

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

April 14, 2019 at 11 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

† Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

CENTERING Before GOD

BELL TOLL

The tolling of the bell invites you into a time of centering and stillness.

PRELUDE

Terry Byars

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

† PROCESSION OF PALMS

I Will Enter His Gates

FWS 2270

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart,

I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say, “This is the day that the Lord has made.”

I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad.

I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad.

I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.

† CALL to WORSHIP

Seab Young

Our Lenten journey has invited us to trust and go deep.

Along the way we have heard God’s invitation to “Be still.”

Jesus rides into Jerusalem among shouts of praise!

If all shouting stopped, the rocks would cry out.

Rejoice, for the Lord is in our midst!

Hosanna! Save us!

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

Hosanna in the highest!

† HYMN of PRAISE

UMH 280, vs. 1, 2, 5

All Glory, Laud and Honor

PSALTER

UMH 839-40

Psalms 118

SUNG RESPONSE

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

Hosanna in the highest!

The Lord is my strength and my power;
the Lord has become my salvation.

**There are joyous songs of victory
in the tents of the righteous:**

“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly,
the right hand of the Lord is exalted,

The right hand of the Lord does valiantly!”

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

**The Lord has chastened me sorely,
but has not given me over to death.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter
through them and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

SUNG RESPONSE

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone which builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

SUNG RESPONSE

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

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

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, who has given us light.

**Lead the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar!**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

You are my God, I will extol you.

**O give thanks to the Lord, who is good;
for God’s steadfast love endures for ever!**

SUNG RESPONSE

ENGAGING GOD’S WORD

† THE PROCESSION into JERUSALEM

Luke 19:29-40

Seab Young

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Sarah Prevot

Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.

*Ushers will pass out folders during the Children’s Moment. Please register
your attendance. If you have any joys or concerns please fill out a prayer card
found in the left pocket of the folder and place it in the offering plate.*

ANTHEM

Day to Sing Hosanna

Chancel Choir

† THE PASSION of CHRIST

Luke 22:39-46

Pastor Lane

SERMON

“Can’t We Just Skip to Easter?”

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD’S GRACE

HYMN of FAITH

UMH 292, vs. 1 & 2

What Wondrous Love Is This

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

When the parade is over, do we pick up our lives, brush them off,
and live in the old way?

Do we toss our palm branches aside, so we can grasp the seductions
of the world?

As we begin the journey through the holiest of weeks, let us speak
the truth, as we confess to our God, praying together...

PRAYER of RECONCILIATION and CONFESSION

Suffering Servant,

**mixing love and hope together, you pave the way to the
kingdom, but we prefer to stub our toes on the potholed
roads of temptation.**

**You would touch the cup of grace to our parched lips, but
we seem to hunger for the ashy taste of bitterness.**

**You beg us to learn the songs of salvation, but we hum
along to the chorus that death plays in the background
of our lives.**

Have mercy upon us, God of Holiness.

**As you come to us, you bring healing for our
brokenness, peace for our troubled lives,
hope for our doubting minds.**

**May we empty ourselves of everything which keeps us from
following you, so we may receive these gifts, and more,
from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

(A time for silent prayers of confession.)

WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Laying aside judgment, Christ offers us redemption;
setting aside anger, God embraces us with love; letting go of grief,
the Holy Spirit pours living water upon us.

This is the good news, my friends: God’s steadfast love
endures forever.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

**Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God!
Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

† DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

PALM SUNDAY PRAYER

by John Winn

Dear Lord,

**I, too, can feel the excitement in the long-awaited coming
of One,**

**who can change shadows into sunlight,
despair into hope, and even death into life.**

**With all inhibitions down I could join in the parades,
processionals, and testimonials for such a One.**

**When I am asked, though, to join with such a person
on a march that might lead to rejection, negation,
and maybe even death, I am not so sure.**

**If it is possible, let that cup pass from me,
but if not...**

Amen.

DEPARTING to SERVE

† INVITATION to CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*We joyfully welcome all those whose wish to become members of St. John’s
and invite you to come forward during the singing of the closing hymn.*

† HYMN of DISCIPLESHIP

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

UMH 277, vs. 1 & 3

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. However, if you or your child would prefer, nursery care is available in the Administration Building next door; an usher can escort you. Children's bulletins and sermon sacks are available from an usher.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

HOLY WEEK CALENDAR

Holy Thursday - Thursday, April 18 at 6 p.m. Our Taize-style service remembering the Last Supper will include footwashing/handwashing, and Holy Communion.

Good Friday Tenebrae - Friday, April 19 at 6 p.m. Our choir will present "It Is Finished" - a service of shadows; and the Alleluia Ringers will provide special music.

Easter Sunday - April 21 at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Our services will include a celebration of Christ's resurrection through word, proclamation, and Holy Communion. Music will be led by our Chancel Choir, Alleluia Bell Choir, and Praise Team. Children and Youth are invited to arrive early for the Flower Procession at the beginning of the service.

INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO CHURCH

We have designed an easy and eye-catching way to invite your neighbors and friends to celebrate Holy Week and Easter at St. John's - our Easter door hanger. Take some home today and give them to your friends and neighbors or walk around your neighborhood and hang them on the front doors. They are available in the narthex and in the hallway of the Admin. Building.

RESURRECTION STORIES & SONGS

On **Sunday, April 28**, we will share in a Service of Resurrection Stories and Songs at both 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. It will be in the style of "Lessons and Carols," which are popular around Advent and Christmas. We will read together the varied post-Easter resurrection stories of Jesus visiting his disciples and sing some of the most beloved Easter hymns of our faith. These stories in scripture will continue to inspire, as will the joyful music and the other aspects of our worship. (We will not share in Holy Communion this day, but it will be celebrated at both services Sunday, May 5, which is also Youth Sunday and Senior Recognition.)

GIFT CARDS FOR WILDWOOD

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10 and we are collecting gift cards to be given to the teachers at Wildwood Elementary. If you have a gift card, in any amount or from any merchant, that you haven't used or if you would be willing to purchase one (any amount) that you could donate, please bring it by the church office by Sunday May 5. The goal is for every teacher to receive a gift card.

PARKING FOR EASTER

As we move toward the celebration of Easter, we hope to have many guests visiting St. John's! Therefore, on Easter Sunday, for both services, we are asking that you consider leaving the main parking lots for our guests, those of us who are mobility challenged, and our older members. We encourage you to park in the grass lot on Highland Road. You can enter the property by the driveway on Highland near the traffic light. Many thanks for your help in alleviating what could be a tight squeeze!

RAINBOW DOORS PROJECT FROM LOVE IS LOVE

The Love is Love Sunday school class is preparing an art installation with the Trustees' overwhelming support. Six full-size doors painted red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple with the words "God's Doors Are Open to All" will be displayed along Highland Road. Stay tuned for an announcement about the date and time we install the doors -- you are invited to sign them to show your support. Contact Zach Isenhower (zachisenhower@gmail.com) or Mari Walker (silvermari@gmail.com) with questions.

YOUNG WOMEN'S UMW GROUP FORMING

St. John's United Methodist Women is creating a new circle for younger women dedicated to learning about our community's needs and finding ways to serve God's people. We will focus on UMW's current issue priorities: maternal health, climate justice, economic inequality, and mass incarceration. If you are interested, contact Kristine Isenhower at skisenhower@gmail.com or see her in person by April 14. The first meeting will be held in late April or early May.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, April 14**
8:00 a.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, FLC
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary
- Monday, April 15**
9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, Parlor
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E
- Tuesday, April 16**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Library
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, Library
- Wednesday, April 17**
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary
- Thursday, April 18**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
- Friday, April 19**
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
6:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Service, Sanctuary
- Saturday, April 20**
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: Richard and Marilyn Damberg, Penny Kemler, Will Halliburton

Host: Joyce Perry

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



Palm and Passion Sunday

April 14, 2019

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.