



Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024



Wilbraham United Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ
and the United Methodist Church*

500 Main Street

Wilbraham MA 01095

Phone: (413)596-2511

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org

Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

10:00AM

We ask that everyone wear nametags so that we can be welcoming to all. There are listening devices available for those that may need them. An usher will be happy to assist you. Following the service, everyone is invited to our time of refreshments and friendship in our Fellowship Hall. Please make a left out of our sanctuary, down the hall, and up the stairs. If you are unable to use the stairs, an elevator is available.

GATHERING MUSIC

Organ: Festive Postlude on "St. Theodulph"

arr. D.E. Wagner

Bells: All Glory, Laud, and Honor

arr. J.W. Krug

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***GATHERING HYMN #280 (UMH)**

All Glory, Laud and Honor

During the hymn, those who wish may join the procession around the sanctuary waving palms

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marty Lyman

Liturgist: Behold our Lord who comes to us riding on a colt. Behold the One who comes to save us and to show us what true grace and humility really looks like.

People: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Our hearts are full as we celebrate the day of palms. Thanks be to God

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Merciful God,

You have shown us true faith and courage in Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem so long ago. You continue to show us those acts of wonder, strength and grace, which were exhibited by Our Lord throughout his public ministry. Help us to follow those ways of Jesus in our own lives. Help us to understand that our faith promises risk as well as triumph, but as long as we stay faithful, as long as we stay close to you, Oh God, we will be victorious in our living and in our life anew. Amen

***SONG OF PRAISE #280 - Refrain (UMH)**

*All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus Is Riding
Junior Choir

arr. N.L. Butler-Moore

MOMENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 118: 19-29

Liturgist: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

People: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

Liturgist: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Liturgist: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

People: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Liturgist: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

People: O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Liturgist: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: We bless you from the house of the Lord.

Liturgist: The Lord is God, and who has given us light.

People: Lead the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

Liturgist: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

People: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

MUSICAL OFFERING

You Are My King
Praise Band

B. J. Foote

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Response:

*Breath of God, Breath of peace, Breath of love, Breath of life,
Breath of justice, Breath of passion, Breath creating, Breath of healing,
Breath of singing, Breath of praying, Come upon us, come restore us,
Come inspire us, Breath of God.*

GOSPEL READING

Mark 11: 1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' " They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

SERMON

The Day of Palms

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #278 (UMH)**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Hosanna to the Son of David

L. Shackley

Chancel Choir with Derek Beston, Trumpet

***Doxology #298 vs. 4 (UMH)**

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;

Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Prayer of Dedication

***PARTING HYMN - see insert**

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

***FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ## 666 (UMH)**

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.

May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,

Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Organ: Ellacombe

arr. A.L. Travis

**All who are able to stand, may do so.*

The altar flowers this morning are given in loving memory of our father, Alan Peck, from Alesia and Wendy

Welcome Visitors! *Is this your first visit to United Church? If you wish to be contacted by a member of the church or our pastor, please leave your contact information with one of the ushers or place a visitor card in the collection plate. We invite you to join us in our time of Fellowship after the service. Our ushers or a member of the ministry team will be happy to accompany you and help you find your way!*

UMH – The “red” United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS – The “small black” book Faith We Sing Hymnal

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.

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical and Artistic Director: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Kim Ryan, Skip Dearborn

Liturgist: Marty Lyman

Greeters: Larry and Sandy Harris



Please Pray For: Catherine Tucker, Connie Law, Shey McAbee, Michelle McBride, Sharon McAbee, Jim Trimble, Bill McCullough, Catherine Gardner, The victims of violence and their families in our country. Our troops, our country and our world.



Wilbraham United Church Staff

Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind: Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103

Deb Trimble: Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x100

Bobbie Morkin: Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106

“News for the Pews” for the Week of March 24, 2024

Order Forms for **Easter Flowers** are available in the Narthex. Orders are due into the Church Office by Tuesday March 26th.

Requests for **Name Tags** should be emailed to (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) or left in writing in the office. Deb will be happy to create new or replacement name tags!

There are still plenty of Sundays available for which **Altar Flower** sponsorship is needed. If you'd like to dedicate the flowers on Sunday morning to a loved one please choose a date on the calendar in the narthex. Flowers are \$30 and you may choose either a single or a double arrangement. For further details please see Edna Colcord.

Each week, usually on Thursday, an **“all church email”** is sent out with important information, upcoming events and other items of church interest. If you are not receiving these emails, please email Deb at admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org, and she will add you to the email list!

News from

CHURCH COUNCIL

Many hands make light work

...and we need many more hands!!!

Our Church Council has many current open positions and will have even more come June.

Without help, WUC will struggle to continue several missions and programs

Time commitments range from weekly tasks, to a few hours a month and even as needed.

For more info, please reach out to:

Rev. Janet and/or Kim Ryan

A WILBRAHAM UNITED PLAYERS PRODUCTION

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD

A MUSICAL BY RUPERT HOLMES

ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION PRODUCED BY THE NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, JOSEPH PAPP, PRODUCER

FELLOWSHIP HALL STAGE AT
WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH
500 MAIN ST. WILBRAHAM MA

APRIL 12, 13, 19, 20 AT 7:30 PM
APRIL 14 & 21 AT 2:30 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.WILBRAHAMUNITEDPLAYERS.ORG/BUY-TICKETS

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF OF TAMS-WITMARK LLC.
WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.ORG

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MARCH 24 - PALM SUNDAY SERVICE AT 10 A.M.

MARCH 28 - MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE AT 7 P.M.

MARCH 29 - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT 12 P.M.

MARCH 31 - EASTER SERVICE AT 10 A.M.



All are welcome

**Wilbraham United Church
500 Main Street
Wilbraham, MA**

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, March 24, 2024

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Hour (FH)

1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, March 25, 2024

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers

5:15 p.m. – Girl Scouts (TS)

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

11:00 a.m. – Staff meeting (office)

6:00 p.m. – Discipleship (ZR)

**6:30 p.m. – Boy Scouts (SS Rooms,
TS, Youth Rm)**

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Church Office 10:30 – 3:30

6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

**7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday
Service (Sanctuary)**

Friday, March 29, 2024

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

9:30 a.m. – WUP (FH)

**12:00 p.m. – Good Friday Service
(Sanctuary)**

Saturday, March 30, 2024

9:00 a.m. – WUP (FH)

10:00 a.m. – Junior Choir (CR)

Sunday, March 31, 2024

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt

WANTED!

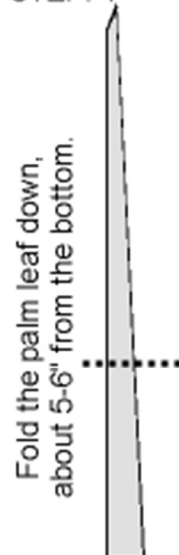


Candy to fill Easter eggs for the egg hunt

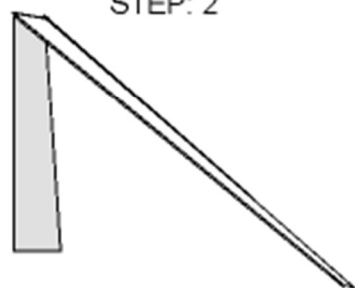
Palm Leaf Cross Directions

Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end.

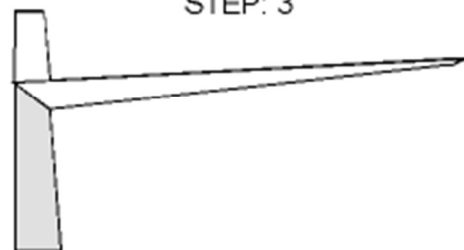
STEP: 1



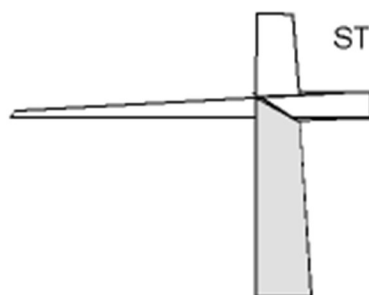
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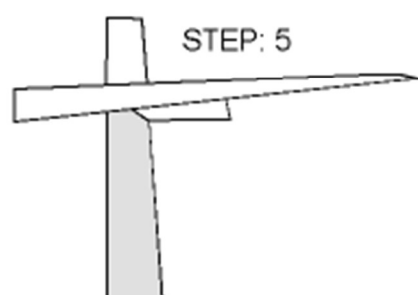
STEP: 3



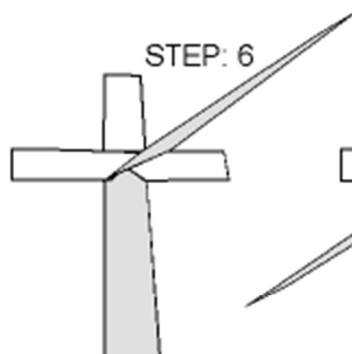
STEP: 4



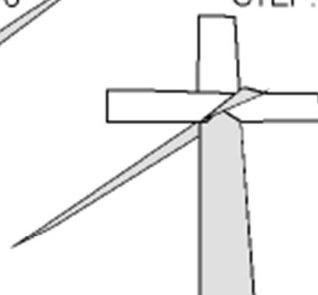
STEP: 5



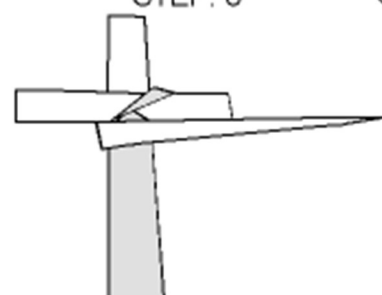
STEP: 6



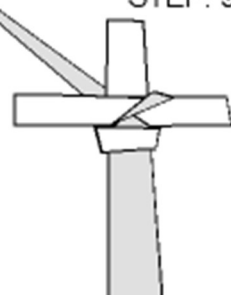
STEP: 7



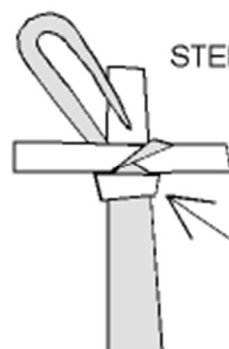
STEP: 8



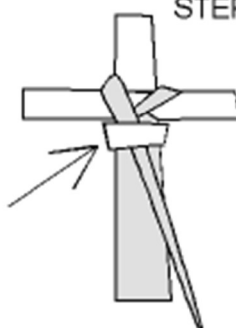
STEP: 9



STEP: 10

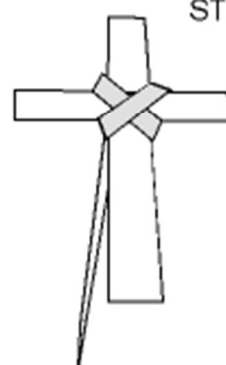


STEP: 11



Tuck in the tapered end of the palm leaf and pull it through.

STEP: 12



Turn the cross over. This is the front view.

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
Holy Week
from Mark 11:1-11,
14:1-15:47.



Passion/
Palm Sunday

Jesus is on the move!

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Jerusalem • Bethany
- Garden of Gethsemane • Mount of Olives

The Gospel of Mark has three different endings, two of which are in the NRSV. One version ends at Mark 16:8. The other goes on for another ten verses. A lot happens in those ten verses, too! Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene and two disciples, commissions the disciples, and ascends into heaven. Which ending do you like better?

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 454-459, 462-473, 476-481

Spark Bible page 1115, 1119-1124

Family Prayer

Dear God, sometimes it's hard to know where we're going. We can feel uneasy and scared when we're in a new place. Help us remember how Jesus traveled and loved everyone he met. Help us trust in you in all of our travels. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 How do you think Jesus got from place to place? How do you get around from place to place?
- 2 Jesus was greeted like a king when he entered Jerusalem. Have you ever been greeted warmly at a new place? Where was it? How did you feel?
- 3 Are there new people traveling through your community? How can you help them feel welcome?
- 4 Jesus traveled to a lot of different places in today's story. Why do you think he traveled to so many places? Where has your family traveled? Have you ever needed to make a sad journey to attend a funeral?



Eye Spark

Whenever you see a license plate from another state or province, take a moment to say a prayer for their safe travel.



Ear Spark

When you hear someone say "Hello" or welcome a friend, remember what the crowds said when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Looking for something to do with your palm branch after the service? You can weave your branches to make designs. To learn how, do some internet research for "palm branch braiding" or ask a crafty member of your church for ideas.

For younger kids

Go online to learn how to praise someone in sign language. To say, "Praise Jesus," touch your right index finger to your nose, clap your hands twice over your left shoulder, and touch each palm once with the other hand's middle finger.

For older kids

Go online and research what the city of Jerusalem looked like in Jesus' time. How big was it? Was it bigger or smaller than where you live?



Lectionary, Holy Week Family Page, Spark™ Sunday School
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Some people asked "Who is this that we see?"
"It's Jesus, the prophet from Galilee!"
Blessed is His name - He who loves you and me!
Praises and songs I'll still sing to Thee!

