

Union Congregational United Church of Christ



At Union, we are all the body of Christ together:
Through our voices, Christ is still speaking
Through our hands, Christ is still serving
Through our hearts, Christ is still loving



April 13, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Serving Christ . . . Loving Each . . . Affirming All



April 13, 2025

10:00 a.m.

(*) invites all who are able to stand

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Hosanna Filio David"

Jeanne Demessieux

With music and silence we begin worship, praying quietly and opening our hearts to God.

THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome! Announcements, Ministry Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PRAISING OUR GOD

THE BOND OF UNION (in unison)

Giving our all as we have been given all...

We accept the religion of love and service which Jesus lived and taught, and declare it our purpose to strive to do the will of God, and to make the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: We gather today, preparing ourselves for a week that is holy, yet filled with unholy words, thoughts, and deeds.

All: In this week of journey, some people lose their way; in this week of betrayal, others find hope hidden in their hearts.

Leader: We will try to follow Jesus in the days to come, sustained by the Word of grace and life.

All: Joining the children, we wave palm branches with joy, despite keeping nails at the ready in case we are tempted to use them.

Leader: The One who set aside glory comes in humility; the One who offers life will challenge death itself.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

"The King of Glory"
(see page 5)

KING OF GLORY

HOLY GOSPEL:

Luke 19:28-40

p. 83

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Leader: Why do we set down our palm branches so quickly when the parade is over? When do our hosannas become cries for punishment? How do we, like those before us, turn our backs on the One who comes to us in the name of the Lord? As we begin Holy Week, let us take some time to admit to God what is true about our lives, taking comfort that God can transform even our most egregious transgressions.

(Silence is kept.)

Let us pray:

All: God who we encounter in both the palm procession and on the cross, when things go well for us, we can easily sing loud hosannas. But all too often, our songs of praise turn to ashes in mouths full of anger and bitterness. All too often, we hide behind our palm branches, hoping you will not see how we abandon one another and betray you and your ways. We eagerly feast on your blessings, but are often reluctant to share our good fortune with those around us. Forgive us, Holy God. May we be as eager to lay down our fears and greed, our sins and pride, as your followers long ago were eager to lay down their coats for you. In Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Leader: Holy and everloving God, you assure us that nothing, not even the killing of your beloved son, can separate us from your love.

All: Each day and each night, may we remember your love. In our lying down and in our rising up, in life and in death, you are our healing and our peace. Each day and each night, may we remember your forgiveness and mercy, bestowed on us so gently and generously. Each day and each night, may we be fuller in love with you. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Berta and Sonja Pooman

THE OFFERING

Offertory:

“Were You There”

arr. Joel Raney

*Praise Response:

“Again We Keep This Solemn Fast”
***We pray, O bless - ed Three-in-One,
our God while end - less a - ges run,
That this, our Lent of for - ty days,
may bring us growth and give you praise.***

ERHALT UNS, HERR

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

God of triumphant parades and the desolate cross, we offer you thanks and praise at the start of this holiest week. Attune our attentions to your grace. Help us to embody the stories of our ancestors once more, that by worshipping and celebrating you, our lives and your world may be ever closer to your kingdom. Bless these offerings and all of the ways we live our faith. Blessed Jesus, may our resources, our lives, and our observation of these sacred rhythms bring your beloved world ever closer to you. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 99:

“Abide with Me”
(see back page)

EVENTIDE
The New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE:

“Here’s One”

arr. Evelyn Larter

Our Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are adapted from Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman.

Our Assurance of Pardon is adapted from Celtic Prayers from Iona by J. Philip Newell.

Our Passion Reflection is adapted by Bridget Flad Daniels from “The Seven Last Words” by Martin Wroe in “Love Is Never Done,” Niel Paynter, Ed.

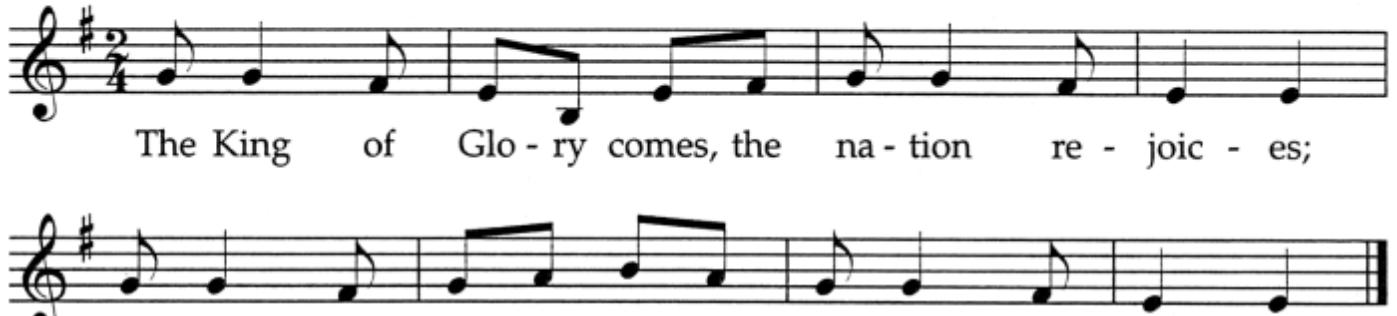
Thanks to all who helped to lead today’s service including the readers listed earlier who shared our Passion Reflection, **Clare Ryan** who offered our Gospel reading, and **J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)** who offered our Children’s Moments.

Don’t forget the J.O.Y. Pancake & Porkie Fundraiser after worship!

The King of Glory


KING OF GLORY 75 75 with Refrain

REFRAIN




The King of Glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es;
O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.

VERSES



1. Who is the King of Glo - ry; how shall we call him?
2. In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
3. Sing then of Da - vid's Son, our Sav - ior and broth - er;



1. He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
2. He goes a - mong his peo - ple cur - ing their ill - ness.
3. In all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.

To Refrain

Willard F. Jabusch
Text © 1967, 1984, Willard F. Jabusch

Israeli folk song

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An Outcast Among Outcasts

1. An out - cast a - mong out - casts, dis - missed with dou - ble scorn, be - lit - tled by the
2. An out - cast a - mong out - casts, where three were cru - ci - fied, de - rid - ed by the
3. For out - casts a - mong out - casts the bound - aries are re - drawn, by words "Your faith has

The first system of music is in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The melody is in G major. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, corresponding to the three verses.

6
la - bels: "un - clean" and "for - eign born" came back with thanks for Je - sus, and
oth - ers as they hung side by side came back from death with pow - er, God
saved you," by cross and Eas - ter dawn. The dis - tant longed - for cen - ters of

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It includes a measure rest for six measures at the beginning. The lyrics continue across three lines.

11
then went on his way: An out - cast a - mong out - casts showed grate - ful faith that day.
had the fi - nal say: An out - cast a - mong out - casts shows God to us to - day.
pow - er, peace, and care, where life is free to flour - ish, are found now ev - ery - where.

The third system of music concludes the piece. It includes a measure rest for eleven measures at the beginning. The lyrics continue across three lines, ending with a double bar line.

1 A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 3 I need your pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with you at hand to bless;

The shad - ows deep - en, Lord, with me a - bide;
 I need your grace to foil the tempt - er's power.
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness;

When oth - er help - ers fail, and com - forts flee,
 Give me your love my guide and stay to be.
 Where is death's sting? where, grave, your vic - to - ry?

Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still if you a - bide with me.