

Palm Sunday

9:30AM, April 13th, 2025

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

PRELUDE "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" UMH # 278

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!

We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!

We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!

The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save.

Open the gates of salvation, that we may come worship God whose steadfast love never fails!

*HYMN "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" UMH # 158

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed UMH # 881

OPENING PRAYER Unison

God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair to hope again. As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd, help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake. As the story unfolds, open us to both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Merciful God, with the psalmist, we declare, "Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them!" But we forget that only by your grace can we be righteous. With the crowds, we proclaim, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" But we neglect to follow you when you show us the ways to make peace on earth as it is in heaven. With the Pharisees, we notice our siblings doing their best to follow you and command, "Order them to stop!" But we refuse to listen to your command to love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us, merciful God, and free us to follow Jesus down the road into Jerusalem, confronting the death-dealing powers of this world with the truth of your peace and steadfast love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Holy One is gracious, helping us in times of sorrow and despair, forgiving even our worst trespasses. If the Lord God helps us, who will declare us guilty? In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:34-38 (NRSV)

34 They said, "The Lord needs it."

35 Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

37 Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen,

38 saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

Handbells Choir "Hosanna Loud Hosanna"
MESSAGE "Blessed Is the King Who Comes in the Name of the Lord!" Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" UMH # 277
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

God of Peace, who reigns in unexpected ways, we gather before you in this season of Lent, bringing our gifts as an offering of our hearts. Just as the crowd welcomed Jesus with shouts of praise, we offer our lives in service to your kingdom. Use these gifts to bring hope, healing, and love to a world longing for your peace. Guide us to give generously with joyful hearts, knowing that in our giving, we proclaim your reign of grace. Bless these offerings and all who give in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN "Here I Am, Lord" UMH # 593
*BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE "We Sang Our Glad Hosannas" TFWS # 2111

* 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

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Sunday, April 13th, 2025



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Los Angeles, CA, United States

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