

March 28, 2021 PALM SUNDAY

St. James United Church of Christ St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Ann Rodewald, Organist

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Messages are uploaded to YouTube: St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Meditative Music Bells Ring Prelude Gathering for Worship

The Palms

Call to Worship:

L: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

P: And grant us your salvation.

L: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

P: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

L: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

P: And let your people sing with joy.

L: O Lord, save your people;

P: And bless your inheritance.

L: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

P: And defend us by your mighty power.

L: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

P: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

L: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

P: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Opening Prayer (all together):

Almighty and everlasting God, in your tender love for us you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon himself our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering and come to share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Young at Heart

Song of Prayer:

Open My Eyes That I May See

Prayer of Confession:

Holy God, we come waving palms and shouting 'Hosanna' for the one who we assume is the Messiah, but the Messiah we get is not the Messiah we expect. The Messiah we get calls us to acknowledge and name the injustice in our world and in our lives. We must not accept injustice as the normal way of the world. We have learned to live with homelessness, poverty, abuse, and neglect. And when we fail to see and name the evils of our world, we allow them to flourish.

Open our eyes, O God, to see crucifixions in our midst and help us to participate in the places where you are bringing liberation and life, justice and healing, enlightenment and deeper connections to one another and to You. *Amen*.

Words of Assurance (all together):

Friends, God meets us in the broken places of our lives. He calls us to him: to redeem, liberate and heal us. In Christ we are empowered to partake in God's grace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are lifted above societies way of thinking and acting. We are called to build up God's Kingdom through liberation and justice seeking work in our world. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Song of Assurance

Oh How He Loves You and Me

Scripture Reading:

Message:

Mark 11:1-11 The Hosanna People Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Praising God in Music:

Hosanna Loud, Hosanna

A Time of Silent Reflection and Prayer:

Pastoral Prayer ... 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.

Offering

Offering, tithes and gifts can be made before or after worship in the offering baskets/plates at the welcome area of the church. St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through the website (stmstjucc.org).

Offertory Music:

The Holy City

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (all together)

Compassionate Father, thank you that you are our strength and our song, you fill our hearts with joy. May we give our offerings to you with gladness and joy. Everything we have belongs to you and we rejoice to give some of your abundant gifts back to you. Bless the tithes and offerings we give today. Let the majesty of the Father be the light that guides us, the compassion of the Son be the love that inspires us and the presence of the Spirit be the power that empowers us. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Sending Forth Song:

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Benediction

The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love.

May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone.

Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor.

May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament.

Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love.

May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything.

Postlude

Lift Up Your Heads

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION April 1st, 7pm at St. James UCC

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION Aril 2nd, 7pm at St. Mark's UCC



This Week's Celebrations

Birthdays: March 28th- Nancy Nye, Taylor Schnelle

29th - Brianna Miota, Rebecca Miota

30th - Sandy Beiersdorf, Dennis Bitter, Tim Wippermann

April 1st - Hannah Kleinhans, Carol Weiand

2nd - Glenn Grunwald

3rd - Dale Dirks, Chris Schnelle

Anniversaries: March 31st- Myron & Kathleen Hickman

April 2nd- Rev. Dr. Patrick & Brenda Schultz

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

