

The Ladies Union is responsible for the church kitchen and its contents. We are experiencing an ongoing problem with dishes, tablecloths, utensils and other items which have gone missing. If anyone wishes to borrow something from the church kitchen, we are asking that he or she call Betty Morrison at 586-2560 or Joan Simmons at 586-2854. Please pass this info on to others who might not be in church. The Ladies Union appreciates your cooperation. Thank you.

**Participants today:**

Rev. Alan Parker, Pastor; Sandalyn Chadwick, Accompanist; Jim Flint, Liturgist.

**For Next Sunday:**

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8.

**Ladies union will meet on April 8th, at noon.** It is a potluck luncheon. Come and bring a friend!!!!

If you would like to have flowers placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, in memory of a family member or loved one, please contact Roberta Alexander (586-7730) by Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming Weekly Church Calendar:						
Sun. 03/15/22	Mon. 03/23	Tues. 03/24	Wed. 03/25	Thurs. 03/26	Fri. 03/27	Sat. 03/28
Service: 10 AM	Zumba: 6 PM	AA: 6 PM		Capoeira: 3-4 PM Zumba: 4:45 PM Al-Anon: 6 PM Maundy Thursday East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church: 7 PM		

**Committee Contacts:**

- **Church Clerk:** Anne Wilson (586-2825)
- **Church Council:** Andy Moffatt (586-2248)
- **Community Supper:** Barb Strong (586-2516)
- **Deacons:** Jen LaPoint (586-2883)
- **Horse & Buggy Club:** Paula Massé (586-2857)
- **Ladies Union:** Lois Charron (586-9674)
- **Memorial Committee:** Mary Ann Merrill (730-4754)
- **Prayer Circle:** Norma Waterhouse (586-2285)
- **Religious Education:** Barb Strong (586-2516)
- **Trustees:** Cheryl Bailey (586-9675)

**United Church of Craftsbury**

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Website & Online Calendar: [www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com](http://www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com)

Pastor: Rev. Alan Parker · Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Arnold Brown · Ministers: The Entire Congregation

**United Church of Craftsbury**



**March 29, 2015**

**Palm/Passion Sunday – Year B**

WE GATHER TO BE PRESENT WITH GOD

**PRELUDE**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(The first spoken words of our worship time are*

*“The peace of Christ be with you.”*

*The congregation is invited to respond, saying, “And also with you.”)*

**INTROIT**

**GATHERING MUSIC, PRAYER, INVOCATION & MEDITATION**

**HYMN (Insert)**

The Palms

*(Alternating with reading from Psalms 118 & 31)*

## CALL TO PRAYER FOR HEALING AND FORGIVENESS

### UNISON PRAYER FOR HEALING OF BROKENNESS

Gracious God, every confession we have ever made has its heart in this one. For forty days we have walked, prayed, and learned, but we still do not know the way. In Jesus, you offer us both righteousness and humility. We choose neither; and we rest in self-righteousness and self-regard. We choose the cross for someone else rather than for ourselves. We choose exclusion over embrace. We choose our comfortable path over your difficult, but liberating and redeeming path. We kneel before you, knowing our self-focus. Enter our hearts with love and wisdom; help us to choose anew the awakening, restoring power of your steadfast, ever-challenging love for us.

### SILENT PRAYER

### RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In one of faith's great miracles, brokenness and sin confessed are brokenness and sin forgiven. At the cross, Jesus cried out, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

**All: Jesus was talking about us. Even as we now grasp what we have done, and will re-enact in this Holy Week, we are now cleansed, set free, and invited to be newly holy in God's name. Thanks be to God. AMEN**

### CHORUS OF ASSURANCE

(SING) It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul.  
It is well; it is well with my soul.

WE LISTEN TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION ((Unison)

O God, may our reading, hearing, and understanding of your Word, and our own words spoken, sung, and prayed, be acceptable in your sight. For you are our rock and our redeemer. AMEN

### LENTEN GUIDE READING

## SCRIPTURE

- Mark 11:1-11
- John 12:12-16
- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- Philippians 2:5-11

*(At the conclusion of Gospel reading, the congregation responds, saying,  
"Thanks be to God, who brings light and truth.")*

## REFLECTION

"Bright Green Leaves, and Betrayal"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S HOLY INVITATION

**\*HYMN # 177**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

## JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

### PASTORAL PRAYER, PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. AMEN.

### CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

(SING) *Hear our prayer, O God; hear our prayer, O God.  
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.*

WE OFFER GIFTS OF OURSELVES AND DEPART IN PEACE

## CALL TO GIVING AND RECEIPT OF OFFERING

### \*DOXOLOGY

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

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\*CLOSING HYMN # 168**

Lord, Through This Holy Week

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE # 590**

*Threefold Amen*

## POSTLUDE

**\* We rise, either in body or in spirit**

**The Palms**  
**by Jean-Baptiste Faure**

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay  
Are strewn this day in festal preparation,  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,  
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare,  
Join all and sing, His name declare,  
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation.  
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!  
Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!  
His word goes forth, and peoples by its might  
Once more regain freedom from degradation,  
humanity doth give to each his right,  
While those in darkness find restored the light,  
Join all and sing, His name declare,  
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation.  
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!  
Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!  
Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,  
Of all Thy sons sing the emancipation.  
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem  
Brings faith and hope to Thee forevermore.  
Join all and sing, His name declare,  
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## **ALL TO PRAYER FOR HEALING AND FORGIVENESS**

It is a natural thing for humankind to want to live in the bright, happy, satisfied places and times. In a life of faith and spirit, this instinct is well constrained by finding a holy, humble path out of our places of darkness, grief, and repentance. This is why we confess; not to punish ourselves, but to depart – refreshed and renewed - from the self-made Hell of our brokenness and sin.

## **Scripture for March 29, 2015**

### **Mark 11:1-11**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

### **John 12:12-16**

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

### **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens — awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

### **Philippians 2:5-11**

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.

***End of reading:*** "This is the word of God; the story of Jesus Christ, who brings light and truth to the world."

## Opening Reading, March 29, 2015

### Psalm 31:9-16

Be gracious to me, O God,  
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 God;  
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.

### Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

*O give thanks to God, for God is good;  
God's steadfast love endures forever!*

*Let Israel say,  
"God's steadfast love endures forever."*

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

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

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

*The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.*

*This is God's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.*

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

*Save us, we beseech you, O God!  
O God, we beseech you, give us success!*

*Blessed is the one  
who comes in the name of God.  
We bless you from the house of God.*

*The Sovereign is God,  
and God has given us light.  
Bind 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 God,  
for God is good,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever.*