

Christ Congregational United Church of Christ
A church that listens, praises God, inspires, and serves others.

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The Rev. Candace Thomas, Designated-Term Pastor
Jay Harragin, Director of Music
Graham Bryan, Musician
Anita Smith, Liturgist
Joan Campagna, Usher

APRIL 10, 2022 – 10:30 A.M.
SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Preparation for Worship

“And yet Christians celebrate Palm Sunday year after year. Don’t we believe that something monumental happened when the King of Kings eschewed the warhorse to ride a peace donkey? Don’t we at least believe Jesus offers us an alternative to all those dudes with their horses, tanks and ICBMs? We must believe it! The Palm Sunday shout is hosanna! It means “save now.” In a world married to war, now more than ever, we need to acclaim Christ as King and shout hosanna. But our hosanna must not be a plea for Jesus to join our side, bless our troops, and help us win our war—it must be a plea to save us from our addiction to war.”

— Brian Zahnd



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Hosanna, hosanna, loud Hosanna!

Many: Blessed is the one who comes.

One: Hosanna, hosanna, loud Hosanna!

Many: May the rivers of justice run.

One: Children singing, families dancing,

Many: The elders give a shout!

One: Peace in heaven, glory in the highest!

Many: Even the stones cry out!

One: Hosanna, hosanna, loud hosanna!

Many: May our refrain never cease.

One: Not by power nor by might,

ALL: But the way that makes for peace.

***HYMN: "All Glory Laud and Honor" (No. 216, NCH)**

**1/ All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
the King and Blessed One.**

**2/ The company of angels
is praising you on high;
and we with all creation
in chorus make reply.
The people of the Hebrews
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present.**

**3/ To you before your passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.
As you received their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
for you delight in goodness,
O good and gracious King!**

***BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Let us give thanks to God most high.

P: It is right to give thanks and praise.

L: Let us pray.

ALL: O GOD, WHO IN JESUS CHRIST TRIUMPHANTLY ENTERED JERUSALEM HERALDING A WEEK OF PAIN AND SORROW; BE WITH US NOW AS WE FOLLOW THE WAY OF THE CROSS. BLESS THESE PALMS WE WAVE TODAY. MAY THEY BE A REMINDER OF OUR LOVE FOR CHRIST. BUT MAY THEY ALSO BE A SIGN OF OUR GROWING CONVICTION AND GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP. BLESS OUR HEARTS AS WE RELIVE THE STORY. AS THOSE WHO CAST THEIR PALMS AND THEIR DREAMS BEFORE A TRIUMPHANT CHRIST, MAY WE LAY DOWN OUR LIVES BEFORE YOU, SO THAT OUR DAYS WOULD BE YOUR PATHWAY AND OUR HEARTS, YOUR OPEN DOOR. ALL THIS WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF THE ONE FOR WHOM WE WAVE THESE PALMS, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.

***THE COMMANDMENT OF JESUS (John 15:5, 12)**

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Psalm 118:1-2, 12-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!
Let Israel say,
'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

They surrounded me like bees;
they blazed like a fire of thorns;
in the name of the Lord I cut them off!
I was pushed hard, so that I was falling,
but the Lord helped me.
The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
'The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.'
I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Luke 19:28-40

NRSV

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Miriam Grissett Rivera

Anita and Jack Smith

Pastor: Let the members of Christ Congregational United Church of Christ express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

YOUTH MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Consummate Creator, Lover of Life, Giver of all that is Good,
We have forsaken our calling and abandoned your love.
We have paid lip service to life while serving the powers of death.
Violence parades through the streets of our world.
It normalizes oppression and disavows truth,
Without regard for human life.
We see it in our schools, our sanctuaries, our soil.
We find it on the borders of our nations and our neighborhoods.
In our politics.
In our pockets.
In our religion.

In our relationships,
Violence has invaded the habits of our hearts.
The time for transformation has come upon us
And found us unprepared.
Creation groans, the stones shout out.
Forgive us we pray. *(Continues)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Continued)*

Revive our communities.

Restore our hosannas.

Rekindle our flame for justice.

**That again we may join with Creation and proclaim,
“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE Pastor

Hear and receive the good news.

God has not abandoned us to the violence of this world.

The power of life that brought creation into being is with us.

The Prince of Peace has come, with grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

Blessed be the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna! Glory be to God. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG: “I Need You Every Hour” (No. 517, NCH)

**I need you every hour, O God of grace;
the peace your voice affords, I now embrace.**

**I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to you.**

TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (Unison)

We join our hearts together as we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION Pastor

Hosanna to the God who loves us,
Who heals us.
Who calls us to give ourselves
For the sake of the world,
When we were afraid, God, you became our fortress.
When we were lost, God, you were our way.
When we were alone, God, you were there beside us.
In you, we live.
In you, we move.
In you, we are made whole,
You have showered us with blessing.
We offer our gratitude.
Hosanna in the highest!
Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

May these gifts be used to bring healing, wholeness, and joy to the world God so dearly loves. Amen.

SERMON: "A Different Kind of Parade"

***GOING FORTH SONG: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (No. 216, NCH)**

**1/ All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
the King and Blessed One. *(Continues)***

GOING FORTH SONG: *(Continued)

**2/ The company of angels
is praising you on high;
and we with all creation
in chorus make reply.
The people of the Hebrews
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present.**

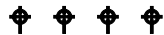
**3/ To you before your passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.
As you received their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
for you delight in goodness,
O good and gracious King!**

***COMMISSION (Unison)**

**Now, may the grace of God go with us. May we carry God's peace into the
world, offering the wholeness and healing we have received.
May our lives be our Hosannas. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



Welcome to Everyone!

Whoever or whatever brought you to our Sanctuary or our Facebook on-line worship service this morning, we believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in you joining us. We hope that you feel the Holy Spirit in our service of prayer and praise. At Christ Congregational Church we strive to love one another as God has loved us and welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. Therefore, we are an Open and Affirming church, loving and welcoming all people in all of God's variety, including racial, ethnic, and economic diversity, gender diversity and expression, sexual orientation, and physical and mental abilities.

We will welcome three new members in worship this morning: Miriam Grissett Rivera, and Anita & Jack Smith. Please share a warm CCC welcome with them following worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY IS APRIL 14th. There will be table fellowship in Kelsey Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. (You're invited to bring Mediterranean type food to share. Some suggestions are hummus, pita bread, cheese, honey, olives, dates, figs.) The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated, and the Rite of Foot Washing will be observed. We will then move to the Garden Chapel for the Tenebrae Worship Service.

EASTER SUNDAY IS NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 17th.

Plan to be in worship when we welcome the choir back on this joyous day!

A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENT has resumed in Kelsey Hall following worship. Sign-up sheets are available to donate goodies and to help clean up afterward.

JOYS AND CONCERNS – *Please let Pastor Candy know of any joys or concerns you would like lifted up in worship before Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Call or text Pastor Candy at 925-640-9289; or send an email to cccpastor@att.net*

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY led by Pastor Candy is offered each Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. [ZOOM](#) Meeting ID: 825 4768 5992

APRIL FOOD DRIVE FOR THE MARK KRUMICH PANTRY! It's time to restock the shelves that provide essential nutrition and necessities to the families who visit the MK Pantry at Ruth Owens Kruse School. Outreach Ministry will collect food items, \$25 Publix and Walmart gift cards, and financial donations. Food bins will be in Chapel and Kelsey. Financial donations can be given in the Sunday plate, online or delivered to the office. Please consider donating items with the approach of Hurricane season in mind.

OUR CHURCH NURSERY IS AVAILABLE IN KELSEY HALL.

ALTAR FLOWERS MAY BE DONATED IN HONOR OF A SPECIAL PERSON OR OCCASION! Please call the office and speak to Miriam or leave a message. You may also contact Miriam BY PHONE or TEXT at 786.362.4051. Or send your request to the church email. The flower calendar has been retired.

PRAYER LIST

Carolyn Campbell, The Rev. David Christensen, Carol Christensen, Joan Hansen, Maggie McDowell, Don and Peggy Olson & Family, Marlene Shulman, Jim Ketzle, J.J. Ketzle, and the family & friends of Ileana Cassanova, Carol Yemple and son, Jose Otalora, Darius Reid, and Kati Hudder.

For Pastoral Care Needs, please call *Pastor Candy* at 925-640-9289 or you may call or leave a message at the Church Office, 305-235-9381.

We have switched to a new email for the church office. It is:
“office@christcongregationalucc.org”
Messages sent to the former email are not received

CALENDAR

APRIL 10, 2022 TO APRIL 17, 2022

SUN. APRIL 10TH	10:00 AM	CHOIR PRACTICE – KELSEY HALL
SUN. APRIL 10TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP (SANCTUARY & ON FACEBOOK LIVE) PALM/PASSION SUNDAY
MON. APRIL 11TH	6:30 PM	ZOOM BIBLE STUDY
MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 14TH	6:30 PM	TABLE FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNION, & FOOT WASHING IN KELSEY HALL, TENEBRAE WORSHIP IN GARDEN CHAPEL
SUN. APRIL 17TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP (SANCTUARY & FACEBOOK LIVE) EASTER SUNDAY

ONLINE GIVING - You may click on the “Give Online Today” button at the bottom of the e-newsletter or visit CCC at christcongregationalucc.org and click “online giving” to reach the secured Moon Clerk site where you will enter credit card information.