

THE OSANNIA



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
Rev. Michael Richards, Pastor and Teacher



10:00 AM

PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 2017

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Passion/Palm Sunday calls us to trust in God's purpose for the Messiah and for us.
Understanding the meaning of Christ's "Passion" gives understanding of the meaning and uniqueness
of the Christian faith.*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

HONORING OUR CALL TO BE PEACEMAKERS

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

*(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, we invite you to turn and greet
those around you sharing the peace of Christ.*

"The Peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you.")

PRELUDE

"Largo (from Concerto in A minor)"

A. Vivaldi

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Gather with the crowds to await the coming of Jesus.

All: We have taken His words to heart; we are moved by His compassion.

One: Rejoice with the disciples, that God's Anointed One has courageously chosen to enter the city.

All: We recognize the evil forces Jesus will encounter; we will stand with Him.

One: Cheer with the crowd, "Blessed is He who comes in God's name."

All: Blessed indeed! "God's Kingdom is close, Hosanna in the highest!"

BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE PALMS

(The children will help Pastor Michael hand out the palms.)

***HYMN OF PRAISE & PROCESSION "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"**

Insert

*(With palms in hand, the congregation will process twice around the church in a clockwise direction, if
able.)*

OUR 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.**

*(At the conclusion, children in preschool through grade 8 may leave worship
to attend Kids' Church. Visitors are always welcome.)*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: We stand with the crowd, who welcomes God's Anointed One;

All: We rejoice in Jesus' courage, for we feel the threat of the religious and military powers.

One: We stand with the crowd, who welcomes God's Anointed One.

All: We rejoice that Jesus is with His friends, the disciples, but we wonder whether they can withstand the stress.

One: We stand with the crowd, who welcomes God's Anointed One.

All: We rejoice in the acceptance of the onlookers, of one so holy, but we ask ourselves, "can they resist the evil pressure of the leadership?"

One: We stand with the crowd, who welcomes God's Anointed One.

All: We rejoice that God's just and compassionate way has been recognized, but we wonder, will the love of God triumph in the coming crisis? Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: On His last journey, the journey to Jerusalem, Jesus was acclaimed with joy.

All: When our worship lacks joy and enthusiasm, O God, forgive us.

One: On His last journey, the journey to Jerusalem, Jesus was encouraged by His disciples.

All: When our discipleship is faint-hearted and lacks staying power, O God, forgive us.

One: On His last journey, the journey to Jerusalem, Jesus was confronting evil and self-serving powers and groups.

All: When we compromise with evil, and seek to control the vulnerable and powerless, O God, forgive us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Michael

One: When all is going well, it is easy to support the way of Christ, but when the tough times come, it is easy to walk away.

All: You are with us in the good days, O God, but You are also with us when we are tried and tested. You are with us when we confess our lack of loyalty and trust. You are with us as we confess our fear of the powerful ones. You are with us as we renew our determination to take a stand with Jesus Christ. You never leave us, and will never leave us in all eternity.

One: In Christ, you have a fresh start; pardon and peace are yours.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

(NRSV p. 640; RSV p. 646[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading

Matthew 21:1-11

(NRSV p. 19; RSV p. 21[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

"How Quirky is That?"

Pastor Michael

* HYMN

"All Hail King Jesus" & "He Is Exalted"

Insert

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Amen”

Carl Wiltse

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory

“The King of Glory”

Joseph M. Martin

*Doxology

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

One: Gifts; clothes strewn in his path; a carpet of palm branches; tokens of loyalty, tokens of enthusiasm.

All: These gifts; tokens of thanksgiving, tokens of commitment, instruments of compassion and service.

One: As You blessed Your Holy One, O God, bless these gifts now, for they are given in remembrance of Jesus. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty”

No. 191, vs. 1,2,4

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new Life! Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

POSTLUDE

“Hail, Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer”

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

(During the postlude, you may be seated to listen, or you may leave.)

(*) Please rise in body or spirit.

Throughout the order of worship, if print is in **bold**, words may be spoken together in unison.

† The RSV Bibles are on the lectern side of the sanctuary and the NRSV Bibles are on the pulpit side of the sanctuary.

Please silence or turn off your cell phone before you enter the sanctuary. Thank you!

Worship Participants

Greeter: Maytha Southard, Carol Kauffman

Acolyte: Nathan Geary

Liturgist: Ann Sanborn

Ushers: Judy Currier, Pam Carroll, Judy Nilsen, Lorraine Bergen

We **welcome** you to worship and invite you to join us after the service in Fellowship Hall for refreshments. If you are visiting us today, please pick up a **Welcome Bag** in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex. We encourage you to sign the guest book.

Children will be dismissed for Kids' Church after the Lord's Prayer. **Visiting children are always welcome!** Kids' Church takes place in Beinema Hall, and runs until 11:15 AM. Children in preschool through grade 2 will not be dismissed after class until picked up by a parent.

Easter Egg Hunt ~ Saturday, April 15, 11 AM to 1 PM. It's not too late to help! Your help with this beloved community event is needed and much appreciated by many. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

The next **Women's Spiritual Book Group** gathering will be on **Wednesday, April 12 at 1 PM** at Anne Coleman's home. The current selection is, "*Out of the Dust: Story of an Unlikely Missionary*" by Avis Goodheart. Join us! Please contact Molly Mason or Cathy Bowden for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will be gathering **Thursday, April 13 at 1:30 PM** in the Grant Room. The more the merrier so please plan on joining us, all are welcome! Please contact Judy Nilsen at 781-3664 for more information.

The next **Coffee House** event will be on **Friday, April 21 from 6:30 to 9:00 PM.** Enjoy a beverage and listen to music from local artists. This month features *Connor Garvey*. Invite your friends and neighbors to this family-friendly event!

The **Falmouth Food Pantry** will be open on the following days in April: Monday, April 17 from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM; Tuesdays, April 11, 18 and 25 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and on Thursdays, April 13, 20 and 27 from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM.



PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Robbie Coleman
Charlie Grubb
Maureen Grubb
Mimi Mahirwe



Joyce Harmon
Bee O'Brien
Paul Varga
Charlotte Sinnett

Please let the church office know if we have missed someone. We will keep people on the prayer list for one month. If you would like them to continue on the prayer list, please update us so that we may better pray for them. Thank you.



Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Friday

Church Phone: 207.781.3413

Visit our Web site: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

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This Week's Schedule

Sunday	April 9 ~ Palm Sunday
10:00 AM	Worship
10:10 AM	Kids' Church
11:15 AM	Coffee Fellowship
11:30 AM	Council of Ministries (Grant Room)
Tuesday	April 11
10:00 AM	Bible Study (OceanView)
Wednesday	April 12
2:00 PM	Women's Spiritual Book Club (Anne Coleman's home)
7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	April 13 ~ Maundy Thursday
1:30 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Grant Room)
6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Service with a simple meal (Beinema Hall)
Friday	April 14 ~ Good Friday
Saturday	April 15
11:00 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday	April 16 ~ Easter
5:30 AM	Sunrise Service at Town Landing
9:00 AM	Worship
11:00 AM	Worship
	Deadline for May Congregator submissions

*Please join us for
worship
at the following
Easter services:*

Maundy Thursday
April 13 at 6:30 PM
(Starting with a
simple meal)

Easter Sunday
April 16
5:30 AM
(at Town Landing)
9:00 AM
and
11:00 AM



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18

Trouble seeing the small print in the bulletin? Please ask an usher for a **LARGE print bulletin and hymns.**