



Palm Sunday

APRIL 13, 2025



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

1201 JEFFERSON STREET
MUSKEGON, MI 49441

www.fccmuskegon.org



PALM SUNDAY
April 13, 2025

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

The King of Glory, Arr. by Anna Laura Page
The Canterbury Ringers

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

In the scripture we will hear later in the service...
So in commemoration let us bless these palms.

Almighty God,

**we pray that you bless these branches
and make them holy.**

**May they remind us to proclaim Jesus
not just as the Messiah and King
who lives and reigns forever with you,
but also as the Teacher
whose example of humility and command of love
we follow in our lives.**

Amen.

Those who wish may stand

OPENING HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Those who wish may stand

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - nor to you, O Christ, we
O Prom - ised One of Is - rael, of Da - vid's roy - al
As you re - ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to -
sing, to whom the lips of chil - dren made
line, the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of
day, whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and
sweet ho - san - nas ring! The peo - ple of the
flesh and yet di - vine, To you, be - fore your
sov - ereign - ty hold sway. All glo - ry, laud, and
He - brews with palms a - dorned your way; our
Pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise; to
hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing, to
praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:28-40

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."

CHORAL ANTHEM

Hosanna to Our Savior King, Arr. by Sondra Tucker
The Motet Choir and Canterbury Ringers

Hosanna to our Savior King! Hosanna let us ever sing! Hosanna now and ever more!
Hosanna sing in this glad hour! Blessed is he who comes from God! Blessed are we his way
to trod. Blessed shall be his reign of love. Blessed are those he came to save.

Christ, whom we praise, came down to live In humble form like us, to give
Gracious forgiveness for our sin, And died that we might live again.

Our God above has honored him, Giving a name above all names.
That when we hear his name we sing Praise and hosannas to our King!

Wave now on high your banners bright! Wave now the palms in God's own sight!
Wave now your arms in joyous praise! Wave palms and sing, your voices raise!

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MESSAGE

WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD?

Those who wish may stand

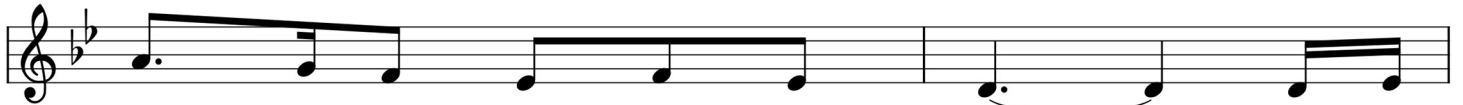
HYMN

Those who wish may stand

The Old Rugged Cross



On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross, the
Oh, that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world, has a
To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true, its



em - blem of suf - fering and shame; And I
won - drous at - trac - tion for me; For the
shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; When God



love that old cross where the dear - est and best
dear Lamb of God left the glo - ry of heaven
calls me some - day to my home far a - way,



for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
to bear it to cold Cal - va - ry.
there God's glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my
cross, the old rug - ged cross,

tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged
cross, the

cross, and ex - change it some-day for a crown.
old rug - ged cross,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Old Rugged Cross'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: George Bennard, 1913; alt, Tune: THE OLD RUGGED CROSS, George Bennard, 1913

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

. . . ending with 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 debts as we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY REFLECTION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Ah, Holy Jesus, Arr. by Brenda Austin
The Canterbury Ringers

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father (*Creator*), Son (*Christ*), and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Those who wish may stand

CLOSING HYMN

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Those who wish may stand



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



sang; through pil - lared court and tem - ple the
crowd, the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and
ours. We hail our great Re - deem - er and



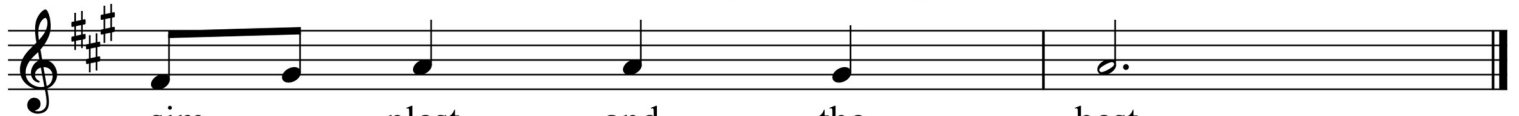
love - ly an - them rang; To Je - sus, who had
chant - ing clear and loud. The one whom an - gels
sing with all our powers: "Ho - san - na, Christ, we



blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
praise you with heart and life and voice.



the child - ren sang their prais - es, the
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for -



sim - plest and the best.
down the don - key's gait.
ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Text: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, alt, Tune: ELLACOMBE, *Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784

BLESSING AND SENDING

POSTLUDE

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty, by Robert Hobby

Today's Service

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Rev. Tim Vander Haar | Pastor |
| Dr. Michael Match | Music Director |
| John Mattson | Organist |
| The Motet Choir | Song Leaders |
| Carol Beatty | Liturgist |
| Blake Filius | Audio and Video |

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*A **White Carnation** is in memory of Doris Mixer who passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 just shy of her 102nd birthday. Doris was a longtime member of FCC. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.*

***Cookies** for Sunday Fellowship - Those whose last names begin with the letters A through D please bring cookies or treats during the month of **April**. Gluten free and/or sugar free cookies are also appreciated as are homemade cookies or bars.*

*You Are Invited to **Line Dance with Amy**
Absolute Beginner Modern Line Dance Class NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
Wednesday Nights, 6 – 7 PM at First Congregational Church, lower level Activity Room.
\$7.00 per session. Come dance with instructor/choreographer Amy Christian!*

***The No Name Group** is starting up again. Our next gathering will be at Teddy Spaghetitis, 513 W. Pontaluna on April 24 at 5:30 pm. Sign up at the welcome center so that we know a number to expect.*

*Sunday, April 27, 2025, after the worship service, we will explore the 7th point of **Progressive Christianity**, Integrity of the Earth • I love and take care of my earth home. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall for a short presentation and discussion, with some snacks. Free to attend – invite your friends!*

***Chamber Choir** invites you to their **Spring Concert** here at FCC.
Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 3:00 pm*

Holy Week and Easter

Maundy Thursday Service

April 17 at 7:00 PM

Motet Choir

Good Friday Service

April 18 at 12:15 PM

Easter Sunday Celebration

April 20 at 10:30 AM

Motet Choir

Canterbury Ringers

FCC Festival Brass

Easter Egg Hunt

FCC IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING COMMUNITY

"We, the people of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Muskegon, care for the welfare of our community and welcome everyone, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey. We welcome into our community people of every age, race, nationality, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing, family structure, gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation. We also invite you to share in the life, leadership, worship, fellowship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love."

Adopted by congregational vote 10/17/21