

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Minuet in G major" (J.S. Bach)

Oxana Khramova

Ringing of the Bells

Chant (unison, 3x) "The Lord is My Song"

The Lord is my song/The Lord is my praise/All my hope comes from God The Lord is my song/The Lord is my praise/God, the Wellspring of life.

Call to Worship

Leader: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks—

All: We will journey through praise; we will travel through betrayal and death.

Leader: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow—

All: We wave palm branches in anticipation; we lay our love before him.

Leader: Setting aside power and might, he comes: modeling the Way of sacrificial love.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who brings us the kin-dom of God.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

God of the deep, for us—like divers underwater—it can be hard to tell which way is up. On Palm Sunday we shout and march because our salvation is near. And...we turn our faces towards a time of terrible pain and loss. Where are we? Suspended between victory and defeat, promise and betrayal, hope and despair, we can't tell up from down. Hold us in your buoyant grace as we feel our way towards light and air, life and hope.

*Opening Hymn "All Gl

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Hymnal #88

Readings Jon Blomquist

Psalm 118:25-29 Mark 11:1-2,7-11 Mark 14:3-9

> "Let the Rocks Cry Out" (Lloyd Larson)

Choir

Transitional Music

"Nearer My God to Thee" (S. Adams, L. Mason, arr. M. Bailey" Oxana Khramova

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

"Andante from Sonata Op. 26" (L. Beethoven)

Oxana Khramova

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Generous God, as we bring our gifts and lay them at your altar, we remember the crowds who laid their cloaks on the road, shouting "Hosanna" as Jesus passed. Orient our hearts in your humble Way so we may know salvation—wholeness, healing, restoration, renewal—in the anointed One you have sent. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult"

NCH #172

*Benediction

Leader: The journey into the deep requires trust. Go forth into this sacred and difficult week, knowing that the Way of Life leads through it all—through the heights of celebration and restoration. Through the depths of danger, betrayal, and suffering. And you are held secure through it all.

All: Amen.

*Sung Benediction (unison, 3 times)

The Lord is my song/The Lord is my praise/All my hope comes from God The Lord is my song/The Lord is my praise/God, the Wellspring of life.

Postlude

"Nearer My God to Thee" (S. Adams, L. Mason, arr. M. Bailey) Oxana Khramova

^{*}Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

The Forsythia branches and Pussy Willows are sponsored by Sally Conklin in memory of her mother, LaVonne Souther, who died during Holy Week, 2018 at age 96. Sally and her mom often searched the ditches for Pussy Willows and forced early blossoms from the Forsythia shrubs in their yards.

Credits

- The Call to Worship was adapted from one written by Thom Shuman and posted on his *Lectionary Liturgies* blog. Re-posted on the at https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/contemporary-call-to-worship-palm.html.
- The Prayer of Dedication was adapted from one posted on Discipleship Ministries, https://www.umcdiscipleship.org.
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This Week:

Wednesday, March 27th: 4:00 pm, Kid's Club, 6:30 pm, Bells rehearsal, 7:30 pm Choir rehearsal

Thursday, March 28: 7:00 pm, Maundy Thursday worship service Friday, March 29: Good Friday, 1-4 pm, Sanctuary open for prayer

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence.

To help each person to grow in his or her relationship with God;

To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and the differently abled;

To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;

To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land—known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island—took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

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All Glory, Laud, and Honor

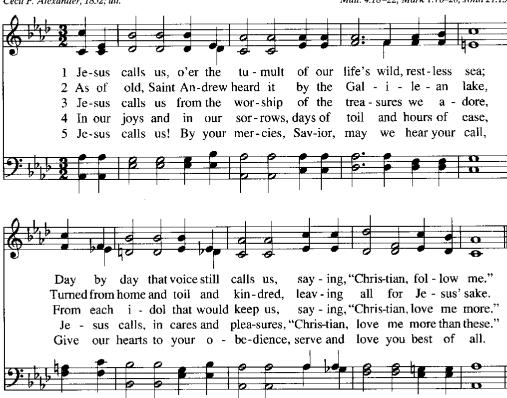
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Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15



Cecil Alexander, who in Ireland wrote sacred verse to teach children the meaning of the catechism and liturgy, designated this poem for St. Andrew's Day. Many years later Galilee was composed for this text by an English organist, William Jude. Tune: GALILEE 8.7.8.7.
William H. Jude, 1887
Alternate setting: ST. ANDREW