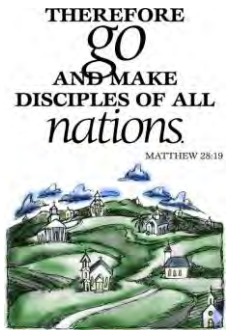


Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday 165th Anniversary Celebration

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Palm Sunday marks the start of Jesus' transition from life before to life after Easter. As we celebrate 165 years of what has come before, we can also celebrate the life to come for all who pass through these church doors.



PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL:

GATHERING Words of welcome and announcements Pastor Terry

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

May the peace of Christ fill you this day.

Christ is the source of our joy and gladness.

Please share a joyful sign of Christ's peace with those near you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

L: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! For one hundred sixty-five years of worship,

P: Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.

L: He comes with joy and hope as we remember the past and look to the future,

P: He comes to set us free to spread the Good News.

L: Hosanna! We prepare the way of the Lord!

P: Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN "All Glory Laud and Honor" (UMH # 280)**
(During this hymn, please wave your palms in commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem)

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

1. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.
All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

2. The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.
All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

3. The people of the Hebrews with psalms before thee went;
our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present.
All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

4. To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

5. Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.
All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

You are truly worthy of all praise and thanksgiving.

We praise you for who you are, the God and Creator of the universe, the loving God who created each one of us and who knows each one of us intimately.

We thank you for the fact that you love us so much that you sent your only Son to die as a sacrifice to rescue us from eternal death and separation from you.

We thank you for this church and the vision that Thomas Allinson had to start this church 165 years ago and we thank and praise you for the many blessings you have poured out on this church and pray for many more as we move into the future.

We thank you for the leadership of this church, both past and present, for the pastors, the elders, and the many other board members, staff, and Sunday School leaders and teachers.

We thank you for all the various ministries that this church has provided to the community outside these walls. The food bank, the Trunk or Treats', the after-school care and so many others.

We especially thank you that this church has remained faithful in teaching and preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We thank you for the many things you have taught and conveyed to us through your Word, and for the many answered prayers.

We thank you for the many people and relationships that you have brought to us through the ministries and mission of this church over the years.

We thank you for guiding us as we live into the promise of Open Minds, Open Hearts and Open Doors as we are indeed a faith community in which all of your children, without exception, are welcome.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Terry

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:16-20 (CEB)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."

MESSAGE

"GO"

Bishop Frank Beard

HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

(UMH # 298)

1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died;
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.
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.

INVITATION TO SHARE

Pastor Terry

As we have done for 165 years, let us join in the chorus giving honor to Jesus Christ by allowing your offering to be in praise to him. Rejoice in the coming of our Lord. Lay your treasures at his feet.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

(UMH # 94)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

Today, as we have done so many times in the past, we dedicate our gifts to the work of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. As He rode into Jerusalem, we sing and shout Hosanna for we know the path of salvation and eternal life. We are ever thankful for the 165 years of prayer-filled gatherings in this space and pray for another 165 years as well. Thank you, Lord, for the gifts that you have provided for us.

CHORAL PRESENTATION

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Gracious God, as we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present, we also look forward with eager eyes to the future. We pray that You would continue to make Your love known among us, that you continue to give us a zeal for mission. We seek your help in looking beyond our walls to those who do not know You. Make this church a blessing to those around us, and embolden us to move forward with strength toward what lies ahead.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Lift High the Cross”

(UMH #159)

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

2. All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Terry

POSTLUDE:

Celebrants for today's worship:

Bishop Frank Beard, Presiding Bishop, Illinois Great Rivers Conference

Rev. Terry McDorman, Pastor, Macon UMC

Thank you to the people of Macon United Methodist Church that have contributed in so many ways to make this celebration possible.

Everyone is invited to join us downstairs in fellowship hall for a scrumptious luncheon following worship. There is an elevator available if needed. Please check with the ushers.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 50

ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70

Be certain to check the church website, <https://maconilumc.net/> for updated information about the church, events and news. Please use webmaster.maconumc@gmail.com to submit updates or additions to the church website.

LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Sunday School: (Sunday mornings at 9:00am in Fellowship Hall) the class will be exploring "Jesus and the Outsiders and Outcasts" by Adam Hamilton. Starts February 18, 2024.

PASTRY WITH THE PASTOR

Held on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 starting February 20, 2024, and concluding on March 26, 2024. This group will explore "Seven Words, Listening to Christ from the Cross" by Susan Robb

HOLY THURSDAY WORSHIP

Please plan on attending our special Holy Thursday service, March 28 at 6pm in the sanctuary. There will be readings from scripture and appropriate music as we remember the passion of Jesus Christ as He saved us from our sins for all eternity. If you know someone that could benefit from understanding the Lord, invite them to come with you.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. Mar 24 11:00 am 165th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon; Fellowship Hall
Wed Mar 27 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting, Pastor's office
Wed Mar 27 7:00 pm Administrative Council Meeting, Pastor's office
ThursMar 28 6:00 pm Holy Thursday Service
Sun Mar 31 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Mar 31 10:00 am Easter Worship and Zoom Service

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MISSIONS



Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal and/or oatmeal, canned fruit, macaroni and cheese; toilet paper and shampoo. Cash donations are always welcome.

CHURCH BENCH

Great news! We will pick up the bench in April.