No pain, no palm;
no thorns, no throne;
no gall, no glory;
no cross, no crown.
-William Penn

Crying

On
Palm Sunday

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE O Worship the King arr. Joel Raney Chancel Choir, Carillon Choir, organ and piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

The streets were crowded. A parade mood filled the air. Shouts came from deep in the heart.

Hosanna. Save us. Save us from lukewarm faith.

Hosanna. Save us.

Save us from callous indifference.

Hosanna, Save us.

Save us from paltry hopes and petty dreams.

Hosanna. Save us.

Save us from unquenchable greed.

Hosanna. Save us.

Save us from lazy habits and faithless commitments.

Hosanna. Save us.

Save us from soft-mindedness and hard-heartedness.

Hosanna. Save us.

We cry from the depth of our hearts.

Hosanna. Save us. Save us now.

HYMN Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart no. 161

CALL TO CONFESSION

Knowing that we are not all we should be, but confident of God's love and mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another. Let us pray ...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you emptied yourself to become one of us, you humbled yourself and suffered in our place. Your love for us is enormous. You call us to live in a manner worthy of the great sacrifice you made on our behalf. We want to live up to our high calling, but we fail time and time again. We are proud where you were humble. We avoid pain and disappointment and suffering where you embraced it for the sake of love. Forgive us, gracious God. Renew and restore us that we might walk the way of Jesus, the way of the cross. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Out of the depths of God's eternal love for us, God hears our prayers, forgives our sins and sets us free to live and work for God's glory.

We are loved. We are forgiven. We are free! Thanks be to God. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Zechariah 9:9-12
Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud,
O daughter 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. He will cut
off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from
Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the
river to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because
of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your
prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your
stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I
will restore to you double.

MUSIC Sing, Children, Sing Hosanna! Patti Drennan Chancel, Hope and Junior Choirs Children lined the streets that day, Hosanna, hosanna!

Spreading branches on His way, Hosanna, hosanna! Singing praises to the King, Hosanna, hosanna! Sweet Hosannas caroling. Hosanna, hosanna!

Crowds of people voices raised,
Joined in singing loudest praise:
"Glory to the King of Kings!"
Celebrate and sing!
Sing, children sing, "Hosanna to the King!"
Blessed is He! Let heav'n and nature ring!
Shout, children shout to God in one accord.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!
Ride on in majesty, Ride on; blessed is He! Ride on!
Sing, children sing, "Hosanna to the King!"
Blessed is He! Let heav'n and nature ring!
Shout, children shout to God in one accord.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration.

May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ.

Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice.

May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice.

Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort.

May they remind us of the road that lies ahead. Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks as we cry out together "Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna!" (During the passing of the palms, please sing no. 278)

GOSPEL Luke 19:28-44

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." As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

MUSIC All Glory Laud and Honor Caleb French Chancel Choir

MESSAGE Crying on Palm Sunday

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O Lord our God, We bring You the needs of our world, broken by division and suspicion, by hatred and war. (silent prayer)

We bring You the needs of our land, the hungry and homeless, the wounded and despairing.

(silent prayer)

We bring you the needs of ourselves and our loved ones, seeking Your peace and healing, Your wisdom and protection.

(silent prayer)

Hear us, O God, and come to us,

In compassion and love rescue and restore us, and make us a people in whom Your gentle reign is seen. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

no. 895

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 alory forever. Amen.

OFFERING Agnes Dei (from Requiem) Mark Hayes
Chancel Choir with Chamber Ensemble
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
grant them rest, rest everlasting.

you may give your offering by text - Text UMCWC \$50 to 73256, by using the QR code on your screen, at <u>umcwc.org</u>, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.

OFFERING PRAYER

Source of life, may the works of our hands bring you honor.

May the life we live reflect the risen Word of life.

May the service we offer be inspired by the Breath of life. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Brothers and sisters, as we enter into this holy week, let us keep our eyes on Jesus.

Jesus will show us where we need to go. Amen.

HYMN Lamb of God TFWS no. 2113

POSTLUDE A Lenten Chorale Neumark/Saxton

Bold text indicates congregational response.

The flowers on the Lord's Table are presented to the glory of God

- -in loving memory of Sabrina Morgan by Kendra Mancini and Ruth Mentzer;
- -in honor or her parents by Carol Gress.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message: Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks

Liturgists: Rev. Mercedes Case, Rev. Allen Keller

Organist: Steve Campitelli

Chancel Choir and Junior Choir Director:

Tom Sabatino

Hope Choir Director: Karen Rotz Carillon Choir Director: Dan Rotz

Oboe :Anna Montejo; Flute 1: Linda Schmidt; Flute 2: Jodi Jianinney; Clarinet: Brain Rotz; Horn: Mickey Jianinney; Percussion: Sam Stewart

Piano: Linda Lorgus

Children's Message: Abby Osborne Live Stream Team: Tim Case, Holly Grimm, Todd Grimm, Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, Brad Rush,

Zeke Shappell Smith, Cory Smith (leader)

Thoughts on Palm Sunday by Frederick Buecher

I looked back at the account in Luke of Palm Sunday. It's only there you find it where Jesus, as he approaches the city, looks at it and weeps. Except for the weeping over Lazarus, I don't know anyplace else in the New Testament where he is shown as weeping. And he weeps because he says, "Jerusalem, if only you knew the things that make for peace." And he says,

"The time is not far off when your enemies will set an encampment against you, and they will dash you against the rocks and your little ones with you and leave not one stone upon the other, because you did not know the time of God's coming to you." "Would that you knew the things that make for peace." He could be saying that just as easily today - would that the world, the United States, knew the things that make for peace.



C.S. Lewis Quotes on Suffering

*I'm not sure God wants us to be happy. I think he wants us to love, and be loved. But we are like children, thinking our toys will make us happy and the whole world is our nursery. Something must drive us out of that nursery and into the lives of others, and that something is suffering. -C. S. Lewis

*We shall draw nearer to God, not by trying to avoid the sufferings inherent in all loves, but by accepting them and offering them to Him; throwing away all defensive armour. If our hearts need to be broken, and if He chooses this as the way in which they should break, so be it. -C. S. Lewis

*Try to exclude the possibility of suffering which the order of nature and the existence of free-wills involve, and you find that you have excluded life itself -C. S. Lewis

*The real problem is not why some pious, humble, believing people suffer, but why some do not. -C. S. Lewis



Maundy Thursday - March 28, 7 PM Willistown UMC 6051 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA

> Good Friday - March 29, 7 PM **UMC of West Chester** 129 S. High Street West Chester, PA

Easter Sunrise Service - March 31, 6:30 am **Boot Road Park** 110 Boot Rd., WC

at UMCWC

8:45 AM - Worship in the sanctuary Easter Sunday 11:00 AM - Worship Café with communion in the Fiesta Center

PLAN NOW TO

WALK THE LABYRINTH **DURING HOLY WEEK**

The labyrinth is a model or metaphor for life. Our Christian life is often described as a pilgrimage with God. Walking the labyrinth can draw us closer to God. It includes turns as life does. It provides a quiet time to concentrate on prayer, our life journey, and to listen for what God might be saying to us. Come this Holy Week and use the labyrinth.

On your own resources will be provided. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 12 - 4 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 9 AM - 4 PM FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 9 AM - 12 PM and 6 - 9 PM

