

Welcome to
WILSON MEMORIAL UNION CHURCH
A Member Congregation, International Council of Community Churches



April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday
10:00 a.m.

7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ

Phone: (908) 755-5020

Website: www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Email: admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org

APRIL 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

10:00 AM

***Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit**

Bold print indicates a unison reading

PRELUDE

Ride on, Ride on in Majesty

By, Henry Hart Milman

Pianist, Roberta Smith

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

On this PALM SUNDAY we light this candle welcoming the power of love into our midst.

INTROIT

In the Garden

Arr. By, Dobrinsky

The Ost Memorial Ringer

HYMN

The Palms

Wilson Memorial Collective
Accompanist, Ricky Francese

WELCOME

Rev. Michael Droege

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Michelle Marigliano

Right Side: Open the gates, for on this side of Jerusalem, a grand parade of Rome brings the pomp and circumstance of power and prestige to the streets for the Passover Feast.

Left Side: Open the gates, for on the other side of Jerusalem, a humble procession enters the city among the lives of the Jewish poor and marginalized.

Right Side: Entering through the gates, we ride in on horses with the powerful armor of Rome, celebrating the procession of military might. Let the feast begin!

Left Side: Entering through the gates, Jesus comes riding on a donkey and the crowd celebrates by shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the LORD”

All: Open to us the gates of God and together we will proclaim, “Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!”

OPENING PRAYER

God of humble entries, we lay down more than our branches on the path ahead but today we lay that which weighs us down as we follow your lead. As we walk with Jesus and his followers into Jerusalem today, open the gates of our hearts that we might enter your realm with joy and thanksgiving. In the name of the One who came humbly, we pray. Amen.

HYMN

Come by Here Good Lord

Wilson Memorial Collective
Accompanist, Ricky Francese

Come by here, good Lord, come by here.

Come by here, good Lord, come by here.

Come by here, good Lord, come by here. Oh Lord, come by here.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

(All are invited to participate verbally in our prayer of reconciliation)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

ANTHEM

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Arr. By, Dobrinsky

The Ost Memorial Ringers

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Please respond with "Lord, hear our Prayer"

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 debts as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen**

HYMN#265

All Glory Laud and Honor

Wilson Memorial Collective

***DOXOLOGY**

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

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

GATHERING OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."

This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

SENDING OUR CHILDREN

SERMON

Two Riders, One Choice to Make Rev. Michael Droege

ANTHEM

We will Glorify the King of Kings

Wilson Memorial Collective
Accompanist, Ricky Francese

BLESSING OUR CHILDREN

BENEDICTION

Rev. Michael Droege

POSTLUDE

Lift up Your Head Ye Mighty Gates

Ar. By G. Weissel

Pianist, Roberta Smith

How to Support the Work of Wilson Memorial Church

In Service: You are invited to place your offerings in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

By Mail: Gifts can be sent to the office at:
7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ 07069

Online: Use our secure giving portal by clicking the “Giving” link on our website; www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Text-to-Give: Text WILSONCHURCH to (908) 460-8818 and follow the setup prompts for your first time. Once set up, you can simply text the gift amount to the above number.

Follow us on social media @mywilsonchurch

How to reach Pastor Michael: You can schedule an appointment online at calendly.com/michaeldroege or call the office for assistance at (908) 755-5020. Of course, in any kind of crisis you can always call or text Pastor Michael at (908) 578-9432.

Please note, Fridays are Pastor Michael’s Sabbath Day.

Rev. Michael Droege, Pastor
Timothy Walton, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Matthew May, Seminary Intern
Roberta Smith, Accompanist
Pam Cox, Bell Choir Director
Jacob Feldman, A/V Specialist
Tina Kelly, Administrator
Harold Kreis, Sexton
The Rev. Barbara Peters, Pastor Emerita

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flower Ministry: If you would like to honor a special someone, or occasion, please consider supplying flowers for a future service. Contact the office for assistance.

For Prayer: Marge Balcerski • Joe Higgins, and his family • Karen Cito and her family • Prayers for peace in places of War.

Fairy Hair: “Luna Locks” will be at coffee hour today to add a little sparkle to the hair of anyone who wants to participate. Tracey Lynn Haskell has arranged for Luna Locks to come again this year in honor of Carol Droege’s memory and love.

Palm Folding: Please join Michelle and Kendal during coffee hour. This wonderful duo will share their knowledge and give support on how to fold palms.

WoW News: WoW sponsored a project to help CHURCH WORLD SERVICE to collect feminine hygiene products from their list and assemble period pack menstrual hygiene kits. The Frippery has also generously donated to this urgent need. Wow will meet again on Thursday, May 4th at 11:30am.

Blood Drive: The Wilson Memorial and St Mary’s Covenant Committee will be hosting a blood drive in loving memory of Fran Ellis on Saturday May 13th from 8am-2pm. Registration can be found on our website.

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday: April 6, Service at 6:00pm

Good Friday: April 7, Service at 6:00pm

Easter: April 9, Worship Service at 10:00am