



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 14, 2019

Palm/Passion Sunday

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 166 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.* Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins with hymns of the day are available at the Sanctuary doors. Deacons wearing white roses can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the pew racks and placed in the offering plate.

(*) Indicates the congregation should stand as they are able.

*Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve. Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.
 'We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.'
 (Psalm 48:8)*

This morning we gather outside, weather permitting, in the Washington Gladden Social Justice Park for the Liturgy of the Palms.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

* MOTET Hosanna to the Son of David attributed to Gesius
 Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna to the Son of David in the highest!
 —Matthew 21:9

* THE GOSPEL Luke 19:28–40 The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens
 Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

* ENTER TO WORSHIP The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine
 L: On this day Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as “King of Kings” by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life.
 L: Hosanna to the Son of David!
**P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest!**
 L: Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.

Please follow the procession to the Broad Street steps, and then enter the Sanctuary as directed, lifting and waving palm branches until the Invocation. The procession follows during the singing of the hymn. Please remain standing, as you are able.

* ENTRANCE OF THE PROCESSION
 L: Hosanna to the Son of David!
**P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the Highest!**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 88 All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Valet will ich dir geben

* INVOCATION Rev. Ahrens
 L: God be with you.
P: And also with you.
 L: Let us pray.
P: Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for humanity you sent Jesus, to take our nature upon him and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us an example of great humility: Mercifully grant that we too may walk in the way of the cross and share in the resurrection; through the one who is our Savior and Redeemer and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMAND, MADDIE HELMER
 Rev. Ahrens

* PASSING OF THE PEACE Ms. Helmer
 L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
P: And also with you.
 L: Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.
Please find the attendance pad at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor.

ANTHEM Antiphonal Hosanna Alan G. Smith
 Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord!

CHILDREN'S TIME Mark S. Williams
After children's time, the children will return to sit with their families. A fully-staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age four. This ministry is located in the nursery and toddler rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.

THE EPISTLE Philippians 2:5–11 (N.T. p. 197) Rev. Ahrens
 L: The Word of God for the people of God.
P: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION “Lesson Seven: Live Fully in Your Dash” Rev. Corzine
 (Part seven of the nine-part series, *Life Lessons from Luke*)

A time of reflection follows.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Ahrens

OUR 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.
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
 for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.

MISSION INVITATION Martyr Worth
 Cash and designated checks go to **The Good Samaritan Fund:** The Good Samaritan Fund provides help every month to those who come to the door of First Church in need. The next Good Sam Day is Monday, May 13. Thank you for your generosity.

HYMN 93 Ah! Holy Jesus *Herzliebster Jesu*
Please remain seated during the hymn.

During the singing of the hymn, the Processional Cross is taken out and a wooden cross is brought in and placed at the Communion table.

SILENCE

ANTHEM Go to Dark Gethsemane T. Tertius Noble
 Go to dark Gethsemane, Calvary's mournful mountain climb;
 ye that feel the tempter's power; there, adoring at his feet,
 your Redeemer's conflict see, mark the miracle of time,
 watch with him one bitter hour; God's own sacrifice complete;
 turn not from his griefs away, “It is finished!” hear him cry;
 learn of Jesus Christ to pray. learn of Jesus Christ to die. Amen.
 —James Montgomery

Follow to the judgment hall;
 view the Lord of life arraigned;
 O the wormwood and gall!
 O the pangs his souls sustained!
 Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
 learn of him to bear the cross.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO LUKE
*The Congregation sits through the Passion until the verse that mentions “place that is called the skull.” Then, please stand.
 The congregation speaks the parts printed in bold type.*

Luke 22:63–64

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, **“Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?”**

Luke 22:65—23:13

They kept heaping many other insults on him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, **“If you are the Messiah, tell us.”** He replied, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” All of them asked, **“Are you the Son of God?”** He said to them, “You say that I am.” Then they said, **“What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”** Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, **“We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”** Then Pilate asked him, “Are you king of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.” Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no bias against this man.” But they were insistent and said, **“He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”**

Luke 23:14–23

... (Pilate) “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.” Then they all shouted out together, **“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”** (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, **“Crucify, crucify him!”** . . .

Luke 23:24–43

... Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called the skull, (*The congregation stands*) they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him saying, **“He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, the chosen one!”** The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, **“If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”** . . .

Luke 23:44–56

After the Passion is concluded, all sit. Silence is kept.

<p>ANTHEM</p> <p><i>Nos autem gloriari oportet in cruce Domini nostri Jesu Christi: in quo est salus, vita et resurrectio nostra: per quem salvati et liberati sumus. Deus misereatur nostri, et benedicat nobis: illuminet vultum suum super nos, et misereatur nostri.</i></p>	<p>Grayston Ives</p> <p>It is right for us to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ: in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection; by whom we are saved and delivered. May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us; and have mercy on us. —Introit for Maundy Thursday</p>
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Please stand as you are able.

* CLOSING PRAYER Rev. Ahrens

Leader: Let us pray. Everliving God, in your tender love for us, you sent your Son to take our nature, and to suffer death on the cross, giving us the example of great humility:

All: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN 98 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded *Passion Chorale*

The organ becomes quieter with each verse and leaves us singing unaccompanied by the end of the hymn.

*There is no Postlude on this Holy Day.
Please depart in silence.*

*You are invited to add your palms to the Cross of palms on the Chancel steps.
You are invited to walk the Labyrinth in Room C after the service.*

Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found peace and grace here and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask anyone wearing a nametag. We'd be delighted to assist you. Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

† ACOLYTES: Jack Patterson and Ethan Murray

† CRUCIFER: Miriam Myers

† MUSIC: The Jubilate Choir, Sandra Mathias, *director*; The First Church Choir; Kevin Jones, *director and organist*

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of Paul Navin by Dana Navin Schultz.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY

Broad Street – Rev. Corzine
Ninth Street – Rev. Ahrens
Education Wing – Mr. Williams

† PASSION READERS: *Narrator* – Lauren Emery; *Jesus* – Anthony Brown; *Pilate* – Wendy Kirkland; *Criminal 1* – Courter Shimeall; *Criminal 2* – Nick Bruckelmeyer; *Centurion* – Melissa Prendergast

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ALL HOLY WEEK EVENTS

BACH'S ST. JOHN PASSION, APRIL 15
7:30 p.m. Concert for soloists, choir, and orchestra – Nave

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18
6 p.m. Dinner and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service – Nave

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19
7:30 p.m. The Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday
featuring Paul Fetler's "The Way of the Cross"

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21
7 a.m. Sunrise Service – Washington Gladden Social Justice Park
8:45 and 11 a.m. Easter Services – Nave
10 a.m. Congregational Brunch – Parish Hall

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome Statement

You are welcomed, affirmed, and loved here; our faith informs us that you are a child of a loving God. Your characteristics and gifts will enrich our congregation. In this community, you will be celebrated, embraced, and honored, no matter how you identify or how your identity may evolve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join us in our diverse yet united experience.

Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, welcome and affirm all. We believe we are all created in God's image and called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, called to unite all people in God's love. We are a community seeking God's presence and love in our lives. We seek to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, sexes, gender identities and expressions, family structures, mental, intellectual and physical conditions, economic circumstances, political, theological and faith backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

—Adopted September 8, 2002 by the congregation
Revisions adopted January 27, 2019 by the congregation

First Church is a faith community

- † Called together by God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, to worship, pray and serve;
- † Led by Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, to learn the faith and welcome all God's children;
- † Empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness to God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

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www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx



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