

# North Church of Portsmouth

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

March 24, 2024

10:00 AM

## Palm Sunday

The Congregation is invited to gather outside on the bricks at 9:55 am

WORDS OF WELCOME

| PRELUDE OR PROCESSIONAL  | All Glory, Laud and Honor                               | #265 vs 1,2,3 |  |  |
|--|---|---------------|--|--|
| CENTERING PRAYER   |   |               |  |  |
| PASSING OF THE PEACE<br>The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.<br>And also with you.<br>Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace |   |               |  |  |
| *HYMN Ho   | osannah, Loud Hosannah<br>sic and words in blue hymnal) | #267          |  |  |
| GOD-WINKS  |   |               |  |  |
|  | e On! Ride On in Majesty<br>c and words in blue hymnal) | NC #215       |  |  |

### SCRIPTURE

Mark 11: 1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' " They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and

\*Indicates those who are able may stand

#### SCRIPTURE (continued)

they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Promise of Holy Week

Rev. Jennifer Mazur

MUSIC MEDITATION

TIME OF PRAYER—All are invited to participate in a prayer practice using the labyrinth printed in the bulletin. Labyrinths are ancient spiritual tools that help us mark our journeys along the pathways of this life. In a labyrinth, there are no dead ends, there is no getting stuck, there is no losing your way. And so we are free to journey through it with a question in our minds, with a prayer in our hearts.

In just a moment, we'll hear a piece of music and you'll be invited to trace the labyrinth with your finger, following the path to the center, then finding your way back out again.

As you begin, what do you need to release in your life, to begin the journeys God calls you on?

When you find your way to the center, what do you need to receive in order to live into the covenants in your life?

As you trace the path back out again, what needs to return in your life, in order to live as the person God calls you to be?

#### PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

SONG OF PRAYER

Gift of Love

H. Hopson

A thread that wanders in and out It holds our love...lets through our doubt You welcome me a favored guest So deeply loved and richly blessed. 2X

#### INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

The Palms (Please join the choir with the words of the chorus) J-B Faure

## Chorus: Join all and sing His name declare Let every voice resound with joyous acclamation Hosanna! Praise be the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation.

#### \*DOXOLOGY

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

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you keep your promises to us and to all people. Help us to use these gifts to honor our covenants of mission, ministry and love. Amen.

| *CLOSING HYMN            | Go to Dark Gethsemane<br>(music and words in blue hymnal) | #272       |
|--------------------------|---|------------|
| BENEDICTION              |   |            |
| POSTLUDE (remain seated) | Triumphant March  | K. Rollins |

\*Indicates those who are able may stand

North Church Welcomes You

We are glad that you are worshiping here today. If you seek a church home in Portsmouth, we hope that you will return to worship with us again. The tear off form on this bulletin filled out and placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher or the pastor, will help us to know you better as we serve God together.

*On this day and all days we keep Marondera Church, our Ukama partner in Zimbabwe in our prayers.* 



# All Worship services begin at 10:00 am

Sunday, March 3 Third Sunday in Lent The Sacrament of Communion will be Celebrated

Sunday, March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 17 Fifth Sunday in Lent The Promises Written On Our Hearts

> Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday The Promise of Holy Week

> > Sunday, March 31 Easter Sunday Trust the Joy



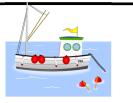


# **Theology on Tap**

Join us for an enriching Theology on Tap session delving into the profound significance of Holy Week. Together, we will explore the traditions and spiritual depth behind this sacred period in Christian faith. Let's gather on **March 26 at 7:00 pm** for insightful discussions, fellowship, and refreshments as we journey through the mysteries of Easter. All are welcome!



# Seafarer's Friend Ditty Bags - Preview



We will be collecting items to fill ditty bags for the Seafarer's Friend during the months of March and April. The goal is to fill 10 ditty bags. If you would like to get a head start on gathering some items, here are the things they need:

| Razors                     | Shave cream/gel             | Floss                     |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Toothpaste                 | Toothbrush $(1)$            | Travel sized Kleenex      |
| Playing cards              | Mending kits                | Shoelaces                 |
| Deodorant                  | Shampoo (8 oz. size)        | Travel-size first aid kit |
| Nail clippers              | Soap/body wash (8 oz. size) | Small writing pad         |
| Socks (2 pair per bag max) | Puzzle Books                | Knit hat                  |
| 1-2 pens or pencils        | Feminine Hygiene Products   | Chapstick                 |
|                            |                             |                           |





WORDS: Henry H. Milman (1791-1868), alt. MUSIC: Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789 TRURO L.M.





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United Church of Christ



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