²

Holy One, we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING WITH INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP**

What Wondrous Love Is This

UMH 292

***BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

UMH 301 v. 3

***POSTLUDE**

EASTER BREADS AND SPREADS

9:30am – Easter morning – in the Gathering Area

Everyone is invited to enjoy Breads and Spreads. Bring your favorite Easter bread, fruit, or a traditional family treat to share. Coffee and tea will be available. Visit with friends and make some new ones as we gather together.

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SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

We Are All God's Children

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

** denotes member*

<i>*Bobby Blankenship</i>	<i>Al Tobey</i>	<i>Erik T.</i>	<i>Lindsey Elswick</i>
<i>*Monta Demchak</i>	<i>Carol De Laat</i>	<i>Frank</i>	<i>Lindsey Parker</i>
<i>*Dave Dickman</i>	<i>Carol</i>	<i>Gail</i>	<i>Mary</i>
<i>*Mitzi Herrick</i>	<i>Caroline</i>	<i>Geof Funk</i>	<i>Mary Ellen</i>
<i>*Cindy Light</i>	<i>Chris M.</i>	<i>J & J</i>	<i>Mary W.H.</i>
<i>*John Motley</i>	<i>Darlene</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Max</i>
<i>*Peter Oesterreich</i>	<i>Darlene</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>MJ</i>
<i>*Janis Pongallo</i>	<i>Daryana</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>Rosie</i>
<i>*Linda Prudhoe</i>	<i>David R.</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Roy Buser</i>
<i>*DeeDee Rencehausen</i>	<i>Dennis</i>	<i>Joshua C.</i>	<i>Seth Buser</i>
<i>*Nadene & Dennis Smith</i>	<i>Diane</i>	<i>Kathy</i>	<i>Sheri G.</i>
<i>*Joan Thorkelson</i>	<i>Dixie</i>	<i>Laurie</i>	<i>Ted and Marie Nyland</i>
<i>*Galen Younkin</i>	<i>Doug Emery</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Tom Szor</i>
<i>Ukraine, Israel and Gaza</i>	<i>Dotty</i>	<i>Lily Van Scyoc</i>	<i>Viola</i>
<i>Pastor Jason Thompson</i>	<i>Ed Rote</i>		

SPRING FLING

Our **Spring Fling – Soup and Salad Luncheon** is today, April 13 after our Palm Sunday worship service. We will have a variety of soups and lots of salad toppings. We will also have some special entertainment. This was always a popular event for our congregation so please plan to join us. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids ages 6-11. Children 5 and under FREE. Proceeds will go to GROW which helps fund our community meals.



Christ UMC Welcomes All

We welcome all persons to our church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background, social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation, or other means people use to categorize or discriminate against others. For our full statement, go to our website.

MEDINA CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Excitement is in the air! Get ready to be part of something extraordinary at **Medina Chorus Inc's** Spring 2025 Concert, "**A Trip to Broadway**". It's an afternoon with something for every Broadway lover, including musical selections from West Side Story to Wicked. Don't miss out, come join us! Sunday, April 27th at 3PM at Medina United Methodist Church located at 4747 Foote Rd in Medina. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/a-trip-to-broadway-medina-chorus-spring-concert>.

STAR WORDS

At the beginning of the year, we handed out "Star Words". I invite you to take the word you chose and use it throughout the year as a way to center your prayer time and to be aware of God's presence throughout the day. If you have not received a word, please let Pastor Dianne know and she will get one to you! Each week in the bulletin there will be a journal prompt or reflection question that encourages you in your use of the word.

For this week: **What would this word have meant to you five years ago?**

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Non-weekly meetings and activities are in bold print.

SUN (04/13): Palm Sunday

Worship, 10:30am

Spring Fling, 11:45am/Jump Fellowship Hall

TUE (04/15): Choir Rehearsal, 7pm/Sanctuary

THU (04/17): Maundy Thursday, 6:00pm/West Park UCC

FRI (04/18): Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7:30pm/West Park UCC

SAT (04/19): Easter Vigil, 7:00pm/Sanctuary

SUN (04/20): EASTER Sunday

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30am/San Diego Community Garden

Breads and Spreads, 9:30am/Gathering Area

Worship, 10:30am

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION³

The events of Holy Week make up the central story of our faith. Can we see the suffering of others in our world in the passion of Jesus? What are some ways that the daughters and sons of humanity are crucified today? How are we called to respond?

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

God, as I enter into this new day,
I ask that you keep me mindful
of the profound nature of this Holy Week.
Help me to go beyond the joyful parade of the palms
and to follow Jesus into the suffering of this world,
mindful that he was obedient to you, even to the cross. Amen.


HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

Thank you, God, for the gift of this day.
If I remembered today my betrayals of you,
remind me now of your steadfast love for me,
as I give this day into your hands and rest in peace. Amen.


³ These questions for reflection and prayers are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2012.

The Palms

Arr. by C. H. G.




1. O'er all the way green palms and blos - soms gay Are strewn this day in
 2. His word goes forth, and peo - ple by its might Once more their free - dom
 3. Sing and re - joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem, Of all thy songs sing




fest - ival prep - a - ra - tion, Where Je - sus comes, to wipe our tears a - way;
 gain from deg - ra - da - tion; Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right,
 the e - man - ci - pa - tion; Thro' bound - less love, the Christ of Beth - le - hem


RESPONSE



E'en now the throng to wel - come Him pre - pare. Join, sing His name di - vine,
 While those in dark - ness find re - stored the light.
 Brings forth the hope to thee for - ev - er - more. Join all, and sing Ho - san - na!



Let ev - 'ry voice re - sound with u - nit - ed ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho - san -
 Praised be the



na! Praised be the Lord, Bless Him who cometh to bring us sal - va - tion.
 Lord, Ho - san - na!



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTOR: *The Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, OSL*

Cell: 216.509.4229

Email: pastordiannetc@gmail.com

Office Hours this week: by appointment.

LITURGIST: *Phil Jennings*

USHERS: *Al Naab, Phil Jennings, John Murphy*

GREETER: *Nancy Horton*

ACOLYTES: *Ian Eagan, Ben Eagan, Eli Gadomski Littleton, TJ Wood, Grace Horton*

AUDIO and VIDEO TECHNICIANS: *John Motley, Rob Pongallo*

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: *Susan Balesky*

ORGANIST/PIANIST: *Roy Buser*

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: *Desiree Tarpeo*

Email: office@christumc.com

Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm*

GOAL - FOCUS - STRATEGIES

GOAL: Grow in relationship with Jesus Christ in order to change the world around us, starting with our own community.

FOCUS: To achieve this goal, we will prioritize reaching out to our community as essential to our personal and congregational growth as Christians.

STRATEGIES:

1. We will build meaningful relationships with the people in our community.
2. We will strive to listen and understand the needs of our community.
3. We will use our building and resources to meet those needs in a tangible way.



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***Ask an usher if you would like a LARGE PRINT HYMNAL,
Braille hymnal or hearing device.***