



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

March 24, 2024 10 am

Order of Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" by Michael Burkhardt / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS** / Robert Phillips, Organist

***CHORAL INTROIT:** "Hosanna to the Son of David" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; accompanied by Robert Phillips)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Mark 11, Psalm 118) / John McDonald, Liturgist
(Liturgist) In joy, we gather this day.

(Congregation) Hosanna to Jesus, the Christ!

(L) In remembrance, we gather this day.

(C) Hosanna to the son of David!

(L) In festive celebration and quiet reflection,
we gather to worship and pray.

(All) Hosanna to the Son of God!

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #278** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" by William H. Parker / **All** /
Yvonne Flagg, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**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.**

Verse 2

**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.**

Verse 3

**"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!**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT "Cloaks and Branches" by Richard Cootes

WELCOME / The Rev. Beverly Devine

(Pastor) We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**(Congregation) We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;
we will travel through betrayal and death,
cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

(P) Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,
for he is the life we long for;
he is the Word who sustains us.

**(C) We wave palm branches in anticipation;
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

(P) Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

(All) Hosanna! Hosanna!

Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

(Pastor) The Prince of Peace rode into Jerusalem in lowly estate to bless us. Let us claim our heritage as children of peace by sharing signs of our kinship with one another. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE / ALL

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Give Ear to Our Prayer, O God" by Hal H. Hopson

***"PALM SUNDAY" GOSPEL READING 1,** Mark 11:1-11 (NRSVUE) / John McDonald, Liturgist

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and 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. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then 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.
(Liturgist) Here ends our "Palm Sunday" reading.

(All) Amen!

ANTHEM: "Hosanna! He Comes" / The Aldersgate Chorale

"PASSION SUNDAY" GOSPEL READING 2, Mark 14:1-15:15 / Liturgist and Pastor
Please remain seated during this Gospel reading.

The Plot to Kill Jesus

¹It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him, ²for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

The Anointing at Bethany

³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

The Passover with the Disciples

¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶ So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

¹⁷ When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?"

²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

The Institution of the Lord's Supper

²² While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Peter's Denial Foretold

²⁶ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸ "But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹ Peter said to him, "Even though all fall away, I will not." ³⁰ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹ But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

³² They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴ And he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

³⁵ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

³⁶ He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want."

³⁷ He came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸ Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹

And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

⁴⁰ And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹ He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

⁴² Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

⁴³ Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders.

⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." ⁴⁵ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁴⁶ Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.

⁴⁷ But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? ⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.

⁵¹ A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, ⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Jesus Before the Council

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest, and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.

⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ⁵⁸ "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.' "

⁵⁹ But even on this point their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" ⁶¹ But he was silent and did not answer.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶² Jesus said, "I am, and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.' "

⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵ Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

Peter Denies Jesus

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the female servants of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.

⁶⁹ And the female servant, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰ But again he denied it.

Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and you talk like one."

⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." ⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

Jesus Before Pilate

¹⁵ As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate.

² Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

He answered him, "You say so."

³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Pilate Hands Jesus Over to Be Crucified

⁶ Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked.

⁷ Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸ So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.

⁹ Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead.

¹² Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

¹³ They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴ Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!"

¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

(Liturgist) Here ends our "Passion Sunday" reading.

(All) Amen!

SERMON: "Precarity Parade" / Rev. Bev Devine

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #277 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" by William H. Parker / All**

Verse 1

**Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.**

Verse 2

**First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
all in the lovelight of Jesus' face.**

Verse 3

**Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing
loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Liturgist

Give thanks to God, who is faithful and good.
Give thanks by sharing your tithes and offerings this day.
(Liturgist) I invite the ushers to collect our offerings.

OFFERTORY: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" by Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

***DOXOLOGY: #682 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night" (verse 5) by Thomas Ken**
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.

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / All / Led by Liturgist**

**Thank you, O God, for coming to us in Christ Jesus. Work through these gifts, that
the world might know the breadth of your mercy and your grace. Bless our very
lives, that we might be faithful disciples and stewards of your love. With gratitude
and joy, we pray. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #581** "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" by Albert F. Bayly / **All**

Verse 1

**Lord, whose love through humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose
every gift that you impart.**

Verse 2

**Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles
still to save and make us whole.**

Verse 3

**As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving
your abundant life to share.**

Verse 4

**Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom,
may your mercy know, and live.**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Mark 11, Philippians 2)

(Pastor) Go into God's world, humble and kind.

(Congregation) We will be faithful, courageous, and true.

(P) Go into God's world, gracious and loving.

(C) We will bring Christ's peace to the world.

(ALL) Amen.

POSTLUDE: "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" by Dale Wood

We are called to pray for:

Julie Williams, Virginia Bahnsen, Michael Thompson, James Nuchols, Norma Nelson,
Mack and Elizabeth Davis, Jim Sizer, Mary Herrmann, Pat Williams, Lisa Thomas,
Jim Ashworth, Kim Austin, Kat Franklin, Linda Rydzik, Richard Austin, Orlando Almonte,
family of Jose Baeza, family of Kay Otto, our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, March 24

- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Palm Sunday, Sermon, "Precarity Parade" by Rev. Bev Devine (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- The Habit Fundraiser (Riverside Plaza) - 11 am - 9:30 pm

Monday, March 25

- Preschool closed for Spring Break March 25-29
- Church Council (Zoom) - 7 pm

Tuesday, March 26

- Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 7 pm
- Citrus Circle (Zoom) - 7 pm

Thursday, March 28

- Aldersgate Chorale meet at Wesley UMC - 6:30 pm
- "Maundy Thursday Worship," joint service with FUMCOR at Wesley UMC - 7 pm

Friday, March 29

- Church office closes at noon for Good Friday
- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 am
- "Good Friday Worship," joint service with Wesley UMC at FUMCOR, led by Rev. Roy Riggs - 7 pm

Saturday, March 30

- Serendipity Circle (Chandler Lounge) - 10 am

Sunday, March 31

- Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 8:45 am
- Easter Sunday: Guest Speaker, Erin Hawkins-Smith (Connectional Ministries of California Pacific Conference); Allegro Bells, Aldersgate Chorale, Brass Ensemble and Robert Phillips (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Easter Egg Hunt and Butterfly Release (Front Lawn) - 11:15 am

Monday, April 1

-Rev. J. T. Kim resumes his ministry! Welcome back, Pastor!

- Preschool closed for Teachers' Inservice Day - 9 am
- Trustees Committee meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm
- Worship Committee meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm

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