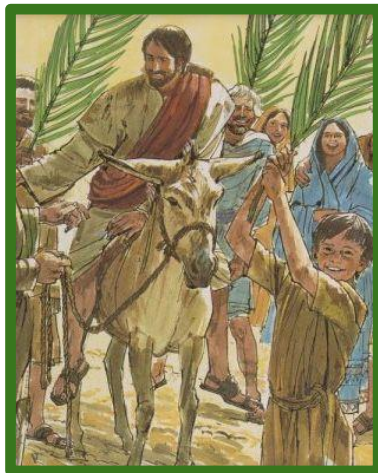


SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor **Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director**



CHOIR AND CONGREGATION TFWS #2109 "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, and to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise him with our lips, but may follow him in the way of the cross. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The journey has been long and sometimes very difficult.

During this Lenten journey we have seen miracles and mysteries.

Now the Lord comes to us in victory.

Jesus rides into Jerusalem and into our hearts.

Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's Name!

Hosanna in the highest!

***HYMN "Christ Jesus, On Sunday, You Rode Into Town" Carolyn Winfrey Gillette**
(TUNE "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise")

**1 Christ Jesus, on Sunday, you rode into town;
 The crowds laid their coats and some palms on the ground.
 They made you a welcome and called you their king,
 But they did not know of the reign you would bring.**

2 Christ Jesus, on Monday, you went up to pray;

**The sellers were filling the Temple that day.
But who could be reverent? That courtyard was loud;
You overturned tables, dispersing the crowd.**

**3 Christ Jesus, on Thursday, you readied a place;
You hosted a meal and you offered the grace.
You told your disciples, "Now eat of this bread,"
"Now drink of the cup of salvation," you said.**

**4 With basin and towel, with washing of feet,
You showed us where love and humility meet.
You loved till your love led to suffering and loss;
You knelt down to serve us, then hung on a cross.**

**5 On Friday, you died, and the next day was bleak.
O Christ, we remember your whole Holy Week.
We can't avoid suffering, or turn from what's true,
For out of your death, we find new life in you.**

PALMS SCRIPTURE

Luke 19: 28-40

Jeannie Laureano, Reader

28 After [Jesus] had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 30 saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" 32 So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They said, "The Lord needs it." 35 Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 37 As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, 38 saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." 40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHOIR

"Prepare the Way"

Nancy Price and Don Besig

THE MESSAGE Which Parade Are You Going To?

“As [Jesus] was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, 38 saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

The crowds offered you their coats to walk on, they waved palm branches, honoring your presence. Today we honor you, Lord, with our faithful tithes and offerings. We lay these gifts before you, humble tokens of our love, a public display of affection for our King of kings. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

**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!**

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER Pastor Karen
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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PASSION SCRIPTURE Matthew 26: 36-50 Joyce Francavilla, Reader

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” **37** He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. **38** Then he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.” **39** And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want.” **40** Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? **41** Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;[a] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **42** Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” **43**

Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. **44** So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. **45** Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **46** Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

47 While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. **48** Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." **49** At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. **50** Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do."^[b] Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHOIR

"Where Are The Angels?"

Ruth Elaine Schram

***PASSING OF THE CROSS** *During the passing of the cross, you are invited to sing or hum hymns #288 Were You There?,#292 What Wondrous Love is This?,#295 In the Cross of Christ I Glory, #301 Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross, #338 Where He Leads Me I will Follow, #357 Just As I Am, #530 Are Ye Able?*

*BENEDICTION

Please leave in silence.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR this morning are given by Louise Woodcox to the glory of God and in memory of her dearest mother, Rachel Rotter.

***Stand as able.**

CALENDAR

Monday, April 3	10 AM Zoom Prayer/Discussion
Tuesday, April 4	11 AM Hanover Manor Fellowship
Thursday, April 6	7 PM Holy Thursday Worship
Friday, April 7	GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday, April 9	10 AM EASTER WORSHIP 11 AM Children's Egg Hunt

FISH N CHIP TAKEOUT AND DINE IN DINNER ticket sales have begun on the church website, caldwellchurch.org The take out is Sunday, April 30.