

Celebration of Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 29, 2026

10 a.m.

Lent is the season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, before Easter. It comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," which means "spring." The season is in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Historically, it was the time of preparation for the baptism of Christian converts. It is a season for all Christians to engage in self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial; and reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

Welcome, Ministry Opportunities, the Peace

Prelude

Kathryn Herman

*Overture - by Shusako Endo

Rev. DaeHwa Park

From the village of Bethany to the city of Jerusalem was scarcely half an hour's walk. Moving from the village and across the Mount of Olives, a twist in the road revealed as if by magic a panoramic view of the dun-brown holy city within its fortified walls ... All along the valley and all across the lower slope of Mount Olivet stirred the masses of pilgrims who had come for the Passover festival.

*Call to Worship – Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem (Waving Palm Branches)

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L: Open wide the gates of your hearts.

P: Let the Savior enter!

L: Hosanna to the Son of David!

P: Hosanna in the highest! *

L: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

P: Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! *

*Processional Hymn - UMH No. 280 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

ST. THEODULPH

Congregation may sing stanzas 1 & 3 only

Children and Choir process, waving palms. Congregation waves palms while singing

Opening Prayer

Offered in Unison

Almighty God, on this day your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way. You sent Him to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and ever. Amen.

Personal Prayer

Offered in Silence

We pray for the people of the State of Rhode Island, the Ocean State, joined our union on May 29, 1790 (settled in 1636). The Ocean State achieved statehood in 1790 with the first permanent European settlements around 1650. Centuries before European arrival, the region was the stronghold of the powerful Narragansett [nair-uh-GAN-set] nation, alongside the Wampanoag [wahm-puh-NO-ag], Niantic [nye-AN-tik], and Pequot [PEE-kwot] peoples. While the early European settlers initially sought to respect indigenous sovereignty through formal land purchases, the continued settler encroachment ultimately led to warfare that resulted in the massacre of indigenous people and their military defeat, subsequent enslavement, and the forced clearing of the land for English expansion. Today, the Narragansett Indian Tribe [nair-uh-GAN-set] is the only federally recognized tribe in Rhode Island. Also pray for those who live in Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia.

Pastoral Prayer

Congregants may share joys and concerns prior to the pastoral prayer.

Offering of Our Time, Talents, and Treasures

Offertory "The Palms" Kathryn Herman
by Gian-Baptiste Faure; Keith Carlson, solo
***Doxology - UMH No. 94** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS ERFREUEN
***Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

Musical Offering "Hosanna to the King Who Comes" Intergenerational Choir
Lloyd Larson

Gospel Lesson "Matthew 21:18-32" New International Version

Witness to the Word Rev. Dr. DaeHwa Park

"Becoming Disciples More Faithful Than Teachers"
Part 6. Sinners Who Believed

Response to the Word "Lead Me to Calvary" Chancel Choir
based on a melody by William J. Kirkpatrick; arranged by Howard Helvey

Acknowledgements and Faith Sharing: Welcome visitors. Join our small groups!

***UMH No. 290** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" REDHEAD 76

***Benediction** Rev. Dr. DaeHwa Park

Postlude "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" Kathryn Herman
arranged by Thomas Keesecker

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

*Congregation may stand as able.

Special Thanks to Camille Bohannon, liturgist and lector coordination; intergenerational choir and chancel choir under the leadership of Kathryn Herman and soloist Keith Carlson; Dick Church for information on the indigenous people; Silas Baylor, Acolyte; Fred Herman, Judy Chandler, Dick Church, Chris Taylor, Kayla Johnson, tech team; Irene Hollis and Cynthia Balentine & youths, Ushers; YoungHoon Park, Nancy Ide, door greeters; Florence Thomas & Sue Mason, counting; Robin Lowke, cleaning; Buddy Warren, Nightly Security Check; Mission Teams for Little Free Pantry (Maryann Robinson on Mon., Camille Bohannon & Margaret Chinn on Tue. & Thu., Robin Lowke on Wed., Patty Briemont and Doug Dull on Fri., Rich and Rayna Robb on Sat., Dyan Fell and Christine Fattore on Sun.), Sunday school teachers, and chaperons for youth activities. Flowers on the altar from Gaithersburg SDA Church.

Thanks be to God. Praise the Lord!

Notes: The Church Council on Sunday, March 15, 2026 decided to publish one sheet of the program in order to save the printing cost. Two dozen of hardcopy is available at narthex esp. for choir members and those who want to have a hard copy during the service. The program with portable document format (a.k.a. PDF) is available at Covenant Connection on Thursdays. There will be information packet including calendars and other announcements will be published monthly.

Covenant United Methodist Church

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THE HOLY WEEK AT COVENANT



Sun., March 29, Palm/Passion Sunday

9a	Children/Youth (Family) Worship	Sanctuary
9:30a	Meet and Greet	Fellowship Hall
10a	Worship	Sanctuary
6p	Sunday Evening Study	thru Zoom

Mon., March 30

11a	Coffee with the Pastor	thru Zoom
1-2p	Bible Study	thru Zoom
5:30p	Staff Meeting	thru Zoom
9p	The Holy Club	thru Zoom

Tue., March 31, Church Office Opens (9 a.m.-2 p.m.)

11-2p	Meet the Pastor	thru Zoom
7p	Tuesday Night Live	thru Zoom
9p	Journey thru the Bible	thru Zoom

Wed., April 1, Church Office Opens (9 a.m.-2 p.m.)

8:30a	Walking Club	Parking lot
12p	High Noon Prayer	Facebook/daehwapark
7p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	The Story	thru Zoom

Maundy Thursday, April 2

7p	Tenebrae Service	Sanctuary
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Good Friday, April 3

7p	Stations of the Cross	Sanctuary +
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Holy Saturday, April 4, Day of Preparation

7p	Easter Vigil	Sanctuary +
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Easter Sunday, April 5, He Is Risen!

6:30a	Easter Sunrise Service	Outdoor Chapel
9a	Children/Youth (Family) Worship	Sanctuary
9:30a	Meet and Greet	Fellowship Hall
10a	Celebration of Worship	Sanctuary
6p	Sunday Evening Study	thru Zoom

Make an appointment for a guaranteed in-person meeting with the pastor thru Katya Flores, church secretary at (301) 926-8920 or office @covenant-umc.org

Send announcements to make through the Weekly Covenant Connection to Mariana Uhrlaub at marianau@aol.com by Tuesday 5 p.m.

See Zoom meeting IDs and Passwords (Other side)

GET CONNECTED through Worship, Study, and Fellowship

Celebration of Worship at 10 a.m.

Online Worship at <https://www.youtube.com/@covenantumc6910/streams>

Sunday Evening Study

Zoom Meeting ID: 625 380 900 passcode: CUMC1234

Coffee with the Pastor - Monday mornings at 11 a.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 821 7822 3118 passcode: 208777

Holy Club with Young Professionals on Monday evenings at 9 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 1926 7070 passcode: 417468

Bible Study: Parables on Monday at 1-2 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 5389 2748 passcode: CUMC1234

Tuesday Night Live

Zoom Meeting ID: 231 882 6289 passcode: cumc1234 (lower case)

Journey thru the Bible—Tuesday evenings at 9 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 2138 8065 passcode: 468241

High Noon Prayer, Wednesday at Noon

Zoom Meeting ID: 838 6452 6575; passcode: 879710

The Story

Zoom Meeting ID: 885 5178 9293 passcode: 737892

Meet the Pastor (Faith Talk) on Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 5259 6555 passcode: 888062

❖ Sermon Outline

“Becoming Disciples More Faithful Than Teachers”

Part 6. Sinners Who Believed

Matthew 21:28-32

1. Many are called, _____ answer the call.

2. Which one of the two did what his father _____?

3. The repentant _____ enter the Kingdom of God ahead of those who do not believe.

Keys: 1. few; 2. wanted; 3. sinners