



Palm
SUNDAY

at



CUCC

Columbia United Church of Christ

**Columbia
United Church
Of Christ**



April 13, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"Palms to Passion"

*...the Pharisees took one look and threw up their hands and said,
"It's out of control"*

- John 12:19 (from "The Message" Bible)

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Reflective Processional"

Steven Jannetti
Owning Edwards

Bringing in the Light of Christ

*Gathering Scripture

John 12:12-19

Pat Forward

The next day, the huge crowd that had arrived for the Passover Feast heard that Jesus was entering Jerusalem. They broke off Palm branches and went out to meet him. And they cheered:

"Hosanna! Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in God's name!

Blessed is the coming Kingdom of David!

Hosanna in the Highest Heaven!"

The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb, raising him from the dead, was there giving eyewitness accounts. It was because they had spread the word of this latest miracle that the crowd swelled to a welcoming parade.

*But the Pharisees took one look and threw up their hands and said,
"It's out of control."
(From "The Message" Bible)*

*Praise Songs & Palms Processional

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

#213

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

#216

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" (verses 1, 2, 4 only)

#215

*Prayer Petition

"Jesus, Remember Me"

(Luke 23:42)

*Jesus, Remember me,
When you come into your Kingdom!*

*Jesus, Remember me,
When you come into your Kingdom!*

*Opening Prayer

Pat Forward

God of humble majesty; today we hear the story of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a humble donkey and embrace the lessons of humility this teaches us. We, too have been humbled in many ways in our Lenten journey and we find your glory in the midst of humility. Forgive us for the times in our lives when we let pride overshadow our identity and teach us to embrace Your ways. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

Jesus entered Jerusalem among shouts of praise, but the fickle nature of the crowd led to Jesus' death later that week. In their transgressions, we recognize our own. But we know that God forgives all our transgressions when we are repentant. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Gloria Patri”

***Glory to the Creator,
and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost!
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end! Amen, Amen!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!
And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

***I have decided to follow Jesus!
I have decided to follow Jesus!
I have decided to follow Jesus!
No turning back; no turning back!***

Mission Moment

“Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary”

Llona Weiss

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 118:1-9

Pat Forward

The Psalmist seems to be speaking from a community that has survived a dangerous crisis. He looks to God as his salvation, and speaks of God saving his community from distress. In response, he offers praise to God.

(page #492)

Gospel Lesson

John 12:20-26

Pat Forward

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, a political demonstration against Pilate. But his ride is overshadowed by the Pharisees who see his truth as a threat. He talks about his impending death, and the effect his death and the ensuing mission of the Apostles would have on bringing the Word of God to the Gentiles

(page #802)

Anthem	“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”	Celebration Singers <i>Sheldon Ridge Love</i>
Sermon	“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”	Pastor Rick
*Hymn	“Journey to Gethsemane”	#219

Community Prayer, Silent Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using the address “Creator God” in our unison recitation of The Lord’s Prayer. You are certainly welcome to say “Our Father” instead of “Creator,” “Trespases” instead of “debts,” or “Thy” instead of “Your” if you prefer.

Creator God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life Pastor Rick

Invitation to the Offering

You are invited, at this time, to come forward and place your offering in the baskets at the foot of the cross. As you do, you are also invited to pause at the cross and reflect on the upcoming Holy Week journey that Christ is about to partake.

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041
You can also give online by visiting our website:
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory “Prayer” Steven Jannetti
Reinhard Glière

*Prayer of Dedication Pat Forward

God of Palms and Passion, the money that we offer to Your glory today is a shout of Hosanna; a testimony to our devotion. As You ride on into Jerusalem and the events of this week, we walk with You showing *our* love by spreading *Your* love. May these offerings we lay at the foot of Your cross today be used to love You back in our world every day. Amen.

*Closing Hymn “The Old Rugged Cross” #195

*Gospel Reading Mark 15:1-20 Pastor Rick

*The Light of Christ is Extinguished

*Tolling of the Bell

After the bell tolls, you may depart in silence

A HOLY WEEK POEM

By Bob Stillerman

Over the years, the legend has grown. But when Jesus entered those gates,
He came with the humility of a servant.

Sure, you could most certainly hear Pilate on the other side of town,
Coming through a more prominent gate,
The heavy hooves of his war horse trot, trot, trotting,
And the drums of his army, bang, bang, banging,
And the purple edges of his banners, flap, flap, flapping in the wind.

Jesus, on the other hand, came riding on a donkey,
A tired, old, donkey.

No sword on his belt, no robe or crown, no army.
Just a makeshift parade, a rag-tag band of believers,
A few dozen women and men with

Nothing more than the clothes on their backs and the faith in their hearts.
And as Jesus trotted down the Mount of Olives, into all the chaos of a city
festival, a slow clap turned into a chant: "Save us!"
Shouts of "Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is the One
Who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Unfortunately, reality reared its ugly head.

The confident believers dwindled in the week ahead.

Perhaps they didn't expect the jeers; the sheer power of Caesar's might;
Perhaps they never expected a trial, or betrayal, or for Jesus
To simply walk right into Golgotha, and not even raise a hand.

This was not the kind of leader they expected.

And on a violent Friday, all that remained of the Hosanna chorus
Were a dozen or so women, who waited till the end,
Their shouts of joy, now cries of grief.

Yes, Palm Sunday is a time of joy. But it is a tempered joy.

The story reveals that Jesus will not reclaim Jerusalem in the way we expect.

Jesus will not do what is easy. Jesus will do what he must.

And today, a surreal Palm Sunday,

We find ourselves entrapped in a virtual reality.

Our protest signs and social media posts have replaced

Our cloaks and branches.

And we too, want to shout loud Hosannas; "Save us!"

But just as Jesus had to go through Friday to get to Sunday, so must we.

Friday is going to be dark, and Saturday, too.

But the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it.

Sunday is coming!

Remember that, when the cheers die down,

When the palm branches wither and turn brown,

When the gathered scatter, when the faithful weep, when hope seems lost,

We are going to climb the hill!

Sunday is coming!

Hosanna! Keep singing! Sing loud hosannas!

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TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Pat Forward

Ushers: Brenda & John Muench

Greeters: Anne Heine

Technology: Mike & Gina Pierson

Council Stewards: Kurt Heine

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lydia Whitacre

Ushers: Pat Forward & Christine Staelens

Greeters: Donna Marsh

Technology: Josh Muench & Lorry Dreier

Council Stewards: Mary Lorber



Online giving

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NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

MAP TESTING SNACKS AND TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

We will be collecting snacks for teachers and students over the next few weeks! One cart is designated for MAP testing snacks for students and will be collected April 16. The other cart is for treats and goodies for Teacher Appreciation Week and will be collected May 5.

PAUSE TO COLOR 4/15

Adult coloring is quite popular right now; it's a great way to relax, meditate, and spiritually connect with the beauty of God's creation. A group of CUCC members and friends will be gathering the third Tuesday of each month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to color together! Our next gathering is April 15. Come join us!

AHL CARNIVAL 4/25

The Alpha Hart Lewis School Carnival is April 25, and CUCC has volunteered to staff the booths so that parents and teachers can enjoy the carnival with their children. If you would like to help, contact Llona Weiss.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Good Friday worship will feature a Tenebrae service and special music. Our Easter Sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. will be in the Shelter House, followed by breakfast provided by Men's Fellowship. Easter Egg hunt and games will start around 9:00 a.m. Our 10:30 a.m. worship service will feature the Chapel Ringers and Celebration Singers. We hope to see you this week for Holy Week!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	4/13	<i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
Mon	4/14	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	4/15	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Pause to Color	1:00 p.m.
		Personnel Committee	5:30 p.m.
		Church Council	6:30 p.m.
Wed	4/16	Good Dads at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary	7:00 a.m.
		Pastor Rick leads worship at The Bluffs	10:00 a.m.
		Taizé Service	5:30 p.m.
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Fri	4/18	Good Friday Worship	7:00 p.m.
Sun	4/20	<i>Easter</i>	
		Sunrise Service at the Shelter House	6:30 a.m.
		Breakfast by Men's Fellowship	7:30-9:00 a.m.
		Easter Egg Hunt and Games	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Sharon Elliott... on hospice

The family of Cheryl Cobb... on their loss (Carole Barner's sister)

Eloy Montenegro... loving his mother in her final days

Jerry Kiesling... mourning the loss of his uncle

Barry Kirchoff... health issues; more treatments this week

Joan Grout... health issues (Sue Ann Schaefer's cousin)

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Lloyd Mickelson, Lauren Helmreich

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher)

Ann Wilke (Alethea's mother)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece), Jennifer (Edie Diel's niece),

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter), Joanne Good (Sue Beckman's friend),

Marilyn Coronado (Corinne Remeika's friend)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves, Sharon Elliott, Harold Hackman

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? If you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or have a prayer request for our team to lift up please contact

Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 melbamaes@google.com

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:

Welcoming all God's Children;

Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;

Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;

Building a supportive church family;

***Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach***

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

213

*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

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

216

Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.

Matt. 21:8-9

1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
 2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da-vid's roy - al line,
 3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
 whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.

The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we, sing,

our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

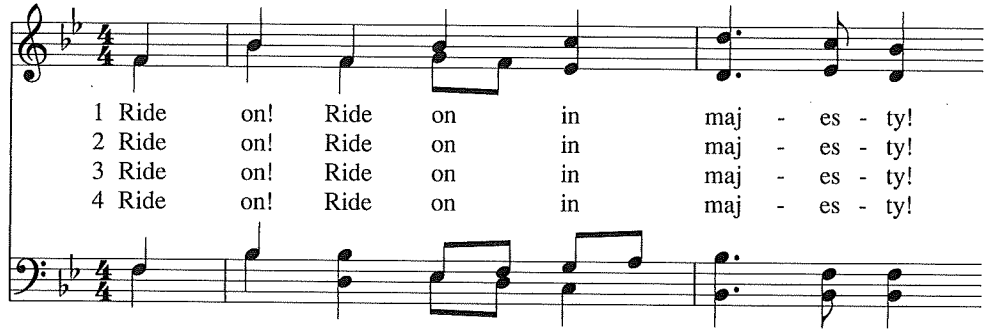
Brought to France by Charlemagne, Theodulph became bishop of Orléans but was later imprisoned by Charlemagne's successor. According to legend, he was released when the king, Louis the Pious, heard him sing this hymn from prison.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
 (VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
 Melchior Teschner, 1615
 For another setting, see 217

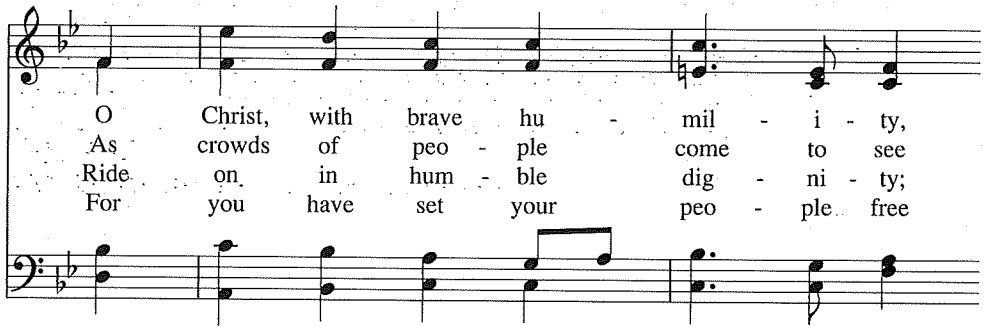
Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

Luke 19:36-38; Zech. 9:9

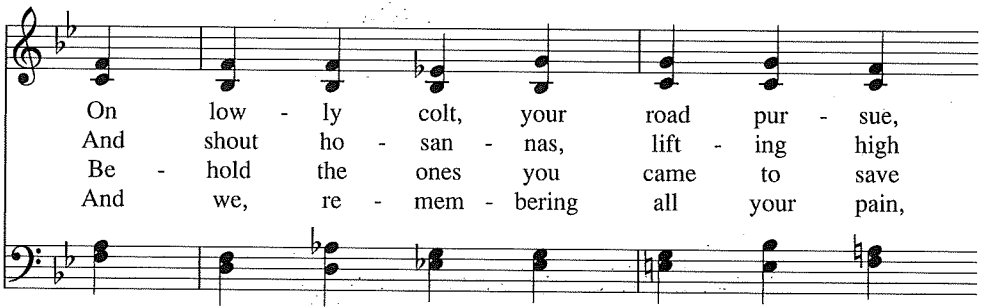
Henry H. Milman, 1827; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1993



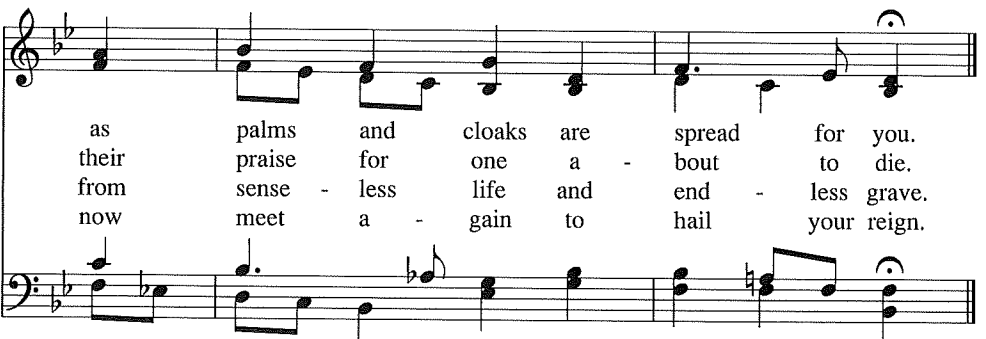
1 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 2 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 3 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 4 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!



O Christ, with brave hu - mil - i - ty,
 As crowds of peo - ple come to see
 Ride on in hum - ble dig - ni - ty;
 For you have set your peo - ple free



On low - ly colt, your road pur - sue,
 And shout ho - san - nas, lift - ing high
 Be - hold the ones you came to save
 And we, re - mem - bering all your pain,



as palms and cloaks are spread for you.
 their praise for one a - bout to die.
 from sense - less life and end - less grave.
 now meet a - gain to hail your reign.

Henry H. Milman, a priest of the Church of England, served successively as professor of poetry at Oxford, canon of Westminster, and dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. He was also a successful playwright and historian.

Tune: ST. DROSTANE L.M.

John B. Dykes, 1862

Alternate tune: WINCHESTER NEW

Psalm 118:1-9

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

3 Let the house of Aaron say, "His steadfast love endures forever." 4 Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

5 Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

6 With the LORD on my side I do not fear. What can mortals do to me? 7 The LORD is on my side to help me; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in mortals.

9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

John 12:20-26

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

Journey to Gethsemane

John 18:1-20:18

James Montgomery, 1820; alt.

1 Jour - ney to Geth - se - ma - ne, go and feel the
 2 Fol - low then to Pi - late's hall, view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb, see the Sav - ior
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb, hear the cry of

tempt - er's power; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 life ar - raigned; Crowned with thorns and mocked by all,
 lift - ed high, Mark the mir - a - cle of time,
 great sur - prise; Then the si - lence in the room,

watch the an - guish of this hour; Do not hide or
 faith - ful - ly this pain sus - tained; Great - er still than
 God's own Child is sac - ri - ficed; "It is fin - ished!"
 Je - sus there no long - er lies: Christ is ris - en!

turn a - way: learn from Je - sus how to pray.
 shame or loss, Je - sus now must face the cross.
 Je - sus cries: learn from Je - sus how to die.
 Re - al - ize that with Christ we, too, may rise.

James Montgomery, born of Moravian missionary parents, edited a newspaper in England. Risking imprisonment, he published articles advocating human rights, including the abolition of slavery. He wrote more than 400 hymns.

Tune: REDHEAD NO. 76 7.7.7.7.7.
 Richard Redhead, 1853

On a Hill Far Away

(The Old Rugged Cross)

Heb. 12:2; James 1:12

George Bennard, 1913; alt.

1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross, the
 2 Oh, that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world, has a
 3 In that old rug - ged cross, which bore Love so di - vine, a
 4 To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true, its

em - blem of suf - fering and shame; And I love that old cross where the
 won - drous at - trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left the
 won - drous beau - ty I see, For up - on that old cross Je - sus
 shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; When God calls me some-day to my

dear - est and best for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 glo - ry of heaven to bear it to cold Cal - va - ry.
 suf - fered and died to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
 home far a - way, there God's glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

Refrain

So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my
 cross, the old rug - ged cross,

After serving as an officer in the Salvation Army, George Bennard was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church. In the midst of his travels through the Midwest conducting revival services, he was inspired to write this hymn.

Tune: THE OLD RUGGED CROSS Ir.
 George Bennard, 1913

tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged
cross, the

cross, and ex - change it some-day for a crown.
old rug - ged cross,