

FOUNDED 1716

North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Palm Sunday



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday, April 2, 2023

9:30 a.m.

**Palm Sunday
Sixth Sunday in Lent
The Sacrament of Communion**

BLESSING OF THE PALMS (outside)

ANTIPHON:

Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

SERVICE OF THE PALMS:

Leader: We join with the crowd that eagerly awaited the coming of Jesus.

**People: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Fulfilling prophecy, Jesus entered the city riding humbly on a donkey.

**People: (louder) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Jesus' followers were excited, filled with anticipation. Yet, within a few short days, they were scattered, disillusioned, and frightened, unwilling to follow as far as Christ would have them go.

**People: (softer) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: We, too, long to join the triumphal procession, only to find ourselves burdened by the past, fearful of the future, reluctant to accept the way of the cross.

**People: (softer) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Yet this Palm Sunday, we receive palm branches, a reminder of the welcome offered to Jesus as he traveled toward the cross.

**People: (louder) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Like the crowd in Jerusalem 2000 years ago, we take our palm branches and greet Jesus, shouting:

**People: (very loud - repeat 3x) Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God!
Hosanna in the highest! ****

Processional Order (outside): choir, children, adults

Refrain

Descant

All glo - ry, laud and hon - our to you, Re - deem - er, King,

All glo - ry, laud and hon - our to you, Re - deem - er, King,

Fine

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the King of Is - rael, and Da - vid's roy - al son,
 2 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
 3 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

D.C.

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and bless - ed one.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great auth - or of all good - ness, O good and grac - ious king.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Come! From the city streets.

PEOPLE: Join the happy throng that gathers to honor Jesus!

Leader: Come! From your busy homes and places of business.

PEOPLE: Put down your work in joyful celebration!

Leader: Come! Lay down your sorrows and worries.

PEOPLE: Turn your eyes toward the Savior whom God has sent!

Leader: Let all join in joyful song.

**ALL: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus Christ, who comes in
God's name.** Amen**

ANTHEM: Hosanna

Michael W. Smith

Arr. Michael Barrett

Sung by the Combined Choirs

Eric R. Wolff, trumpet

***LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

God of all people,

You call on us today to loose the bonds of injustice,
to let the oppressed go free, to break every yoke.

Transform our lives and lead us to the peace and joy that is Easter!##

Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison

O God, we are like the people of Jerusalem so long ago. We are hungry for a hero. We crave some glimpse of greatness. We are starving for the spectacular. We are gathered here like those who watched the Passion Parade in Jerusalem, craning our necks to catch a glimpse of our Messiah. As we wait here for the Savior to come let us not be disappointed when the special one appears, even though we are certain to be surprised; and give us courage to follow where the one on the donkey might lead us.*** Amen. ~ *silence* ~

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ALL: Thanks be to God

PSALM 118

V837

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 21:1-11 Page 1168

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send

them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

“Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

***HYMN:** “Ride on, Ride on in Majesty!”

P175

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11 P. 1339

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed 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, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

MEDITATION: “Christopher”

Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *Stories of Jesus* Frederick Arthur Challinor V357

*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Hymn of Preparation: “Christ, Let Us Come with You” V458

Invitation and Consecration

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.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

GREETING OF PEACE ~*unison*

May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!

***CLOSING HYMN:** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” V149

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Meditation at the Cross* arr. by Albin C. Whitworth

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Nancy Mahoney. **Scripture Reader** Tim Peiffer.

Fellowship is hosted by the organist search committee as a thankyou to Gail DeBoer for her generous gifts of music.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	4/2	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream) PALM SUNDAY
Monday	4/3	12:00 p.m. 1:00	PRAYER IN HOLY WEEK (In-Person & Live Stream) Retired Federal Employees (CH)
Tuesday	4/4	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) PRAYER IN HOLY WEEK (In-Person & Live Stream) United Girls Choir (CH,DBL, Sanct.) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/5	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY PRAYER IN HOLY WEEK (In-Person & Live Stream)
Thursday	4/6	12:00 p.m. 5:15 6:30 7:00	PRAYER IN HOLY WEEK (In-Person & Live Stream) Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K) Mothers of Twins (CH) MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE (In-Person & Live Stream)
Friday	4/7	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY PRAYER IN HOLY WEEK (In-Person & Live Stream)
Saturday	4/8		
Sunday	4/9	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream) EASTER SUNDAY

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee & George Gladkosky, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Ellen Robert, and The DePrimo & Goldfuss Families.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Anthony Solecki 04/03, Sandy Carter 04/04, Tanner Dubail 04/04, Deborah McKosky 04/05, Gloria Santamauro 04/07.



I trust in you, you are my God.

Let Israel now say:

"God's love endures for ever."

Let the house of Aaron say:

"God's love endures for ever."

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

This is the gate of God; through it the righteous shall enter.

I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that God has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it! R

Save us, O God, we pray;

God, we pray, give us success.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

We bless you from the house of God.

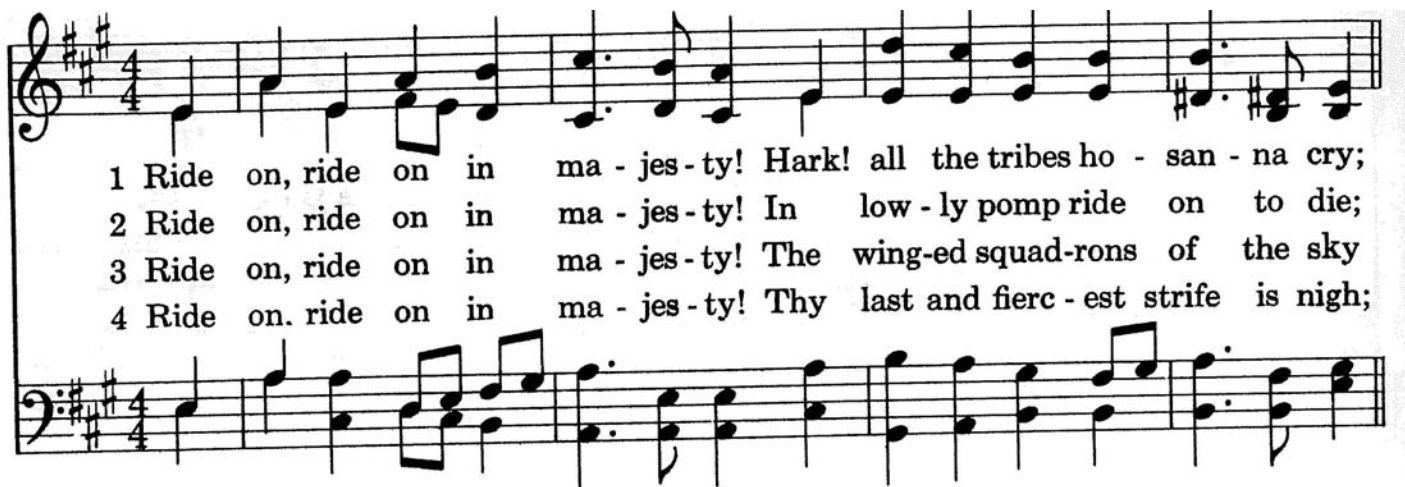
God, our God, has given us light;

with palm branches in hand let us march to the altar.

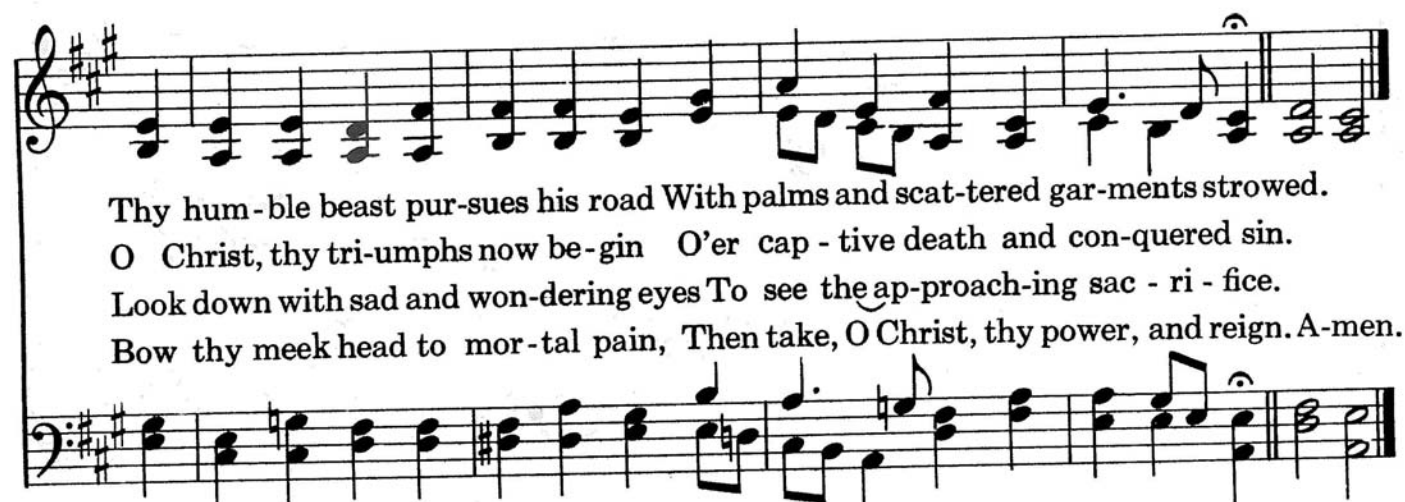
You are my God, and I will thank you;

you are my God, and I will extol you.

*HYMN: "Ride on, Ride on in Majesty!"



1 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry;
2 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;
3 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! The wing-ed squad-rons of the sky
4 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! Thy last and fierc - est strife is nigh;



Thy hum-ble beast pur-sues his road With palms and scat-tered gar-ments strowed.
O Christ, thy tri-umphs now be-gin O'er cap - tive death and con-querred sin.
Look down with sad and won-dering eyes To see the ap-proach-ing sac - ri - fice.
Bow thy meek head to mor-tal pain, Then take, O Christ, thy power, and reign. A-men.

Hymn of Preparation: "Christ, Let Us Come with You"

V458

Unison F Bb C Dm Bb F Gm7 Gm

1 Christ, let us come with you to the up - per room where the
 2 Teach us your serv - ing love: to be - come as friends, to be -
 3 Je - sus, for - give us all that we use your name though we
 4 Christ of the o - pen hands, you have brought us close to be

feast is laid, to the bread and wine where our
 come as one that the world be - lieve what your
 stand a - part, we re - fuse your prayer to be
 loved and fed, you have touched our life, now you

peace is made: Christ, let us come with you!
 life has done: teach us your serv - ing love.
 one at heart: Je - sus, for - give us all.
 walk a - head: Christ, let us come with you!

Am Bb F Bb C Dsus4 D

*CLOSING HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" V149

4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,
 D A D G D

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast
 1 Quand je me tour - ne vers la croix
 2 Qui donc pour - rait cal - mer ce coeur

that were a pres - ent far too small:

on which the Prince of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ, my God:
où Christ ex - pi - re sur le bois
hor - mis la croix de mon Sau - veur?

love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

my rich - est gain I count but loss,
all the vain things that charm me most,
mon coeur bles - sé, rem - pli de deuil,
Tous mes plai - sirs, mes vains dé - sirs,

de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
prend en dé - goût mon fol or - gueil.
je veux, ô Christ, te les of - frir.

3 See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

3 Oh vois, des mains, de son côté,
du front d'épines couronné,
douleur, angoisse, amour mêlés,
descendre pour nous racheter.

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small:
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

4 Si je t'offrais le monde entier
ce don serait pris en pitié.
Amour si grand, si pur, si doux
veut âme, corps, mon coeur, mon tout!

Church Office Staff:

All the Members, Ministers to the World

The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Senior Pastor

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

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Announcements

WHAT IS PLP? Each week on the church calendar, there is PLP listed at 12:30 in the library. Have you ever wondered what PLP is?

Women's Fellowship had just hosted the St. Patrick's Dinner in March 2020, and then life as we all knew it came to a sudden halt due to the Covid Pandemic. It was for most a very lonely time indeed. The Executive Board of Women's Fellowship stayed in touch with frequent phone calls and some FaceTime on our phones or computers. Thankfully, it helped filled the lonely days.

One of the women on the Board came up with the idea that we should get together, outdoors somewhere, just to be able to see each other. The plan was to meet in the church parking lot at 12:00 on April 20, 2020! It was a beautiful sunny, chilly day, and 6 women showed up with a chair and their lunch. We set up our chairs 6 feet apart and everyone marveled at how good it was to physically see each other again. After more than 2 hours of socializing, we decided we should do it again the following Tuesday!

We met every Tuesday, weather permitting. Weeks went by quickly and soon the weather was getting warmer and more women started coming to the group. Some came and stayed, others came whenever they could and were always welcomed back!

We met all summer long and shared books and great fresh vegetables from our gardens, and were even surprised by an ice cream truck! We continued to meet through the fall and winter in 2021 into 2022. Once the weather turned cold, we met distanced and masked in Carroll Hall.

We started out small expecting that at anytime the pandemic would end and we would be back to regular meetings in the church. That didn't happen until 2 years had gone by. We slowly got back to having activities and we will continue to do so. We will also continue to have PLP every Tuesday at 12 noon!



PLP is an offshoot of Women’s Fellowship and we welcome all the women of the church to come and join the group every Tuesday or as often as you can! We didn’t expect this group to continue as long as it has, yet after experiencing almost 3 years of this special, caring, funny, loving, and supportive group of women, we are all happy that it has continued!

Thank you Nancy Mahoney for starting PLP—aka PARKING LOT PICNIC.



Special Music Collection: Easter



A sincere thanks to those who give toward these “supplemental” church music-related causes using the pink Music Ministry collection envelopes or by giving online securely at the church’s website.

Easter Lilies Offering We invite your contribution toward the purchase of Easter Lilies for the sanctuary. The best way to make a contribution is online through the website, or by email. Please note to whom the Lilies are dedicated. If you send your contribution by regular mail, please call the Church Office with your dedication, so we know it is coming. Your support is appreciated.



Opportunities In Lent And Holy Week



Mon-Fri, Apr 3 – Apr 7: Prayer in Holy Week;
In-Person & Online 12 Noon

Thurs., April 6th: Maundy Thursday Service with Tenebrae;
In-Person & Online 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, 8th 12:00pm -Sunday, April 9th Flowers for the Cross

The cross will stand in front of the church through this Holy Week. You are invited to bring cut flowers to decorate the cross starting Saturday, 8th 12:00pm.

Sunday, April 9th: Easter Sunrise Service;
In-Person, Town Green, 6:00a.m.

Sunday, April 9th: Easter Sunday Service;
In-Person and Online Worship 9:30a.m.

