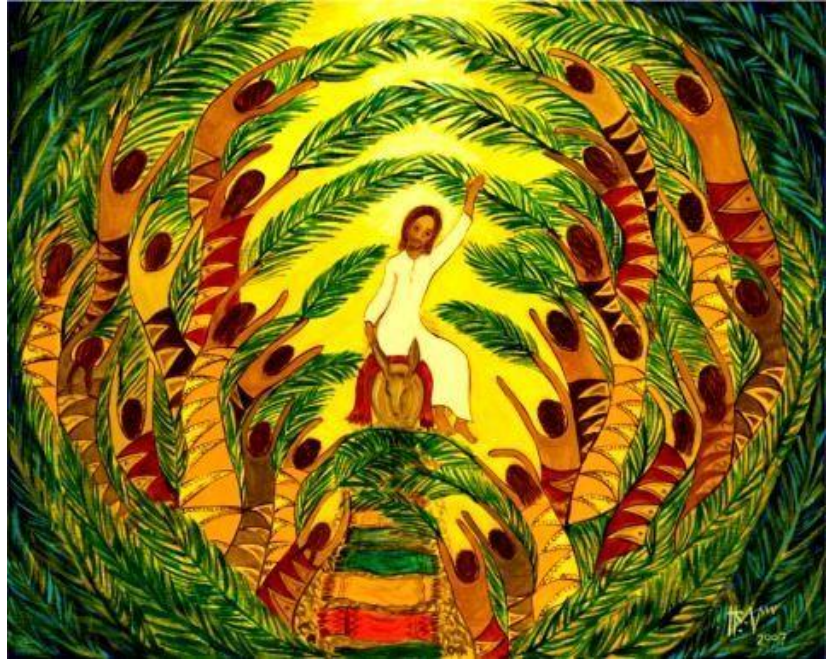


**A Service of the Word
Palm Sunday – March 24, 2024
10:00 A.M.**

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A United Church of Christ**



**For Reflection on Palm Sunday
from the Apostle Paul's Letter to the United Church of Philippi**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

WE GATHER OUTSIDE THE SANCTUARY

Words of Welcome and Breathing God's Gifts

The Story of This Day (congregation in bold)

Mark 11:1-10

When Jesus and his followers 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. . . . 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!"

Procession into Sanctuary

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!"

Jennette Threlfall/Ellacombe

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

WE PREPARE

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call

Lift Up Your Heads

William Mathias

The Call to The Journey (**cong. bold**)

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Let us enter this holy week and gather in this house of prayer.

May God turn our hearts again to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

May God help us follow in Christ's way, even if the path leads to pain before joy and the cross before glory,
for the way of Christ's redeeming love can transform our lives and our world now and forever more.

People of God, come. Begin this holy journey and follow this path to life.

*Hymn

216

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Theodulph of Orleans, 9th c.

The Story Continues

John 12:17-19

The crowd that had been with Jesus when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The religious leaders then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

Prayer for Palm Sunday (**unison**)

Eternal God, whose whisper silences the shouts of the mighty, quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us now through the passion and death of Jesus Christ that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may receive the grace to show forth Christ's love in lives committed to your service. Amen.

A Time of Silent Reflection and the Assurance of Grace

*Our Hymn of Praise

You Came, O Christ

St. Theodulph

*You came, O Christ, among us with might and right to reign;
Yet, though a kingdom beckoned, You chose the path of pain.
A robe, a crown, a scepter, You counted these but loss
And gained at last Your kingdom enthroned upon a cross.*

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WE GO DEEPER INTO THE STORY

The Parade's End (**cong. bold**)

Mark 11:12-19

The following day, Jesus and the disciples went back to Jerusalem. He entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves; and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. He was teaching and saying,

"Is it not written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?'

But you have made it a den of robbers."

And when the religious leaders heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

Hymn 202

O God, How We Have Wandered (1 & 3)

Passion Chorale

Four Nights Later, after the Cheering Stopped (**cong. bold**)

Mark 14:32-42

(After the meal, Jesus and the disciples sang a hymn and then went out into the night.) They came to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "**Sit here while I pray.**" He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "**I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.**" And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "**Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.**"

He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, **“Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”** And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 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. He came a third time and said to them. **“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Holy One is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”**

Hymn	222	<i>My Song Is Love Unknown</i> (1-2, 5)	Rhosymedre
A Time of Reflection			<i>The Emptied One</i>
Silence			
Musical Reflection		<i>Agnus Dei</i> from <i>Requiem</i>	Bradley Ellingboe

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Lord’s

- O God, the ruler of ages eternal,
you are without beginning or end:
Yet you chose to be born an infant in time.
- O God, the invisible,
you are the One whom nobody has seen or can see:
Yet you assumed the face of the Child of Mary, the One of Sorrows.
Hear our prayers that we might see you in all your children.
- O God, the perfect joy,
you are the source of the happiness of heaven and earth:
Yet you chose the path of suffering and even death for the sake of this world.
Hear our prayers for those who suffer and those who live in the shadow of death.
- O God, the all-powerful,
you hold the mountains in the palm of your hand:
Yet you emptied yourself of power to offer your life, your hands, and your heart for others.
- O God, the infinite, heaven and earth cannot contain you:
Yet you took on human flesh and human life.
Hear our prayers that we, too, would offer our human lives in love for your world.

(A time of silent prayer)

Hear all our prayers, Gracious One, spoken and unspoken. Strengthen us to live as we pray. Give us courage for the journey of this Holy Week. Help us to trust that Christ’s way of redeeming love can transform our lives and this world. We pray in the name of the One whom we seek to follow and who taught us to pray to you with boldness, courage, and trust, saying:

(Please pray any version of the Lord’s Prayer.)

WE GO INTO THIS WEEK

*Hymn	<i>Ride On! Ride On in Majesty</i> (back cover)	Winchester New
*Benediction		
*A Hymn for the Journey	<i>Were You There?</i>	African American Spiritual

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. Your presence enriches the experience of us all. We also invite you to join the journey of Holy Week that leads to the new life of Easter. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Jessie Lo, Pianist; Amy Huzjak, Cellist; Sanctuary Choir; Larry Rasmussen Liturgist (others to be announced); and Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez. You were welcomed by Judy Rainger, Louise Cavatta, Blanca Surgeon, Dana Hollifield, and Luis Zapata (Sunday Aide).

We Invite Your Morning Offering

Your morning offering, along with regular pledges, makes possible the abundant life and ministry of the United Church. As you leave, please take a moment to leave your offering in the Community Room plates. Thank you!

SEEING THE FAITH: Artists Talk about Their Work, Faith, and Inspiration

Lent Forum Series Concludes Today with Weaver Molly Elkind and Photographer Sam Elkind (11:15)

Artists open us to new ways of seeing the Creator, the story of Jesus Christ or the workings of the Spirit. This Lent, we welcome artists in the United community to share their vision and their work. Today's guests are United members Molly Elkind (weaver) and Sam Elkind (photographer).

Easter Flower Remembrances Due Today

To honor or remember a loved one this Easter, please fill out the form in the Community Room, then leave it with your donation in the envelope or offering plate today. Suggested donation is \$20 per lily. The names will be in the Easter bulletins.

HOLY WEEK

Wednesday Communion Service: 12:15 – 12:45

Maundy Thursday – March 28 (7:00 pm)

We share Communion, followed by the story of Jesus' Passion that leads us into night's deepest shadows.

Good Friday—March 29

Creation Care – 9:00 to 11:30

Good Friday Worship – 12:00 Noon (outdoors)

We gather outside, as they did on the first Good Friday, to engage this hard once again, through Gospel and music. The Sanctuary will also be open from 9:00 to 12:00 and again from 1:00 to 3:00 pm for private prayer.



EASTER 2024 Sunday, March 31

6:30 am – Outdoor Sunrise Communion

**10:00 am – Easter Celebration
with *Hallelujah Chorus***

**Easter Piñata Party for Children and Youth after worship.
Easter Cupcakes for everyone after worship.**



ALSO COMING UP THIS WEEK . . .

Pretty Good Guys – This Wednesday (10:30 am)

All men invited to join in “Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time” by Marcus Borg. (10:30 to 11:15 am)

Love God, Neighbor, and Creation – Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!

Go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.

United's Carbon Offset Program Addresses Climate Change

Track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to *NM Interfaith Power and Light* and *Tree New Mexico*. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care.

Compost Collection for Creation!

Deposit compostable products in the green bin. Compostable garbage bags at the church (**NO** standard plastic bags, please). More info at reuniteyresources.com or call Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700). Thanks.

COMING UP IN APRIL . . .

***Resiliency and Hope: The Gospel of Mark* – Thursday Mornings at 8:00 (MT) on Zoom**

Engage the Gospel of Mark, start to finish (don't worry – it's the shortest Gospel), using the United Church of Christ Study Guide (written by Talitha). To register or for info: unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. All welcome! (The class isn't meeting the next two weeks, but will resume Thursday, April 11.)

All-Church, All-Age Family Supper and Game Night

Friday, Apr. 5 – 5:30 to 7:30

The Church provides the meal – all you need to bring is yourself and your family and/or friends! Join with kids and other adults of all ages and kids over supper followed by ping-pong and cornhole for youth and adults; outdoors games for children; and conversation time. All welcome (and you don't have to be a parent or a kid to join in!). **Please sign up at the church or at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com by Wednesday, April 3. Hope to see you!**

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – SUNDAY, APRIL 21

On the 4th Sunday of Eastertide, we welcome new members into United Church of Santa Fe. If you are interested in “officially” joining United, please speak with Rev. Talitha Arnold or Moderator Sarah Sawtell. Thank you!

Santa Fe River Clean Up – Saturday, April 27 (8:30-10:00 am)

Join us to care for our corner of Creation. Meet at Closson St. Pedestrian Bridge. We provide donuts, coffee, trash bags. You bring a hat, sunscreen, and gloves. Sign up in the Community Room or at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. All Creation thanks you!

Desert Chorale's *Santa Fe Sings!* – Saturday, April 27 at United

United is proud to be the home of the annual choral workshop *Santa Fe Sings!*, sponsored by the Desert Chorale and led by their music director, Joshua Habermann. This takes place on Sat., April 27. Check-in and coffee hour begins at 8:45 am, and the workshop culminates in a 2:00 pm informal performance in our sanctuary. For more information or to register, go to: desertchorale.org/concerts-events/santa-fe-sings/.

Coro Lux Concert: *An Afternoon at the Movies* – Sunday, April 28, 4:00 and 6:00 pm

The *Coro Lux* Chamber Chorus (directed by Brad Ellingboe) presents “An Afternoon at the Movies” at 4:00 and 6:00 pm at **Albuquerque's Canteen Brewhouse (2381 Aztec Rd., NE)**. The program includes choral arrangements and audience sing-alongs of beloved songs from the movies. Tickets (\$10): abqcorolux.org/tickets/.

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

Winchester New

1. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! O Christ, with brave hu - mil - i - ty,
2. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! As crowds of peo - ple come to see
3. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! Ride on in hum - ble dig - ni - ty;
4. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! For you have set your peo - ple free

On low - ly colt, your road pur - sue, as palms and cloaks are spread for you.
And shout ho - san - nas, lift - ing high their praise for one a - bout to die.
Be - hold the ones you came to save from sense - less life and end - less grave.
And we, re - membering all your pain, now meet a - gain to hail your reign.