

St. John's UCC, Fullerton

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www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org † 610-264-8421



***We Worship, We Love, We Serve
– No Matter What!***

**March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday
9:30am**

We Worship

*** Those who are comfortably able, please stand**

*Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton! We are a place where love can grow!
As the music begins, please find your place and
begin to center your spirit for our worship of God together.*

*Children and Confirmation Class gather in Rm 201.
There is not regular Children's Class during worship today.
They are welcome to return to parents after the Palm Processional.*

Chimes

Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

***Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Music to Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

Choir Prelude

Ain't No Rock Gonna Shout for Me
Lloyd Larson

***Blessing of the Palms** (facing the back)

Rev. Davis

One: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: Hosanna in the Highest!

One: Dear friends in Christ, on this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered into the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering and death.

Today we greet Jesus as our King, although we know His crown is thorns and His throne a cross. We follow Him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection, by traveling the dark road of His passion, knowing that as we are united with Christ in His suffering on the cross we also share with Him in the triumph of resurrection life.

All: Guide us in this most Holy Week with your mercy, Lord. God of our Salvation, may we enter with joy into the celebration of your mighty acts of love for us. Give us life abundant and eternal, through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen

***Palm Procession Scripture**

Matthew 21:1-11

***Procession of the Palms**

All Glory, Laud and Honor

found on page 3 of the bulletin

Please join in singing Verses 1, 2 and 4.

As the Confirmation Class and children process to the cross and altar with their palms, we encourage you to wave your palms from your pews.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Sharon Czekner

One: Holy God, you come to us as the Servant.

Some shout "Hosanna!" Some shout "Crucify!"

Some shout for Jesus, while others shout for Barabbas.

Some wave palms, some shake their fists.

All: Today we choose.

One: Some break bread, some break silence.

Some proclaim Jesus, some deny Jesus.

Some carry the cross, some run from the cross.

All: Today we choose.

One: Some are angry, while others rejoice.

Some anoint with costly perfume,

some complain at the waste.

Some like the light, some prefer the shadows.

All: Today, we choose.

One: Some weep, some conspire.

Some follow, some hide.

Some believe, some betray.

All: This Holy Week, we choose to shout for life, to follow the cross. To break bread, to hold belief. To trust love, and tell the world we choose to follow Jesus, our Christ. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

265 All Glory, Laud and Honor

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud and hon - or to you, Re-deem - er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the King of Is - rael, and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high,
 3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore you went;
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 5 As you re - ceived their prais - es, ac - cept the prayers we bring,

to Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and bless - ed One!
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply:
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent:
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise:
 for you de - light in good - ness, O good and gra - cious King!

WORDS: Theodulph of Orleans (ca. 760-821); tr. John M. Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)

ST. THEODULPH
 7.6.7.6.D.

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Sharon Czekner

One: Loving God, long ago the crowds with incessant hallelujahs greeted Your dearly loved Son. How quickly they turned to mock Him as Jesus went lonely to the cross.

All: **Forgive us for the ways that we, too, have welcomed Him with our words and resisted His holy leading in our lives. Calm our restless and rebellious hearts so we might serve You in fullness of joy.**

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Our Merciful God turns hearts from our sin to God's grace, from our timid faith to Jesus' triumphant hope, from this life and death to eternal life and love.

All: **May our God of grace stir within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise Christ with our lips, but may follow Him in the way of the cross and empty tomb.**

Children's Message

Rev. Davis

Children and youth are welcome to come up to the chancel steps.

Anthem

My Song is Love Unknown
Bells of St. John's

***Scripture Readings**

Matthew 26: 14-16, 20-25

Colossians 2: 13-14

Reader: Bobbi Pope

*Please stand in body or in spirit for the reading of God's Word.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Sermon

Rev. Davis

God Did This for You!

I Forgive You! God's Promise in the Nails

Choir Anthem

O Sacred Head
Mary McDonald

We Love

Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of the People

Rev. Davis

The Lord's Prayer

New Zealand Anglican Version

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

now and forever. Amen.

Sung Response

Jesus, Remember Me

found on page 6 of the bulletin

Jesus, Remember Me

Ostinato Refrain



Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community, 1981
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



Thank you for your generosity
and faithfulness in supporting
the ministry of
St. John's UCC!

*Doxology

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Verse 4

**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

Liturgist: Sharon Czekner

All: We give You thanks, almighty and eternal God, for these gifts of abundance in Christ. We carry these branches as signs of His love. We offer our gifts and service for Your glory. May we take up our cross and follow Him. Amen.

We Serve

***Hymn:**

Lift High the Cross
Verses 1, 3 and 4

found on page 8 of the bulletin

***Holy Week Reminders and Benediction**

Rev. Davis

***Postlude**

Lift High the Cross
Sydney H. Nicholson/Setting by: Larry Shackley
Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

*When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship is concluded
and our service in the world continues.*

*The Benediction and Postlude send us out
to be the people of God in our community.*

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Altar Flowers

One vase in memory of June Hertzog
By Diana Beck

One vase in loving memory of beloved wife, Nancy Eichman
By Ron Eichman

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

8:30am Adult Faith Formation

- Friendship Sunday School Class

9:30am Worship / Children's Faith Formation

- with Sunday Social time following worship

11:00am Confirmation Class and other Youth

Attendance – March 17

Onsite – 87 Online - 20

Lift High the Cross

287

Refrain (Unison)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Verse (parts)

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

to Refrain

our King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

WORDS: George W. Kitchin (1827-1912); rev. Michael R. Newbolt (1874-1956), alt.

MUSIC: Sydney H. Nicholson (1875-1947)

Words and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER
10.10.10.10.

Serving in Worship Leadership

Palm Sunday, March 24

Liturgist – Sharon Czekner
Ushers – Kathy Bright, Carol Flores
Acolyte – Sophia Pagan
Social Hour Hosts – Nancy Bowman, Carol Raszler

Scripture Reader – Bobbi Pope
Worship Tech – Bill Castello

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Liturgist – Regina Mohr
Ushers – Kathy Roth, Wendy Fox,
Wayne Lichtenwalner,
Michelle Gutekunst, DonnaLee Yeatts.

Scripture Reader – Tom Moyer
Worship Tech – Bill Castello

Good Friday, March 29

Liturgist – Sharon Czekner
Ushers – Bob Czekner, Wayne
Lichtenwalner

Scripture Readers – Sean Hartman,
Tyler Shankweiler
Worship Tech – Bill Castello

Easter Sunday, March 31

Liturgist – Robin Brensinger
Ushers – Staci Pagan, Sophia Pagan,
Kathy Roth, Wayne Lichtenwalner,
Sharon Antrim, Dewey Yeatts,
DonnaLee Yeatts.

Scripture Reader-Tyler Shankweiler
Worship Tech – Bill Castello
Acolyte – Gabriella Ferioli

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Freda Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Clarence Biehn, Margaret and Mike Davis, Samuel, Nick and Amanda Devaney, Tracey Glass, Phyllis Gutekunst, Ray Hower, Geraldine Keim, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Dale Serfass, Tessa, Zoey and Aiden.

Continued prayers for those suffering from weather disasters across the US, as well as the war against Ukraine by Russia, now over 700 days, and the war between Israel and Hamas, and the Palestinian people. Pray for all the innocents killed and suffering in Gaza. Pray for actions to change policy and practice.

Continued prayers for those in our military, especially Dominic DeMilio and Kaden Rossanese.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, **473**. If you have someone for us to remember in prayer, please contact the church office.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2024

Thursday, March 28, 2024: Maundy Thursday

Service of Communion

7pm Service

Sharing Handwashing, Communion and Stripping the Church

Friday, March 29, 2024: Good Friday

Stations of the Cross (St. John's UCC, Mickleys)

11am – Come & Go Devotions

12pm – The Gathered Community in Worship

Service of Tenebrae

7pm Service

The Passion and Death of our Lord told through scripture and song.

Sunday, March 31, 2024: Easter Sunday

Celebration of the Resurrection

9:30am Service

You are encouraged to bring flowers from home to help us decorate the resurrection cross which will be placed out front of our church.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend these beautiful services.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

“SHARE THE LIGHT”

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), now in its 75th year, is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. OGHS programs also include health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-

financing, and women's empowerment. Your contribution will be received in worship **during the entire month of March**. Please place your offering in the collection plate, mail to the church, or give on-line or by text.

DISASTER RELIEF – UKRAINE

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, a war that has become the largest attack on a European country since World War II and now in its third year. Thousands of lives lost; homes, schools, hospitals bombed and destroyed—there's no end in sight. If you would like to continue our support of Ukraine through UCC National, World Central Kitchen, and Project HOPE, you will find special Disaster Relief Fund offering envelopes on the table in the lounge or donations can be made online or by text giving. Be sure to indicate Ukraine in the memo section.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For March, we are collecting **mac and cheese, canned corn, pancake mix and syrup**. For Easter, we are collecting **canned fruits, canned vegetables, and canned sweet potatoes for our Easter meal distribution**. Any other non-perishable food items are always welcome. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Monetary contributions are always accepted and can be forwarded to the church office, placed in the offering plate, or given online or by text. For more information, contact Gary Black at gary.t.black@outlook.com (484) 274-2405.

GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

You are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1pm in the upper-level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or (610) 428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, March 26**.

AN EASY WAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN'S

Do you realize that by purchasing **Giant and Weis gift cards** and by **saving Redner's register tapes**, you are contributing money to St. John's? For every Giant and Weis card sold, the church receives 5% back. For every Redner's tape collected, the church receives 1% back. Gift cards can be purchased through the church office or by seeing Tom Moyer or Carol Raszler every Sunday morning before or after worship. The Redner's tapes can be mailed to the church office or placed in a collection jar found on the table in the lounge area. It's a simple way to give financially to the church. Think of St. John's every time you go grocery shopping.

PASTIE SALE

It's time for our spring Pastie Sale. If you don't have time to cook, just pop these frozen pasties in the oven for a quick, delicious meal. You can choose from the following: beef, beef (no onion), chicken, sausage, ham, veggie melt, spinach melt, and apple, cherry, and blueberry turnovers. Try our newest selections: Philly cheese steak, cheeseburger, chicken cordon bleu, Mexican, and pizza pasties. Prices range from \$7.25 to \$8.25 for the meat pasties & melts and \$4.25 for the fruit turnovers. Orders forms can be found on the table in the lounge area and on the church's website. **Payment is due with your order with checks payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton.** You can return your order form and payment to the church office or place it in the offering plate or give it to Carol Raszler. Please be sure to specify your pick-up date on the form—either Thursday, April 25, or Sunday, April 28. **Deadline to place your order is Sunday, April 7.** If you have any questions, contact Carol Raszler at (610) 393-7572 or email at craszler@aol.com.

PHILLIES GAME

Do you have Phillies fever?? The Phillies Phundraising program helps out non-profitable organizations by giving back if you buy Phillies tickets. There are 25 tickets available to purchase for the Phillies game vs the Cleveland Guardians on Friday, July 26th at 6:40 PM. It is first come, first serve. The tickets cost \$55 each and the seats are in section 110 which is right along the first base side. It is also Trea Turner Bobblehead night! For each ticket sold St Johns receives a rebate for \$4. If all tickets sell, we get a rebate check back for

\$100.00. The deadline is June 2nd to purchase tickets. **This does not include transportation. This is for tickets only.** Please see Brian Strauss.

BASKET SOCIAL – DONATIONS NEEDED NOW

We need donations of baskets for our annual Basket Social in May. There are so many themes you could choose from, some of which are the following: Books, Sports, Camping, Picnic, Crafts, Puzzles, Linens, Baby Items, Baking, Beverages, Snacks, Car Care, Movie Passes, Park Passes, Beauty/ Spa Items, Children's Games/Toys, Restaurant Gift Cards, Pet Supplies, Gardening/Plants

Monetary donations are accepted if you would like us to put together a basket for you. Be sure to include a tag listing the items in your basket. **We have room now to store the baskets, so get started and bring them into church as soon as possible.** If you have any questions or plan to donate, contact our Co-Chairs: Amy Feidler, Carol Raszler, and Mike Borgman.

**Reserve the dates: Saturday, May 4, 10am-2pm
Sunday, May 5, 8am-9:30am, and 10:30am-11:30am**

Tickets will be pulled at 12:00 noon on Sunday. Tickets are \$5 a sheet (26 tickets per sheet).

Come to Fox Hall for the event. There will also be a Bake Sale on both days. Attention Bakers: a pie or cake (or two) would be a great donation – and much appreciated!

OCEAN CITY TRIP

Ocean City, New Jersey bus trip - we will try again to go to Ocean City, NJ this year. The date is Saturday, June 22nd. The cost is \$45.00 per person. We will leave the church at 8:30 AM and leave Ocean City at 7 PM. There will be a designated time during the day to bring your items back to the bus. The deadline is May 22nd to sign up. Please see Brian Strauss.

IRONPIGS PARTY PORCH

St. John's annual night at the IronPigs Party Porch will be on Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day eve) at 6:35. Tickets sell for \$39, the same as last season. Price includes baseball game, buffet, soft drinks, bottled water, and fireworks. Contact Tom Moyer for reservations ASAP.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

MARCH 2024

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	17,565.71
Overall Percent	78.1%

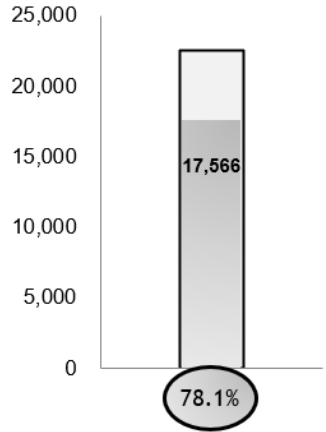
Last Week	
Start:	3/17/24
End:	3/23/24
Total:	3,147.41

Amt needed to reach Target

MARCH 2024	4,934.29
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Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total



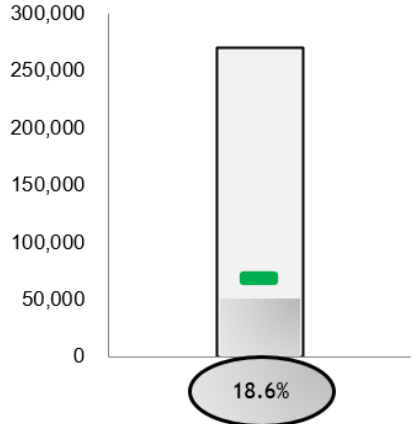
YTD OFFERINGS

MARCH 2024

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	67,500.00
Overall Total	50,326.35
Overall Percent	18.6%

Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total
- On Track Target



Furnace loan balance = \$1,298

Church Calendar for the Week of March 24 through March 31

Sun 3/24	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship (no children's class)
	10:30 am	Social Hour & Demonstration
	11:00 am	New Member class
	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	Directory photos taken
Mon 3/25	7:00 pm	New Member class
Tues 3/26	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:30pm	Bells and Choir—Sanctuary
Wed 3/27	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 3/28	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday service
Fri 3/29	11:00 am	Stations of the Cross (Come & Go) at St. John's UCC, Mickley
	12:00 pm	Stations of the Cross (Community) gathered in worship, St John's, Mickley
	7:00 pm	Service of Tenebrae
Sat 3/30	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 3/31	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Easter Worship and Communion (no children's class)
	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	Directory photos taken

OUR STAFF

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