

First Reformed United Church of Christ

*Where People Discover...
The Love of God
The Power to Love Others
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

March 25, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Sunday of the Palm and the Passion

**“Finding Your Purpose:
Listening to Your Heart”**



LISTEN

Welcome! If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Prayer Request Cards can be found on the backs of the pews if you would like to request prayer for yourself or someone else. Please place these in the offering plate when passed.

Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered and hearing devices are available. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.

Please enter quietly and settle into an attentive and relaxed state of being. Let us hear that still, small voice and find our own true selves.

Music for Settling

***Evoking the Mystery with the Chiming of the Hour**

**Bringing in the Light of Christ*

***Opening Words**

Elizabeth Horton

*** Hymn**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” [Insert]

***Invocation**

June Grubb

“Come and Rest“

Solo: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
There’s a wisdom deep within that calls us closer.*

Ellen Peterson

*Come and rest. Come and listen
Lay the fullness of your lives before the Maker.*

People: *Come and rest. Come and listen.
There’s a wisdom deep within that calls us closer.*

*Come and rest. Come and listen.
Lay the fullness of your lives before the Maker.*

Examen

Elizabeth Horton

(A prayer practice where we review our actions)

For that which, then, I thought was right...
have mercy, God.

For that which, now, I regret...
forgive me, God.

For that which, hence, I know not what to do...
guide me, God.

Come and rest, come and listen.
Know that grace, forgiveness and guidance are available to you
at each and every moment that we turn to receive them.
Thanks be to God.

Silent Rest

Sit quietly in the silence without any expectation of what you “ought” to be thinking. Don’t worry about sounds from children or elsewhere—simply let them float into and out of your attention. And if you find it difficult to settle your thoughts, contemplate the following:

*In our moments
of grief and fear,
enter into the light
that God offers.*

FIND

Young Disciples

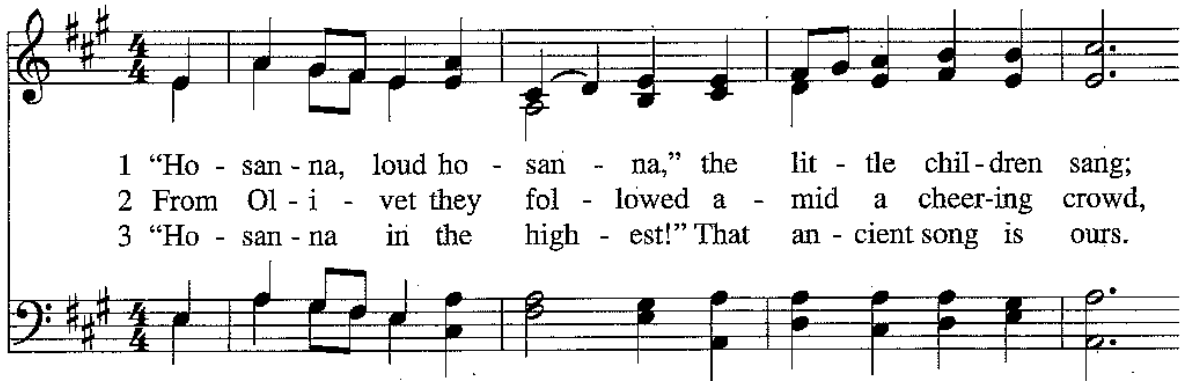
Elizabeth Horton

Children and youth are invited to join in this worship at the front.

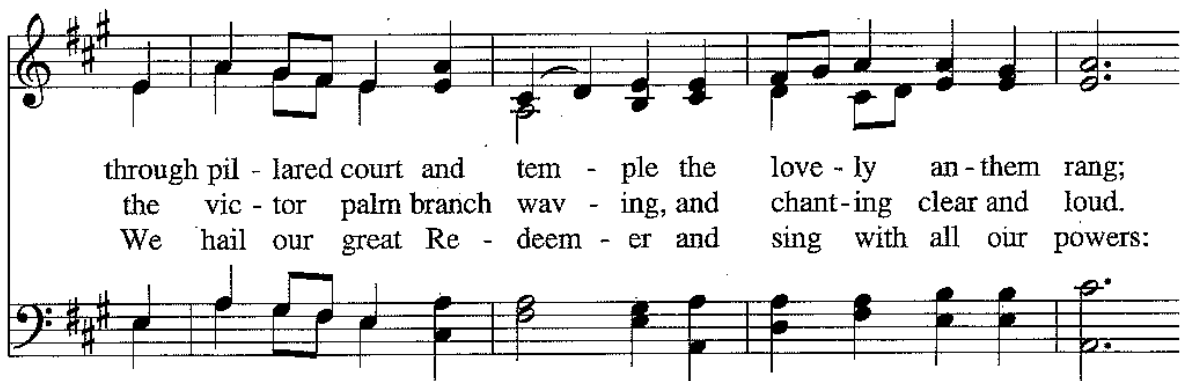
"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.

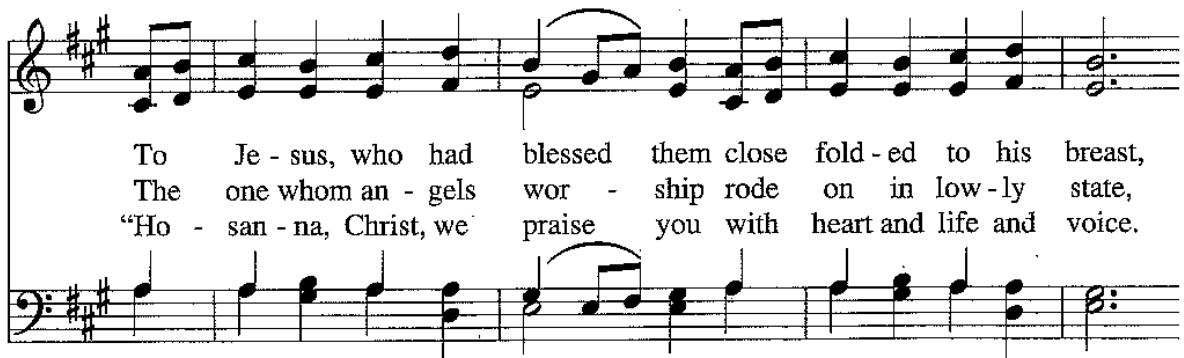
Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15



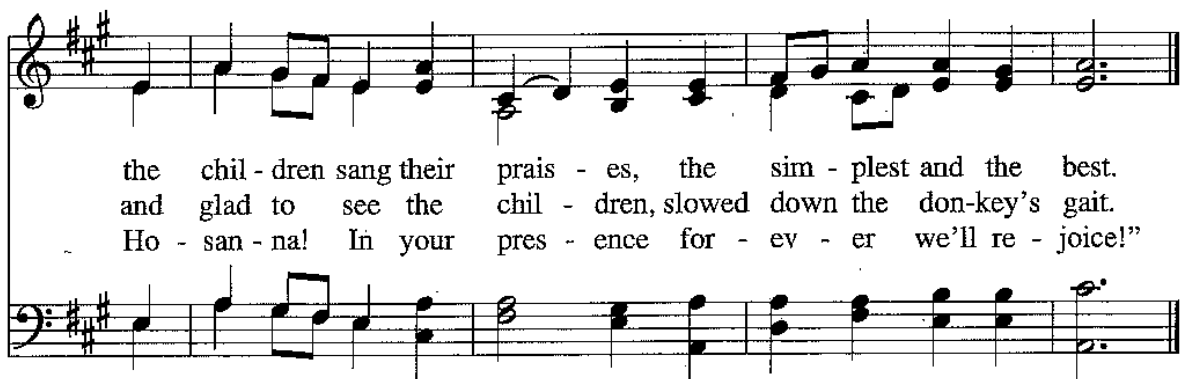
1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:



To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Jennette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen
katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784

The Psalmist's Prayer

Psalm 4: 1, 6-8

Reader:

June Grubb

Listen to the beat of your heart.

Listen, God is singing, God is singing.

Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God!

Set me free from my troubles!

Have mercy on me.

Be gracious and hear my prayer.

Many people say, "We can't find goodness anywhere.

The light of your face has left us, Lord!"

But you have filled my heart with more joy
than when their wheat and wine are everywhere!

I will lie down and fall asleep in peace
because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety.

Music for an Inward Journey

"Let Hosannas Ring"

Patti Drennan

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Lift your voice and sing to the King!*

*To You, the King of Israel and David's honored Son,
to You we lift palm branches, O King and Blessed One!
A multitude of followers praise You riding by.
With outstretched hands and voices, in chorus, we reply.*

*Hosanna, sing hosanna! Exalt the King of kings!
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Join now, let praises ring!
O fill the air with music. Praise God with joyous sound!
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Let festive songs abound.
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! We sing hosanna to the King!*

*Ride on, Blessed Redeemer. Ride on in majesty!
For You shall be exalted, and You will set us free!
We praise with joyful singing. We praise You and rejoice!
O may we ever love You with heart and life and voice!*

*Hosanna, sing hosanna! Exalt the King of kings!
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Join now, let praises ring!
O fill the air with music. Praise God with joyous sound!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Lift your voice and sing to the King!
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Hosanna, sing hosanna to the King!*

Hearing the Word

Matthew 26: 36-46

June Grubb

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My

Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.” Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

Homily

Elizabeth Horton

REFLECT

Appointment with God

Solo: *Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

Ellen Peterson

People: *Meet me here,
Find me in my wanderings.
Meet me here,
Deep within my soul.*

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Horton

Connecting

Elizabeth Horton

Receiving our Tithes and Offerings

***Prayer of Dedication**

June Grubb

***Closing Hymn**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” [Insert]

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.

Gal. 6:14; Phil. 3:7-8

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross,
2 For - bid it, then, that I should boast,
3 From sa - cred head, from hands, and feet,
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,

on which the Christ of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
sor - row and love flow min - gled down!
that were a pres - ent far too small;

My rich - est gain I count but loss,
All the vain things that charm me most
Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
I sac - ri - fice them to Christ's blood.
or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Originally titled "Crucifixion to the World by the Cross of Christ," this hymn has been acclaimed as one of the finest in the English language. Isaac Watts' hymnody grew out of his dissatisfaction with the restraints of the metrical psalters.

Tune: HAMBURG L.M.
Lowell Mason, 1825

PREPARE TO LISTEN IN THE WORLD

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response**

**We're so thankful that you are still speaking,
You're still speaking, gracious God.
For the sake of the world you are seeking,
We are listening, listening now.**

Please pass the peace with your neighbors as you move into the world.

Music for Going Out

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

Please bring your palm branch and join in the Community Palm Sunday Celebration which will be held at the YMCA at 12:15pm. Enter through the main entrance. We will gather in the gym.

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Upcoming Events

ADDITIONAL COLLECTION DAYS have been added for the Girl Scouts "40 BAGS in 40 DAYS" DECLUTTER CHALLENGE. You may bring items by the church the following days and times:

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------|
| Tuesday, March 27 | 5-8:00pm | Monday, April 2 | 10:00am-2:00pm |
| Tuesday, April 3 | 3-6:00pm | Thursday, April 5 | 12-5:00pm |

THE YARD SALE IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 7 in the grassy area in front of the playground. IN CASE OF RAIN it will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR THE LABYRINTH If you would like to help sit at the labyrinth during any of the time slots shown below, please contact June Grubb at jgrubb3@triad.rr.com or call the church office. (336-248-6217).

March 29-31: Walk the Labyrinth in the Fellowship Hall
Thursday, March 29th 10:00am – 1:00pm and 5:00 – 6:00pm
Friday, March 30th 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Saturday, March 31st 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

RESERVE YOUR COPY OF THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY BY MARCH 31st Please contact the church office (336-248-2617 or carolyn@frucc.org) if you are interested. There will be a cost for the directory, but at this time that amount is undetermined. You will be under NO OBLIGATION to purchase your reserved copy, but we need a general idea of how many to order.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST CARDS are located on the backs of the pews for your convenience to request prayer for yourself or someone else. You may complete these and place them in the offering plate. The office will forward these requests to Ben Hale of the Evangelism Committee. He will send a card, if requested; to let the individuals know they are in our prayers. You may still continue to contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or the church office at 336-248-2617 or carolyn@frucc.org about any prayer requests.

March 27: Community Meal at First Reformed UCC at 5:00pm. Menu includes: Spiral ham, green beans, braised potatoes, cole slaw and rolls. Contributions will go to Special Olympics of Davidson County.

March 29: Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

March 30: Good Friday

April 1:

| | |
|---------|--|
| 9:30am | Easter Sunday Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall Sausage and ham biscuits, fruit, pastries, juice and coffee |
| 10:00am | Easter Egg Hunt |
| 11:00am | Worship Service |

CONFIRMANDS TO VISIT CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM IN GREENSBORO on **Saturday, April 14**. If others, 9th grade or older, would like to accompany the group on this trip, please contact the church office. Someone will contact you with more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS...HOLY WEEK

Sunday, March 25 PALM SUNDAY...PASSION SUNDAY

- 9:45am Children – Youth/Family Service Project with Cathy Waitman
New Way – studying Mark with Dave Fulton
Willing Workers – studying Genesis with Doug Sink
Still Speaking Class – studying “*Let Your Life Speak*” with Elizabeth Horton {P}
- 11:00am Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00pm **Palm Sunday Service at the Square**...Elizabeth Horton will be speaking
Palm Sunday Lunch at the J. Smith Young YMCA. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 4-8 years old. You may purchase tickets at the YMCA Welcome Center.
- 6:00pm **Davidson/Forsyth District Palm Sunday Service** at Hedrick’s Grove UCC. Rev. Colleen Samson, the new WNCA Minister for Church Affairs, will bring the message.

- Monday, March 26** 5:00pm Tutoring
6:30pm Open Hands Ministry {FH}

- Tuesday, March 27** 10:00am Weaving Women {WW Classroom}
12-1:00pm Lenten Lunch & Learn {P}
5-7:00pm COMMUNITY MEAL {FH}

- Wednesday, March 28** 6:30pm Bell Choir {Bell Room}
7:15pm Choir {Ch. A}

- Thursday, March 29** 10:00am-1:00pm Walk the Labyrinth {FH}
5-6:00pm Walk the Labyrinth {FH}
5:30pm YOGA Class {P}
6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service {S}

- Friday, March 30** ***HOLIDAY* CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**
10:00am-1:00pm Walk the Labyrinth {FH}

- Saturday, March 31** 10:00am-1:00pm Walk the Labyrinth {FH}

Sunday, April 1 EASTER SUNDAY...NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 9:30am Light Easter Breakfast prepared by Jerry Lovell: Ham biscuits, sausage biscuits, fruit, pastries, juice & coffee
- 10:00am Children’s Easter Egg Hunt
- 11:00am Worship in the Sanctuary

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries {March 25-31}

| | | |
|---------------|----------|--|
| Birthdays | March 27 | Jonathan Kepley |
| | March 28 | Elizabeth Horton |
| | March 29 | Doris Flynt |
| | March 31 | Kivi Miller |
| Anniversaries | March 27 | Mark & Karla Loper Clifford & Paula Lopp Steve & Cathy Waitman |

Thank You for Serving Our Church

USHERS: Steve Smith, Ted Smith, Vicky Gray, Amy Hedrick

PLATE ATTENDANT: John Smith

YOUTH USHER: Griff Smith

SOUND TECHNICIAN: John Gray

ACOLYTE: Ethan Lovell

GREETERS: Walter & Ann Hoffman

BIBLE STEWARD: Claire Smith

NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}: Lynn Brown & Patti Lovell

- ❖ **A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom {through left door at chancel.}**
- ❖ **A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child {through left or right door at chancel.}**

Our Church at Prayer

PRAYER CONCERNS: Remember those in the Armed Forces. To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located in the backs of the pews, contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or the church office at 336-248-2617.

CHURCH MEMBERS: Jo Hudson, Ruth Essick, Carolyn Spivey, Peggy Bates, Ruth Fritts, Margot Everhart

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Valerie Price, Joyce Price, Rita Tussey, Adena Wall, Marzell Crotts, Hoyle Potts, Doris Flynt, James Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle

OUR FRIENDS: Rev. Jamie Armstrong (1st UMC) and his wife, Rev. Elizabeth Graves (Epworth UMC in Concord), Virginia Byars (friend of Alisa Johnson), Derrick Wong (friend of Joni Walser), Ashley Anderson (Lee Ann Peele's cousin), Judy Stanley (family of Alane Holste), Greg Nifong (Lib Sink's nephew), Danny Lloyd (Frank Callicutt's father), Lynn Mack (friend of Mary Berrier), Dot Crotts (Frank Leonard's aunt), Doris Brown (Mike & Lynn Brown's sister-in-law), Ronald Yates, (Eddie Yates' dad), Nell and Ken Holmes (neighbors of Jerry and Patti Lovell), Jeffery Saunders (Amy Hedrick's son), Debra Craver (friend of Alisa Johnson)

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

336-248-2617

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastor, Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@frucc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care, Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com)

Director of Christian Education, Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)

Choir Director, Ellen Peterson Organist, Lee Ann Peele

Admin. Asst., Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Financial Secretary, Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)