* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Great God, we thank you for Jesus, who was punished for our sins, and who suffered a shameful death to rescue us. We praise you for the trust we have in him, for mercy undeserved, and for the love you pour out on us, and on all. Give us gratitude, O God, and a great desire to serve you, by taking our cross and following in the way of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

SENDING FORTH TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

* DEPARTING HYMN ARR. KEITH CHRISTOPHER With Waving Palms and Shouts of Praise Choir will Sing vs. 1&2 Congregation, please stand & join for vs. 3

Hosanna, blest is he who comes, the son of David's tree,

the promised one who came to save and set his people free.

The crowd that followed sang his praise as they proclaimed him king.

May we, with spirit and with mind, our anthems gladly sing.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRAYS FOR: PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS: Tom Copple Family. John Lipe. Garry Grau. Rick McDowell. Peggy Burger, Brenda Long.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS: Jonathan Roberson sister, Chrissie. Cameron Clark, friend of Mavis Whitten. Alyssa Lawson, friend of Renee Clements. FPC Choral Scholar, Zihan Liu. Paul Vega, friend of Yolanda Garcia's son. Laura Nurse, daughter of Mary Massingill. Lee Smith, brother of Rick McDowell. Stephanie, friend of Karen Copple.

<u>PRAYERS FOR THOSE GRIEVING</u>: Richard Putnam on the death of his mother.

Prayers for this church in transition.

Many thanks to the congregational care team for their ministries of care, including updating prayer concerns.

Calendar of Events

Easter Sunday, 3/31

8:30 am United Methodist

Worship Service

9:30 am Morning Study-

The God We Can Know 10:30 am Worship

<u>Monday, 3/25</u> 1:00 pm Canasta Card Group

Wednesday, 3/27 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, 3/29 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Bible Study: *The God We Can Know* 6:00 pm Service of Darkness

> Givelifi Tap. Give. Done.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:

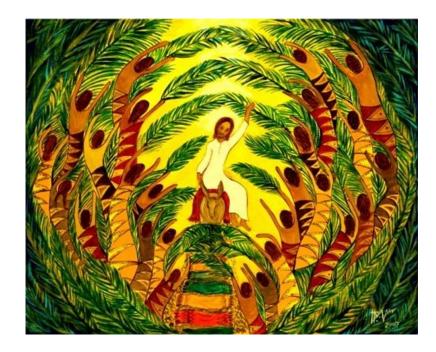
Temporary Supply Pastor: The Rev. Robert Reno, MDiv, Ph. D. Liturgist: Liz Staggs Director of Music: Alexa Brown Pianist: Hasti Safaei Violinist: Dr. Isaias Ferreira Handbells: Brianna Brady, Madison Hanson, Gavin Perez



Order of Worship

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY March 24, 2024 10:30 Am

As a church family, we strive to connect people to God and to one another as we follow Christ.



"Rejoice, Rejoice Greatly," by Hanna Varghese, acrylic on canvas Overseas Ministries Study Center, Yale University, New Haven, CT

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GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS JULIE BESSEMER

CHORAL PRELUDE Palm Sunday Hosanna Joel Raney Gaby Jaime, Soloist

 * CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) LIZ STAGGS Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; Triumphant and victorious is he, Humble and riding on a donkey, On a colt, the foal of a donkey.

* HYMN OF PRAISE 265 All Glory, Laud and Honor

CALL TO CONFESSION

As Christian believers, we try hard to live lives worthy of God's mercy and forgiveness. But even on our best days, we forget to honor God, and we do not love our neighbors nearly as much as we love ourselves. And so, in fact, we are not worthy, but God loves us anyway, and Jesus dies for us while we are yet sinners. Let us therefore confess our sins as we pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Loving God, you were with Jesus when he entered the city of Jerusalem in triumph, and you were with him still when he was nailed to the cross on Calvary. We thank you for giving your only Son to die for our sins, thereby bringing us the hope of life eternal. We pray that you would send your Spirit upon us in these days that we might be strengthened to remain faithful to Jesus. For in his death, we find new hope, new being, and new life, today and forever more. This is our prayer, O God, and we continue now to pray in the silence of our hearts.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON THE REV. ROBERT RENO Sisters and brothers, hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!** The peace of God be with you all. **And also with you!** Let us offer signs of peace and reconciliation.

- * PASS THE PEACE
- * GLORIA 734 Glory Be to the Father

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

First Lesson	Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29
CHORAL FANFARE	Hail and Hosanna!
Second Lesson	Mark 11: 1 - 11
SERMON "Riding	On" The Rev. Robert Reno

MEDITATION *Ride On, King Jesus* African American Spiritual Arr. Hall Johnson Danna Djinigou, Soloist

Responding to God's Word

- * AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
 - 32. Q. But why are you called a Christian?
 - A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ, and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

- 37. Q. What do you understand by the word "suffered"? A. That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice, he might deliver us, body and soul, from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God's grace, righteous-ness, and eternal life. *from* THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM
- * CALL TO PRAYER 257 What Wondrous Love Is This

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE (all sing) O Lord, Hear My Prayer (FROM PSALM 102, TAIZÉ COMMUNITY) O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise. All my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise. God, the well-spring of life.

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

In grateful response to all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, we continue our worship as we present our tithes and offerings.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Let us remember how richly we have been blessed as we give thanks to God for all that we have. May our gifts be multiplied and used for the coming of God's kingdom into this world.

OFFERTORY Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone with Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley Arr. Stephen DeCesare

* Doxology 34 Old 100тн Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow