

# **APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

**Palm Sunday**

**March 24, 2024**

**11:00 a.m.**

## **We Gather in God's Name**

**PRELUDE** "Ride on, Ride on in Majesty" D. Paxton

### **WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Joyce Wildi

Leader: With crowds from ancient times we cry,

**People: Hosanna! Save us!**

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is Good!

**People: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

**People: We bless you in the house of the Lord!**

Leader: Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,

**People: Humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

Leader: Let us worship the living God!

**PROCESSIONAL** Hymn #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"  
*Featuring our Chapel Bells*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Merciful God, as we enter this Holy Week of Lent, solemnly gathered at your house of prayer, we turn our hearts toward Jerusalem. We want to walk the way with Jesus, to be present each step from the Mount of Olives to the cross to the empty tomb. And yet we fall away. Forgive our stubborn resistance to Christ's work and witness. Inspire us by your Spirit to follow in his way, until we enter with him into the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: The one who rode into Jerusalem to cheering crowds knew that the cross awaited. In this way, we might know the great love of God for us. Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, has defeated sin forever.

**People: Hear and believe this good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### **\*GLORIA PATRI #581**

### **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

#### **We Listen to God's Word**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**GOSPLE LESSON** MARK 11:1-11 NT p. 47

### **SPECIAL MUSIC from our CHILDREN'S CHOIRS**

Jesus Loves Me, *Claire Brooks piano* ~ ~ ~ Amazing Grace

### **MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER**

**EPISTLE LESSON** Philippians 2:5-11 NT p. 197

**SERMON** "An Odd Parade"

#### **We Respond to God's Word**

**\*HYMN #196** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*from Confession of 1967*) insert

### **BIRTHDAYS**

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER** p. 35

### **OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

Offertory “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare” F. Ritter

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Gratitude for God’s Abundance

*We Go Forth to Serve*

\*HYMN #618 “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” vv. 1,3,5

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “My Song Is Love Unknown” setting by W. Held

\*Please stand in body or spirit

*Wrapping our community in God’s love, one person at a time.*

*We believe that we are all ministers supported by:*

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Wed. & Fri. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail [pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net)

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

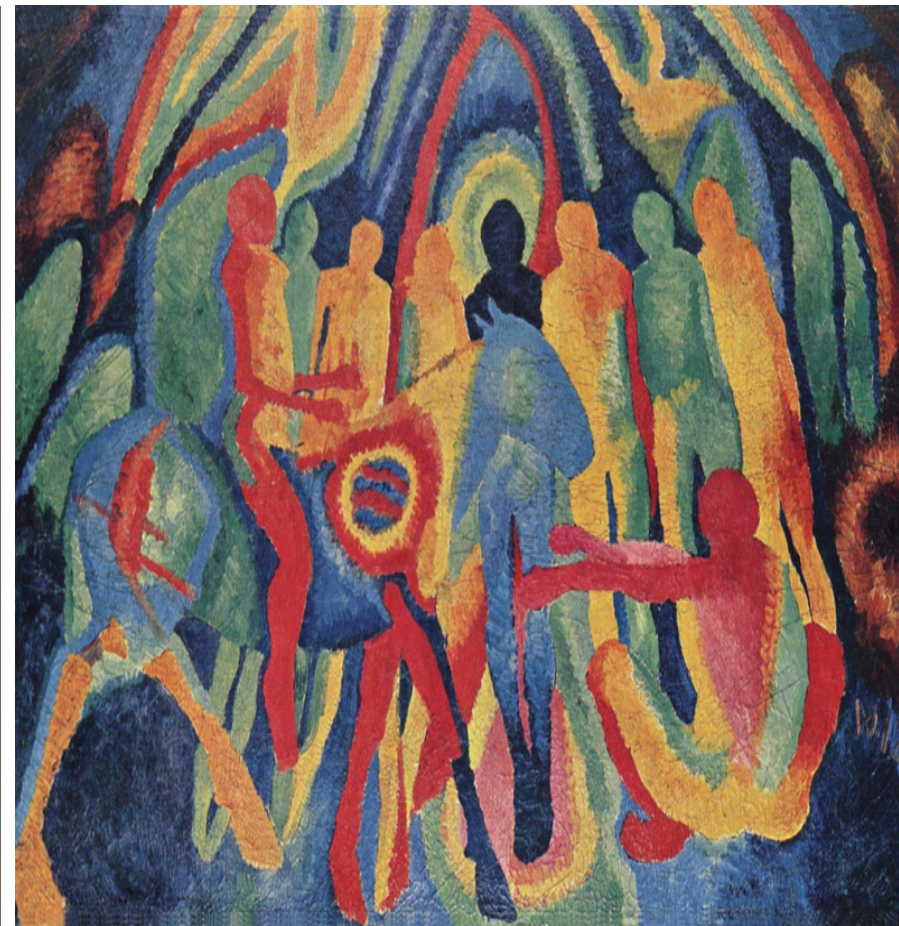
Dan Tomlinson, Custodian

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Website: [www.apollopresby.org](http://www.apollopresby.org) E-mail [office@aupc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@aupc.comcastbiz.net)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday – 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM



**TODAY’S ACOLYTE: HUNTER HANUS**

**Community Compassion**

When food is given out from our emergency pantry, normally we also give out one or two \$15 Naser vouchers. Up to \$15 worth of food items that we cannot provide, lunchmeat, milk, etc., can be purchased at Naser's and Bill Naser is to bill AUPC for that amount. **Since the voucher method has been initiated, Bill has discounted nearly \$2,000 instead of billing us. Bill's generosity has been a blessing for AUPC and our community.**

**“Entry of Christ into Jerusalem”**

**Museum am Ostwall**

**Dortmund, Germany**

Wilhelm Morgner, a German Expressionist painter, trained for the clergy, although he quickly turned to painting as his calling. His close identification with Jesus Christ manifested itself in works that expressed his powerful understanding of the Passion, exemplified here by his color-saturated vision of the Entry into Jerusalem. Sadly, he died a young man, one of millions, on the fields of Flanders during World War I. Still, his discipline to his work left enough paintings to allow reflection upon the creative response to a deep faith and love of Jesus Christ.

## WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Dolores Hilty  
Scott and Apryl Hodges  
Faith Friend: Nick and Sue Arnoldy  
Our Church: Session  
Church(s): Schrader Grove & Freeport Churches  
Rwanda Partner: Rambli Pastor: Adam Clever  
Presbytery: Redstone (Synod of The Trinity)  
Denomination: Christian Church Disciples of Christ in USA  
Nation: Venezuela - Caracas

**IMMEDIATE** *Butch and Donna Schrecengost, Clarissa Dill Family, Joelene, Family and friends of Jane Perkins, 8-yr-old John, Kim Altmire, Tim Kanish, Sam Deliek, Candy Graham and family, Bill Schriber family, Cathy Piper-Bikle, Chelsea, Nancy Campitella, Cathy, family of Dorothy Hancock, Eddie, Scott and Nancy Hubbard.*

**CONTINUING** *Matt, Soup donations ☺, patient with kidney disease, Carol Kopnicki ☺, Sidney Jones family, Linda Gould, Ann Cloonan, Dwayne S. traveling mercies & also for Stephanie's brother, Charlie Kukalis family, Florence Truffa family. Mike Mollick, Jackie, Roberta, Tina, Melissa, Sue, Brenna Knox.*

**ONGOING** Donnie Riggle, Jim Crawford, Marge Barnat, Gary Harkcom, Donna Fry, Matt Summerhill, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, Mary Harbison, LaRue Mumaw, Chris Hilker, Carol Gallagher, Linda Gould, Snedecor family, Alan Shockey, Bonnie Machak, Lani Knox, Nick Arnoldy, Benjamin Mumaw, Sean George.

**MINISTRY** All those affected by the Coronavirus and those working in the health care field, first responders, research, and government. Food 4 Kids, AUPC Deacon's Emergency Fund, Support for our church, EPR Mugombwa; Victims of violence and natural disasters; President Joe Biden, our country, other world leaders, our church and its leaders, the war & military personnel, wounded military at home and in hospitals, terrorist victims, Kiskiminetas' Rwanda Partnership.

**Soon you will be seeing new (traffic) signs on the church property. This is to limit some of the liberties our neighbors have been taking regarding our property. The signs are meant to protect church property and reduce our liability in the event of accidents. The signs will also be a means of protecting unattended children who use the church property without permission and will help to protect the children in our programs and participants in the DanceClik. For members or friends of AUPC, we will allow non-church hour parking with prior notice and permission. If you have a need to use our parking lot for an extended period of time, please contact the office. Thank you, Building and Grounds**

## March 24, 2024 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>SUNDAY</u>	Worship ~ PALM SUNDAY <b>Children's Choir &amp; Palms</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<u>MONDAY</u>	Youth Group	<b>6:30 PM</b>
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	Crafters <b>Mail Newsletter</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>9:30 AM</b>
	Prayer Shawl Knitters	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<b>Maundy Thursday Service</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<u>SUNDAY</u>	<b>Easter Sunday Worship</b> <b>(no Sunday school)</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<u>MONDAY</u>	Easter Monday-April 1-Office Closed	

### COMMUNION SERVERS

**Maundy Thursday: Vivian Shaeffer**

**Sunday, March 31, Easter: Scott Hollabaugh, Bill Speer,  
Amy Zukas, Laura Uncapher**

**Sunday, April 7: Derek Hilty, Shelly Hilty, Mariana Shurina,  
Sam Mullooly**

### SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS

**March 24 ~ Laura Uncapher and Shelly Hilty**

**EASTER, March 31 ~ Shelly Hilty and**

**April 7 ~ Bill Speer and Shelly Hilty**

**April 14 ~ Laura Uncapher and Amy Zukas**

***A special welcome to our visitors.*** If you are seeking Christ, we trust you will find Him; if you are sorrowing, we pray you will receive comfort; if you are troubled in spirit, we pray you will gain the blessings of peace; if you are discouraged, we pray you will find hope in our Lord. If you are seeking a spiritual home, we invite you to consider uniting with us.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

### COMING UP!

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE with COMMUNION

7:00 PM @ AUPC on March 28.

This is a joint service with BSPC and included is a covered dish dinner, downstairs, at 6 PM.

EASTER SUNDAY ~ March 31 ~ OGHS Offering



We're not quite penniless, but we're almost centsless and we have a counting and rolling day planned for Sunday, May 5 after worship!

HELP!! We're still trying to collect a mile of pennies for Havin. Please add your 2 cents to this project so we can continue "rolling" this project along. And, to "coin" a phrase, "a penny saved is a penny earned", but a mile of pennies does some saving.

*Thank you, Christian Ed*



The Session has approved a spaghetti dinner for Thursday, April 11, 2024. Volunteers are needed for the dinner, but we also need the support of the congregation, friends and family to make the fundraiser a success! So please put the event on your calendars!

I have a reservation sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Reservations will not be necessary, but they sure do help in planning!

Also, there is a sheet to sign up for volunteering to help with the event, also in the vestibule. If you are able to help, please let us know. We will need people to make desserts, to set up, to clean up and to help serve the meals. All help is appreciated. Last year's dinner brought in over \$1,700! Let's try and top that! See you all at the dinner!

Thanks, Amy Shupe

### 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY DANCE

Saturday, April 13 ~ 6 - 8 PM



If you're a 2 person family or your family can fill a van, **ALL families** are welcome to dance the night away.

More information will be available closer to the date. Hope **YOU** can come!

### **A Note on Holy Week Scriptural References to “The Jews”**

As Christians, we live under the burden of a sad and violent history of anti-Semitism, in the sobering shadow of the Shoah (Holocaust), and with the painful awareness of current events in Israel/Palestine. It is important to us to be clear about what our sacred texts mean when they make reference to “the Jews,” especially during Holy Week, when we contemplate Jesus’ death.

When the crucifixion narratives speak of “the chief priests and leaders of the people,” they are referring to officials who collaborated closely with the Roman systems of oppression, and were viewed with contempt by much of the Jewish community of their time. They are never to be identified with the Jewish people as a whole, past or present.

It may be helpful to recall the cultural context of our Christian scriptures, emerging as they did from a small, originally Jewish community of believers in Jesus, who for reasons of faith in him as the Messiah, were eventually “put out of the synagogues” (John 9:18-23), their places of worship. In John’s usage especially, “the Jews” functions as a technical term for those among the people who did not accept Jesus as Messiah. It is a term that reflects the growing antagonism and mutual recrimination that developed in the latter part of the first century between church and synagogue. The gospels’ use of the term “the Jews” should never be understood, therefore, as a blanket condemnation of Jews in particular or in general.

It is one of the bitter ironies of history that our sacred texts have been used to justify the persecution of the covenant people who were and are forever God’s beloved.

Written by Rev. Dr. Jr. Mary Luti, retired seminary professor and UCC pastor

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