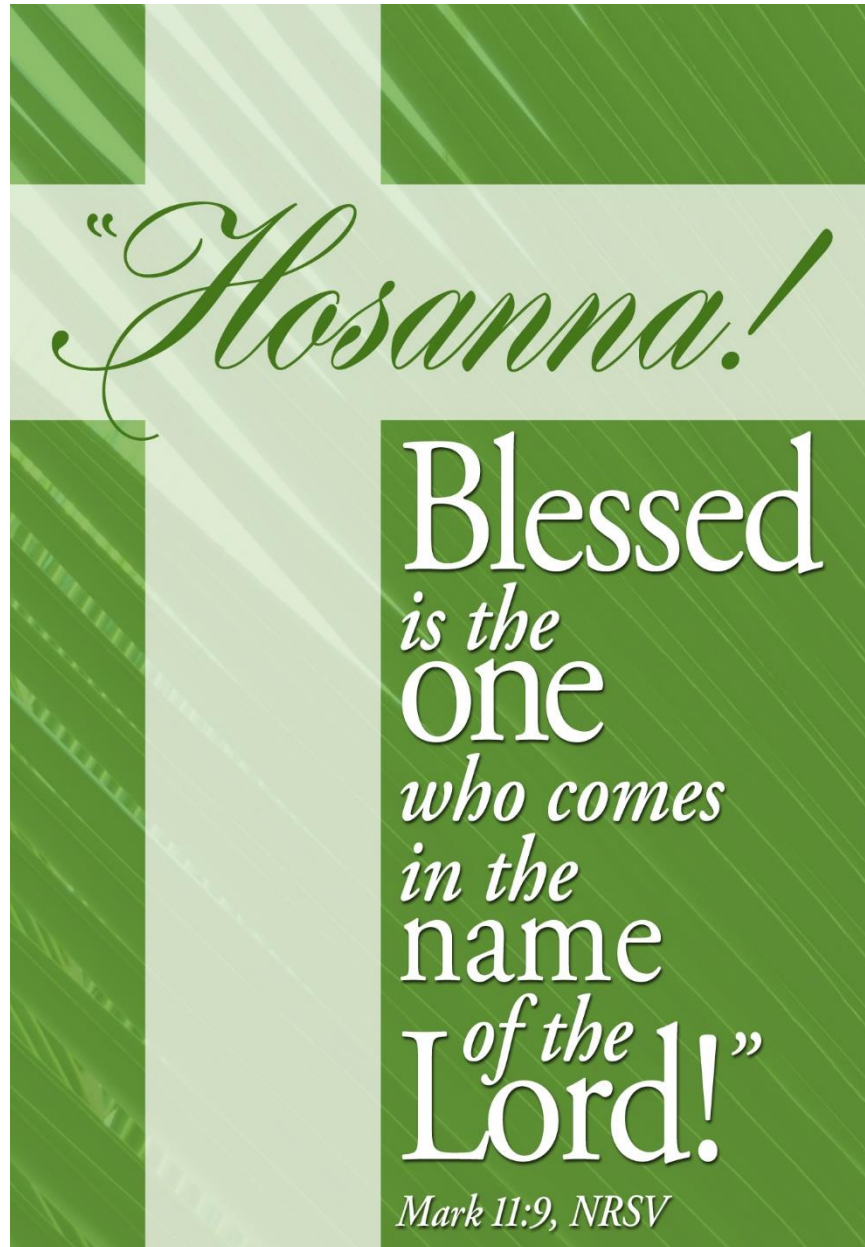


Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

March 24, 2024



GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

,

*NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON
LIFE'S JOURNEY YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John J. Ward-Diorio
The Rev. Allyssa A. Boyer
Lector: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore
Choristers' Director: Jonneke A. Dundore
Assistant Music Director: Mark A. Dundore
Organist: Sarah A. Myers
Assistant Organist: Patrice G. Miller

Ministry of Audio and Video

Jeffrey A. Dundore

Ministry of Service

Lead Greeter: Becky Thompson
Greeters: Candy LaRue, Corky Short, Fenton Fox
Acolyte: Elsa Riesmeyer
Kids' Place: Jonne Dundore
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel
Flower Delivery: Nancy Richey
Counting Team: Corky Short, Fenton Fox

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

*Visit the church website, under the 'Sign Up' menu heading, to help as a Sunday
volunteer or Worship Participant.
We're grateful for your generosity.*

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Rev. Allyssa: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

**ONLINE
GIVING**



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY

March 24, 2024

Please note: the livestream begins with the Announcements. If you do not wish to appear in the livestream, it is best to sit in one of the back three pews of the Sanctuary. Please write up any Prayer Requests ahead of time, leave them in the Red Bowl or give them to the Welcome Team Leader. They will bring them forward.

****Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.***

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORGAN PRELUDE "Psalm of Glory"

Dorothy Wells

CHORAL INTROIT

*THE HYMN No. 216 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Gracious God, we thank You that in the person of Jesus, Your Kingdom drew near. We experienced what life could be like through following Your words and ways. Guide us in choosing to live in those ways today, together as a Congregation. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like the people in Jerusalem, we are caught between life as Jesus offers us and life under the thumb of the dictator in Rome. We feel the pressure of the real risks in choosing to follow Jesus rather than the expectations and temptations of following some humans' directions. We applaud those who follow Jesus as he rides peacefully into the city on a donkey, but only quietly offer our Hosanas from a distance. Let us join in the time of silent prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: God forgives us, and still offers us the choice as to who we will align ourselves with, who we will follow.

ALL: Let us, through our words and actions, through our presence, help others sense the Kingdom of God drawing near. Together, let us find the courage we need to follow Jesus. Amen.

If you are able, please rise and greet one another with signs of Peace.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE GLORIA PATRI (#759 is the tune, but not all the same words)

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 are invited to the front at this time.
Everyone who comes forward will be on camera.*

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world
Shy and Joyful, Bold and Bright
They are precious in his sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so*

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Zechariah 9:9-10

THE PSALM READING

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

*THE HYMN "Lord, What a Parade!"

(to the tune of no. 29, "O Worship the Kind, All Glorious Above")

*Lord, what a parade! The crowd quickly grew;
What noise they all made in welcoming you.
"Hosanna!" they shouted. "It's David's own son!
Hosanna! Come save us! God's reign has begun!"*

*They welcomed you in, a conquering king,
Yet what kind of reign would you really bring?
It wasn't a war horse you rode on that day;
A creature of peace carried you on your way.*

*Did those in that crowd expect something more
Than one who reached out in love to the poor?
Did they think a savior with armies was best,
Or did they remember: the peaceful are blessed?*

*Lord Jesus, it's true — we give you glad praise,
Yet living for you will challenge our ways.
So may we be open and welcome your reign.
Hosanna! Come save us! Renew us again!*

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THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

Mark 11:1-11

“God’s Kingdom Draws Near”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (unison)



Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,

O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

Please place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate. Thank you.

THE OFFERTORY “Sing Hosanna to the King”

Johnson

Chorister and Chancel Choirs

*DOXOLOGY

From all who dwell beneath the skies,

Let the Creator’s praise arise!

Let the Redeemer’s name be sung.

Through every land, by every tongue! Amen.

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

What You have done for us is marvelous in our eyes, gracious God. Our gifts can never match Your goodness toward us. Your saving grace, Your healing light, Your personal sacrifice are so far beyond our imagining! We can only offer ourselves, all we have and all we are, in response to the coming of Christ Jesus. Hosanna in the highest! Receive, O God, our humble service. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 213 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

**All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.**

*THE BENEDICTION

* THE THREE-FOLD AMEN

Please note: the livestream continues until the end of the Postlude.

Please know you are free to leave following the Three-fold Amen and exit to the Narthex to speak with one another. You may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early. If you choose to remain, please stay seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE “Hosanna to The King”

John M. Rasley

References:

The Prayer of Dedication is from “Led by Love” by Lavon Bayler, 1996, United Church Press.

The World Peace Prayer is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine nuns.

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ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Nancy, Tom and Dan Richey, “In loving memory of Nancy’s mother, Alberta Fisher.”
Sherry Spencer, “In memory of my mother, Shirley Corman.”