

Palm / Passion Sunday

9:30AM, March 29th, 2026

Asterisk (*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

Lenten travelers, the journey to the cross begins with a procession into Jerusalem, a demonstration of Jesus' saving power.

We come to praise Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

The crowds line the path and shout "Hosanna! Save us!" as Jesus rides in, not on a mighty war horse, but on the backs of a donkey and a colt.

We come to call on Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

The city murmurs, wondering who this person is who demonstrates power through humility, strength without tyranny.

We come to witness Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

Lenten travelers, will you come on the journey to Jerusalem, following a Messiah who saves us to live after the pattern of the kin-dom of God, not the kingdoms of this world?

We come to follow Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

*HYMN "This Is The Day" **UMH # 657**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed **UMH # 881**

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Humble God, you have shown us the way to enter all the Jerusalems of this world. You showed us not to enter our lives with fear, but with humility and courage. As we worship this day, we draw upon your example of Jesus on that humble donkey, and we raise our palm branches in rejoicing! We raise our voices, shouting along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!" Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

O God, we sing and praise you, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise you too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets for our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us, and we turn against you, too busy to seek you, too selfish to obey you. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship you again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: The One who entered Jerusalem in humility now reigns in mercy and love. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**
The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SPECIAL MOMENT

Brenda, Joyce, Mike

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 21:1-11 (NRSV)

- 1 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,
- 2 saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me.
- 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."
- 4 This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet;
- 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."
- 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them;
- 7 they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?”

11 The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

MESSAGE “Hosanna! Save Us!” **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna, the Little Children Sang” **UMH # 278**

THE LORD'S PRAYER **UMH # 895**

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” **UMH # 95**

*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

Humble Savior, you ride into our lives not with force, but with invitation—calling us to follow, to risk, and to trust. As we bring these gifts, we confess we don't always understand where the road leads. But like those who laid down cloaks and waved palms, we offer what we have with hope in our hearts and praise on our lips. Use these offerings to proclaim your kingdom—where love confronts fear, and peace dares to speak in the shadow of power. Save us, Lord. Use us. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN “Here I Am, Lord” **UMH # 593**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.



Welcome to
Mendham United Methodist Church

www.mendhamumc.org

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

Palm / Passion Sunday

Sunday, March 29th, 2026



Entry into Jerusalem, 1530, Coecke van Aelst, Pieter, 1502-1550, Bonnefanten Museum, Painting, Maastricht, Netherlands

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

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