

**Macon United Methodist Church**  
**190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133**  
**March 29, 2026** **Palm/Passion Sunday**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

Where are you in your journey to the cross?

**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

**PRELUDE**



**GATHERING**      **Welcome, Announcements, Celebrations**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lenten travelers, the journey to the cross begins with a procession into Jerusalem, a demonstration of Jesus' saving power.

We come to praise Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

**The crowds line the path and shout "Hosanna! Save us!" as Jesus rides in, not on a mighty war horse, but on the backs of a donkey and a colt.**

**We come to call on Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

The city murmurs, wondering who this person is who demonstrates power through humility, strength without tyranny.

We come to witness Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

**Lenten travelers, will you come on the journey to Jerusalem, following a Messiah who saves us to live after the pattern of the kin-dom of God, not the kingdoms of this world?**

**We come to follow Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**      ***"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"***      **(UMH # 278)**

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
  
2. From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!

### OPENING PRAYER

**Humble God, you have shown us the way to enter all the Jerusalems of this world. You showed us not to enter our lives with fear, but with humility and courage. As we worship this day, we draw upon your example of Jesus on that humble donkey, and we raise our palm branches in rejoicing! We raise our voices, shouting along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!" Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem. Amen.**

### COMMUNITY PRAYERS (pastor)

### SILENT PRAYER (pastor)

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

### SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 31:9-16

*I commend my spirit*

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.**

For I hear the whispering of many--terror all around!--as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

**But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."**

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**



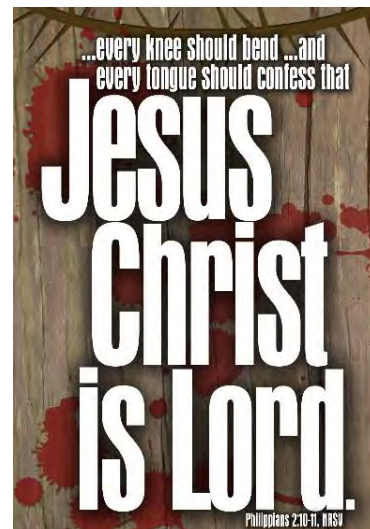
## EPISTLE READING

*God takes on human form*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:5-11



## MESSAGE

“Reflection on God’s Word”

Mark Dallner, Certified Lay Minister

## HYMN

*“Breathe on Me Breath of God”*

(UMH # 420)

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will, To do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am wholly Thine,  
Until this earthly part of me Glows with Thy fire divine.
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life Of Thine eternity.

## PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### \*DOXOLOGY

(UMH # 95)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

**Humble Savior, you ride into our lives not with force, but with invitation—calling us to follow, to risk, and to trust. As we bring these gifts, we confess we don't always understand where the road leads. But like those who laid down cloaks and waved palms, we offer what we have with hope in our hearts and praise on our lips. Use these offerings to proclaim your kingdom—where love confronts fear, and peace dares to speak in the shadow of power. Save us, Lord. Use us. Amen**

**SPECIAL MUSIC “It is Well with My Soul” Mark Dallner and Connie Baker.**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus, we have hailed you as King with our palms. As we leave this place, strengthen our hearts to follow you into the solemn days ahead. Keep us faithful through the cross, that we may share in the joy of your resurrection. May our lives reflect your humility and love. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

***“He is Lord, He is Lord”***

**(UMH # 177)**

He is Lord, He is Lord!

He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**BENEDICTION**

Beloved, as we move into the week ahead, may God bless you with the insight to know the way of Jesus, the courage to hold firm to the way of Jesus when the crowds try to lead you astray, and the strength to follow the way of Jesus, the way of God's steadfast love that never fails. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

**Beverly J, Matthews, PsyD  
Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
217 825 9010**

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 33**

**ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70**

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE**

Sun. Apr. 03 6:30 pm Good Friday Service  
Sun. Apr. 05 8:45 am Confirmation Class  
Sun. Apr. 05 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Apr. 05 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Easter Service  
Sun. Apr. 12 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Apr. 12 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service  
Sun. Apr. 19 8:00 am Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall  
Sun. Apr. 19 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Apr. 19 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service  
Sun. Apr. 26 8:45 am Confirmation Class  
Sun. Apr. 26 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Apr. 26 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Easter Service

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Apr 02 Jo and Lynette Puckett

## **MISSIONS**



always welcome.

Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal, cereal bars or oatmeal; canned fruits and vegetables; canned soup; canned pasta; mac and cheese; shampoo; and antiperspirant. Cash donations are

## **SPEAKER SCHEDULE**

Apr. 03 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
Apr. 05 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
Apr. 12 Kirk Yenerall, Certified Lay Minister  
Apr. 19 Keith Baker, Lay Speaker  
Apr. 26 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
  
May 03 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
May 10 Kirk Yenerall, Certified Lay Minister  
May 17 Keith Baker, Lay Speaker  
May 24 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor  
May 31 Mark Dallner, Certified Lay Minister

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Confirmation class will be first and fourth Sundays at 8:45 am for one hour in the pastor's office using the book Confirm which can be purchased online through Cokesbury.