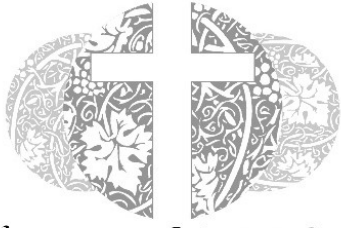


*Palm  
Sunday*



*April 13, 2025*



*Wilbraham United Church*  
"I am the vine, you are the branches."

# 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](http://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)

[Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch](https://Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch)

**April 13, 2025**

**Palm Sunday**

**10:00AM**

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*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.*

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

## **GATHERING MUSIC**

Piano: Triumphal Entry

E. Butler

Bells: Celebration and Dance Hosanna! Hosanna!

C. Moglebust

## **WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

### **WELCOME**

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

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Theresa Munn**

Liturgist: Hosanna!

**People: Hosanna in the highest!**

Liturgist: Blessed is the One who comes in humility and in triumph. Blessed is the One who gave himself in ransom for the world.

**People: Behold our Savior, who comes to us riding a lowly colt, yet bears the burden for our transgressions.**

Liturgist: Behold, Christ has come.

**People: And Christ will come again.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Eternal God, You show yourself to us in marvelous and mysterious ways. Your whisper has far more power than the clanging noise of those who call themselves mighty. Your creative works declare your presence and are finely woven. Speak to us we pray, that we may know your will for us. Show us how to live in a way that is truly life-serving and good. Help us to model the love and humility shown to us in the life and death of our Lord, Jesus. And as he rides towards us, let us meet your son with gladness, and let us serve like he, all our days. 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

### MOMENT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

### RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 118: 1-2 19-29

Liturgist: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

People: Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

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.

## 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 #488 (UMH)**

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

## GOSPEL READING

**Luke 19: 28-40**

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 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, saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

**One:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

**SERMON**

*Palm Sunday Meditation*

Rev. Janet

**\*HYMN #278 (UMH)**

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

**OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

Invitation to Give

Offertory

A Palm Sunday Calypso

arr. M. Hayes

*Chancel Choir with Stacy Gilmour, flute*

**\*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: Hosanna Fanfare (Festive Voluntary for Palm Sunday)

D. Lasky

**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*

## MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

**Pastor:** Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

**Music Director:** Roberta Morkin

**Technical and Artistic Director:** Deb Trimble

**Ushers:** Kim Ryan, Steven Mattocks

**Liturgist:** Theresa Munn

**Greeters:** Gail & Chris Lima



*The altar flowers this morning are given in honor of our granddaughter, Carolyn Averill, by Marjorie and Jim Trimble.*



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

*If you are in need of Pastoral Care, please contact Rev. Janet or the Church Office.  
After office hours, Rev. Janet can be reached at (978)350-3463.*

## Wilbraham United Church Staff

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

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

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

## “News for the Pews” for the Week of April 13, 2025

The Discipleship Team is accepting donations of individually wrapped candy to stuff the eggs for our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**. Donations can be dropped off in the church office or given to a member of the Discipleship Team on or before April 16th.

## 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.

## *This Week at Wilbraham United Church*

### *Sunday, April 13, 2025*

*Palm Sunday*

- 10:00 a.m. – Worship**
- 11:15 a.m. – Junior Choir (CR)**
- 11:15 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)**
- 11:30 a.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)**
- 1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**
- 5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)**

### *Monday, April 14, 2025*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers**
- 7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Tuesday, April 15, 2025*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)**

### *Wednesday, April 16, 2025*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting**
- 5:15 – Discipleship Comm. (ZR)**
- 6:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts (TS, SSR)**
- 7:00 p.m. – Praise Band (Sanc)**

### *Thursday, April 17, 2025*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 9:20 a.m. – Loaves and Fishes**
- 7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Service**

### *Friday, April 18, 2025*

*Church Office closed*

- 12:00 p.m. – Good Friday Service**

### *Saturday, April 19, 2025*

*Church Office closed*

### *Sunday, April 20, 2025*

*Easter*

- 10:00 a.m. – Worship**
- 11:15 a.m. – Egg Hunt**
- 11:15 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)**

*Please note that the church will be closed on Monday April 21 for the holiday*





# Repair the Roof

## Be a Shingle Sponsor!

Sponsorship is \$50 and will include your name on our Repair the Roof Dedication List proudly displayed in our church!

Donations are tax-deductible!

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Wilbraham, MA 01095  
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A graphic for the Holy Week Schedule. On the left, there is a wooden cross on a light grey background, with green palm fronds on either side. Below the cross is a circular logo for Wilbraham United Church with the text "I am the vine, you are the branches." The right side of the graphic has a purple background with white and yellow text.

**Wilbraham United Church**  
Holy Week Schedule

APRIL 13 - PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 A.M.  
APRIL 17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP 7 P.M.  
APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP 12 NOON  
APRIL 20 - EASTER WORSHIP 10 A.M.

**All are welcome! All are invited!**

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## READ IT

This week's Bible story is

### **Holy Week**

from Luke 19:28-40; 22:14—23:56.



Passion/Palm Sunday

### **Joy and sadness are woven together in Jesus' life and death.**

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Parade
- Palm Branches
- Crowds
- Crown of Thorns
- Cross
- Jesus

Death by crucifixion sometimes took days. The Romans put crosses in public places like roadsides. They left people to die as a reminder to others.

### **Read the whole story together in the Bible!**

Spark Story Bible pages 454-459 and 476-481

Spark Bible pages 1159-1160 and 1163-1167

### **Family Prayer**

Say this prayer around a cross.

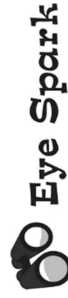
**Dear God, we thank you for always working for good even in the midst of things that are so terrible. We thank you for the joy in our lives and we thank you that you are with us when things are hard. In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN.**

## TALK ABOUT IT



### **Family Conversations**

- 1 Tell about a parade you have seen.
- 2 What is the joyful part of this story? What is the sad part?
- 3 Look in your Spark Story Bible. Are there other parts that belong to the story of Holy Week?
- 4 Find a small cross that is easy to hold. Use it to retell this story together. Have one person start by holding the cross and telling the story of the Palm Sunday parade. Stop part way into the story and pass the cross to someone else. Continue the story before passing the cross again. Keep going until you've told the whole story of Holy Week.



### **Eye Spark**

When you see a cross, remember this story of how Jesus died. (Also remember that he did not stay dead!)



### **Ear Spark**

Whenever you hear the name "Jesus", think "...loves me!"

## LIVE IT

### **For families to do together**

Make something for your home that tells the story of Holy Week. Maybe it is a piece of art, or a table centerpiece, or a bracelet. What colors and symbols can you use to tell this story?

### **For younger kids**

Using fingerpaints, tell someone the stories of Holy Week as you paint. Paint the palms and the parade, the crown of thorns, and the cross. What colors will you use?

### **For older kids**

Using a video camera, make a short movie of this story without using any people, people figures, or voices. What symbols can you use? What colors? What kinds of music?

