



Palm and Passion Sunday

April 10, 2022



Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor
Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director

Centering Thoughts

Palm Sunday is like a glimpse of Easter. It's a little bit joyful after being somber during Lent.

—Laura Gale

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.

—Saint Augustine

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord...!"

—John 12:12-13

But Palm Sunday tells us that...it is the cross that is the true tree of life.

—Pope Benedict XVI

It's Palm Sunday, and so begins our journey with Jesus from Jerusalem's gate to Golgotha's cross to Easter's triumph!

—Anonymous

Welcome!

Prelude

Eric McKirdy

Palm Sunday Scripture: Mark 11:1-11

Invitation to Worship

Rev. Robin Yim

Just as crowds of people waved palm branches and shouted praises when Jesus came to Jerusalem, **we will praise and worship Christ today.**

Hosanna! God saves! Blessed is the One who comes in God's name!

Praise Jesus who did not turn back for fear of the cross, but lived and died and lives forever to show us God's love.

Hymn: *Filled with Excitement*

UMH #279

Scripture: Matthew 26:6-13

Sermon, Part 1: *A Gift of Love*

Scripture:

Matthew 26:31-35
Pastor Lura

Sermon, Part 2: *"Not Me!"*

Hymn: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

UMH #297

Prayer

Pastor Lura

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song: *How Deep the Father's Love*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter
& Eric McKirdy

Closing Blessing

Jesus Christ knows what it is like to be praised and to be rejected, to die and to live forever. Go into this week knowing that Christ is in your past, forgiving you. Christ is in the present, loving you. Christ is in the future, calling you.

Postlude



Announcements:

- ~ We celebrate that we can sing during in-person worship! (Please continue to wear a mask.)
- ~ Today is Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. We begin the service by remembering Jesus going up to Jerusalem while the excited crowds cheered and waved palm branches. We then move on to a couple of the events that happened before his crucifixion.
- ~ Our Lenten Organ Recital concludes this evening with our organist, Eric McKirdy, and will be online starting at 7 p.m.
- ~ The church Board meets Tuesday, April 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- ~ Our Maundy (Holy) Thursday worship service is April 14th at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary and online.

~ April 14 is the 3rd anniversary of our becoming a Reconciling Congregation. At Albany First United Methodist Church, Jesus calls us to affirm that everyone is a beloved child of God, worthy of love and belonging. We celebrate humanity's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, nationality, economic status, family status, political identity, physical and mental ability. We welcome all into the full life, leadership and ministries of the congregation. Whoever you are, we invite you to share your faith journey with us as we strive to be the inclusive church God calls us to be in the community and the world.

~ Easter is Sunday, April 17. You are invited to bring flowers from your yard or the store and place them in the church's Easter cross before the worship service.

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***The office is temporarily closed, but phone messages
and emails are checked regularly.***