

CALENDAR

MONDAY, April 3		<b>SATURDAY, April 8</b>
Church Office	9:30-2:30	
Chair Yoga (New Hall)	9:30-10:45	
AA	6:30-7:30	<b>SUNDAY, April 9</b>
TUESDAY, April 4		
Church Office	9:30-2:30	
WEDNESDAY, April 5		EASTR SUNDAY
Church Office Open	9:30-2:30	<b>Sunrise Worship</b> 6:00 a.m.
Prayer Circle	9 a.m.	<b>Festival Worship</b> 10:00 a.m.
AA Women's Group	6:30—8 p.m.	<b>Sunday School</b> 10:15 a.m.
THURSDAY, April 6		REMINDER: If you holding a meeting at Cotuit Federated Church, please let the office know so we can avoid scheduling conflicts. Thank you in advance for your help!
Church Office Open	9:30-2:30	
BET Meeting	8:30 a.m.	
MAUNDY THURSDAY	6:30 p.m.	
FRIDAY, April 7		
Church Office	9:30-2:30	
GOOD FRIDAY	12:00 p.m.	
AA	7:00 p.m.	



# PALM SUNDAY

We are an Open and  
Affirming/Reconciling  
Congregation  
of the  
United Church of Christ  
and the  
United Methodist Church.

No matter who you are  
or where you are  
on your faith journey,  
you are welcome  
at the  
Cotuit Federated Church!



**Sunday, April 2 | 10 o'clock in the morning**

40 School Street | Post Office Box 436 | Cotuit, MA 02635

[www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org](http://www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org) | 508-428-6163



**seeking:**  
honest questions  
for deeper faith



from the artist | Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

In their book, *The Last Week*, theologians Marcus Borg and John Crossman assert that there were actually two parades occurring simultaneously in Jerusalem on this day. From the east, Jesus entered on a donkey. From the west, the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, entered with an imperial guard. They write: “Jesus’ procession proclaimed the kingdom of God; Pilate’s proclaimed the power of empire. The two processions embody the central conflict of the week that led to Jesus’ crucifixion.” This image is a meditation on these opposing processions and the embodiment of power. Pilate processes with a pompous display of armor, accompanied by soldiers. For him, power is displayed by superiority, elitism, and weaponry. Later in the week, he will use his power to satisfy the crowds willing Jesus to be crucified, despite not finding any offense to justify it (read John 18 & 19). He uses his power for violence, to appease the status quo. Jesus enters the city on a donkey with her young colt in tow. He wears no armor, only soft linens. In this image, I imagine if the composition were expanded, Jesus would be kneeling, humbling himself before his disciples as he washes their feet. In Jesus’ processional, members of the crowd lay down their coats as a display of humility and honor. This foreshadows the way Jesus will take off his outer robe and tie a towel around his waist to wash his friends’ feet. Jesus embodies power through a posture of vulnerability, through caring for those who desperately need love. Which parade you would join in Jerusalem has a lot to say about your definition of power. When have you embodied power through vulnerability and love for your neighbor?

**GUEST INFORMATION:** Thank you for worshipping with us today! Pick up a welcome brochure to learn more about our church. Join us for coffee hour following today’s worship — just follow the crowd to our community room (Bruce Hall). Both our sanctuary and community room are handicapped-accessible at the High Street entrance. Handicapped parking is available on High Street and in the driveway to Bruce Hall. Please ask a Greeter or Deacon to answer any questions.

**FELLOWSHIP PADS:** Whenever you have questions or comments, feel free to note them in the red fellowship pads available at each pew. Everyone — guests and regular attenders alike — are asked to sign the fellowship pads when passed during the Offering. If you are a first time visitor, please include your email or physical mailing address.

**PRAYER CARDS:** You will find prayer request cards at the Welcome Center and in the pew racks. You are invited to fill out a card and place it in the offering basket. If you want your request included in next Sunday’s bulletin, please check the appropriate box.

**OUR E-LIST:** The “Weekly Word” is an e-mail newsletter for our members and friends. If you do not receive it and would like to, please complete the New Comer form available in the Welcome Packet, or call the Church Office at (508) 428-6163 or e-mail [cfc436@gmail.com](mailto:cfc436@gmail.com) to sign up.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** If you would like to donate flowers on any given Sunday, please sign up on the Sign-Up Sheet or contact Shannon in the office—(508) 428-6163— with your dedication.

*Please join us today for coffee and refreshments following the service.*

## TODAY’S SERVERS

Ministers: *The People of Cotuit Federated Church*  
Pastor: *Rev. Angela Menke Ballou* | Director of Music: *Megan Anthony*  
Deacon: *Carol-Jean O’Toole* | Worship Steward: *Micheal O’ Toole*  
Lay Reader: *Carol-Jean O’Toole* | Greeters: *Bruce & Ally Murphy*  
Director of Christian Education: *Lynne Belfiore*  
Admin. Assistant for Ministry: *Shannon Boon* | Sexton: *Mark Eames*

Thank you to all who served today!

## TODAY’S HAPPENINGS

- Sunday school
- Coffee hour following service

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIRACLE KITCHEN & FAITH FAMILY KITCHEN:  
**Thursday, April 13, Wednesday, April 19, Tuesday, April 25th**  
The Salvation Army (100 North Street, Hyannis) is back up and running. Miracle Kitchen food will be prepared there on the 2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday of each month. The Faith Family Kitchen is also back and is the 3rd Wednesday of the month 4:30 –7 p.m. For more information about volunteering for either of these wonderful programs, contact Ken Molloy at [kmacape@comcast.net](mailto:kmacape@comcast.net).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SNACK SERVICES  
**Tuesday, April 25th**  
Moving forward on the **4th Tuesday** of each month. Donations of **MUFFINS and COOKIES** can be dropped off at the church by the Monday before the Tuesday service. If you can donate please contact Jack and Susan Gardner at [gardnersj54@gmail.com](mailto:gardnersj54@gmail.com) or 508-420-0173 .

## \*CLOSING HYMN

*Please join in singing.*

### **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

Hosanna, loud hosanna  
the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple  
the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them,  
close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises,  
the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed  
mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving,  
and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children  
should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer,  
the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence  
eternally rejoice.

## WORSHIP CELEBRATION

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### PRELUDE & WELCOME

### WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

### PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Passing of the Peace is the oldest part of the Christian liturgy and is a special way we welcome each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. At this time due to COVID, you are invited to participate by crossing your hands over your heart, waving or giving the sign of the peace.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION *Carol-Jean O'Toole*

One: We come to worship on a day filled with mixed emotions:

**All: celebration and shouts of 'Hallelujah!', entrance into the city of Jerusalem, a beating drum of judgement coming closer for Jesus.**

One: We come to worship at the start of a week filled with mixed emotions:

**All: precious moments with friends, hospitality and food, betrayal and corruption, trial and execution.**

One: We come this hour filled with mixed emotions:

**All: singing in praise with palm branches waving, weeping in despair at innocence snuffed out, yet still we come.**

**Holy God, Sometimes it's hard to hear you over the hosannas.**

**Sometimes it's hard to hear you over the noise of city streets.**

**Sometimes it's hard to hear you over our racing thoughts, our mental to-do lists, or our desire to fit in.**

**Sometimes it is hard to hear you in this noisy world.**

**So just as you stopped traffic in Jerusalem, stop traffic here.**

**Pause the rush. Open the gates. Dwell among us, until your Word is all we can hear. We are listening. We are laying down our cloaks.**

**Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*Please join in singing.*

**All Glory Laud And Honor**

All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel  
and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming,  
the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels  
is praising you on high;  
and we with all creation  
in chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present.

To you before your passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises,  
accept the prayers we bring,  
for you delight in goodness,  
O good and gracious King!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Carol-Jean O'Toole*

One: We believe that God loves us—  
**Many: God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.**

One: We believe that God does not give up on us—  
**Many: breathing new life into tired bones.**

One: We believe that God returns to us—  
**Many: always seeking us when we are lost.**

One: We believe that God holds hope for us—  
**Many: so we hold onto hope as well.**

One: We believe, help our unbelief.  
**All: In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Please join in singing.*

**\*\*\*HYMN/LYRICS ON NEXT PAGE\*\*\***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Liturgy Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed for A Sanctified Art*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Hymn of Preparation

*The Lord's Prayer TFWS#2278*

*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.*

### Invitation

### Prayer of Consecration

### Words of Institution

### Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### *Prayer in Song*

*Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him  
And say that we love Him  
Open our ears Lord  
And Help us to listen  
Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus*

### Gathering of the Prayer

### *Prayer in Song*

## OFFERTORY

### Invitation to Offering

### \*Doxology:

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow,  
Praise God all creature here below,  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

### \*Prayer of Dedication

CHORAL ANTHEM

**Hosanna, We Sing!**

*Stan Pethel*

(CHILDREN TO BE DISMISSED)

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

*lay reader*

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

GOSPEL LESSON

*Rev. Angela Menke Ballou*

Matthew 21: 1-11

SERMON

*Rev. Angela Menke Ballou*

**Where Are You Headed?**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Carol-Jean O'Toole*

One: As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

**All: God, forgive us for the times when we do not trust your word and do not follow where you lead. We long to be the ones who can go into the village ahead of you. Forgive us when we play it safe.**

One: This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

"Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

**All: God, forgive us for forgetting that you are always coming toward us. You are drawing near, like a king on a donkey. Help us find you in our midst.**

One: The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

**All: Creator God, forgive us for the moments when we choose greed over generosity, or when we choose our self-image over our loyalty to you. Give us the courage to be unabashed in our faith. Give us the strength to throw our coats on the road.**

One: The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"  
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"  
"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

**All: Son of David, give us the conviction to shout your name from the rooftop. Give us the wisdom to sing, "Hosanna!"**

One: When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

**All: With hope in our hearts we pray to you, Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.**  
**Amen.**

(Continued On Next Page)