



CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IA 52245
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR MARCH 28, 2021
Palm Sunday

“Palm Sunday is not merely a commemoration of a past event; it is, rather, the liturgical *remembrance* through which Jesus’ entry becomes real for the present-day worshipping community...The life of the church derives from the life and love of Jesus, and...Palm Sunday...invites the church to remember the shape and character of that life and love.”

Gail O’Day

PRELUDE “Adagio” John Stainer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, wherever you are,
sing Hosanna and lift high your palms!

Hosanna! A time to turn and return to God.

Hosanna! A time to mourn and a time to dance.

Hosanna! God’s presence meets us everywhere, in every time and in every season.
It is time to give God thanks and praise.

HYMN “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

**Hosanna, loud hosanna,
The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple
The lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
And brought them to his side,
The children sang their praises,
As onward he did ride.**

**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.**

**“Hosanna in the highest!”
That ancient song is ours.
We hail our great Redeemer,
And sing with all our powers.
“Hosanna, Christ, we praise you
with heart and life and voice,
Hosanna in your presence
forever we’ll rejoice.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we bring ourselves before you today shouting “Hosanna,” asking you to save us in so many ways. Surely you have been our rock and our salvation. Although we have felt lost and afraid, you have been with us. Although we have given up our voices when we should have spoken, you invite us to change. You call us to find the truth about ourselves and our world and to speak it. Strengthen our hearts. Forgive us for all the ways we have failed, and help us to forgive ourselves. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God’s love remains even when we turn away or fall away or run away.

God forgives and calls us back to the Way that leads to life and peace.

Be encouraged by God’s grace and empowered by God’s spirit.

**Let us receive God’s grace. We are blessed, forgiven, loved, and sent into the world
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 2:5-11

RIDE ON, KING JESUS

Spiritual

Refrain



Verses



1. King Je - sus ___ rides on a milk - white horse,
2. I know that ___ my re - deem - er lives,
3. If you want to find your ___ way to God,



- 1-3. No man can a - hin - der me; { The riv - er of Jor - dan
And of ___ his bless - ing
The gos - pel high - way



1. he did cross,
 2. free - ly gives,
 3. must be trod,
- } No man can a - hin - der me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Toccatà (C Major)" Johann Pachelbel

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Minister: | The Rev. Bill Lovin |
| Director of Children's Programs: | The Rev. Ann Molsberry |
| Organist: | Bill Crouch |
| Choir Director | Kristin Ramseyer |

Ride On, King Jesus – Spiritual, Words and Music - © OCP Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-715458. All rights reserved.

Call to Worship—First Church UCC, Cambridge, MA, 3/28/21. Opening Prayer and Assurance of Pardon, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL, 3/20/16.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted by early Sunday morning each week at <https://vimeo.com/channels/1547852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.

RACIAL JUSTICE–SOCIAL ACTION DISCUSSIONS: AN INVITATION

The Mission Board invites you to participate the final discussion group to be held via Zoom in April.

We will come together with the hope of understanding and combating racism—within ourselves and in the world around us. Through the questions we ask and the answers we propose, we will seek specific projects and goals that can lift the burden of racism that our sisters and brothers of color—indeed, all of us—carry in our daily life.

Each session will highlight a different area for social action. Each will open with brief introductory remarks, and guided discussion will follow; we encourage *all* participants to voice their own thoughts! (If attendance warrants, Zoom will help us arrange smaller discussion groups.) The sessions are scheduled as shown below.

Registration instructions: please read carefully!

Registration will be handled through **Kyle Flippo, kyle-flippo@uiowa.edu**. Please email Kyle indicating the discussion(s) you'd like to join. Approximately a week before each session, registrants will receive a welcome letter with a Zoom link. Be sure to save space on your calendar for each session!

Environmental Justice Apr. 27, Tuesday, 7:00–8:30

After you register, you'll also be offered a *few* pages of suggested reading for each session. After each discussion, you'll receive a list of proposed actions and activities.

We welcome you, and encourage you to pass our invitation on to others who may wish to join us. **If you have questions, please email Kyle Flippo, kyle-flippo@uiowa.edu.**

We need *you* for this project; please join us if you can. Few of us live without the benefits or harms of racial injustice. This is a chance for you to connect to the community and learn how you might help “to form a more perfect Union.”

Music and Social Justice: The Pacifica String Quartet and clarinetist Anthony McGill will be in virtual residence the week of March 29-April 2, 2021 as part of their residency with both Hancher and the UI String Quartet Residency Program (the program directed by Congregational UCC member, Associate Professor Beth Oakes.) Anthony McGill will be having a conversation with Micah Ariel James from Hancher on Thursday, April 1, at 7 pm CDT titled *Music and Social Justice*. If you want to attend, please use the link below to register for this free webinar.

<https://uiowa.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvfu2uqjosGdOE09mwaJZNgfoml4VQoPcG>

The Pacifica and Mr. McGill will also be presenting a virtual concert through Hancher Auditorium. Pacifica just won a Grammy and Anthony McGill is an absolutely extraordinary clarinetist. The concert is Tuesday, March 30, at 7:30 pm and the cost to attend is only \$5 per ticket. You can enjoy this from the comforts of your own living room. Here's the link:

<https://hancher.uiowa.edu/2020-21/pacifica-quartet-and-anthony-mcgill-clarinet>

Supply Needs at CommUnity: Currently in need of **baby items** (diapers & wipes). Larger sizes of diapers tend to be more popular among our clients. Please feel free to drop off any donations of these items to the Pepperwood food bank location.

CommUnity is also in need of containers to be used for repackaging dog food. A good example of containers that work well are empty Folger's coffee containers.

Lastly, CommUnity is in need of nonperishable, easy to open, microwavable food items. Some good examples may include:

- pop top canned goods
- microwavable pasta cups
- microwavable soups
- microwavable rice
- etc.

INSIDE OUT REENTRY COMMUNITY PRESENTS UNHEARD VOICES, a forum to discuss the hidden impacts of incarceration and reentry on children, partners, and family members. These groups often face challenges finding support for their situation, as well as the effects of the societal stigma surrounding incarceration. The event includes a panel of service providers who will discuss programming and support groups for these families and children, as well as a panel of individuals who have been impacted by the incarceration of a loved one. This event discusses available opportunities and identifies gaps in support for these unheard voices. April 22, 2021 12:00 PM Register [here](#).

The Consultation of Religious Congregations continues to look for a new coordinator for the Johnson County CROP Hunger Walk. Without a coordinator in place in a timely manner, this event will not be happening again in 2021.

Below is a concise overview of our community's CROP Walk, including information about the coordinator and team responsibilities. Please review this as you prayerfully consider stepping forward to fill these key roles.

CROP Walk Coordinator and Team Responsibilities

The coordinator and team are responsible for:

1. Setting the date.
2. Setting a date and location for the rally. This is usually about 6 weeks prior to the walk. reps from the various churches can pick up their collection envelopes (tho CWS would now prefer

that donations be made online) There are also brochures, posters etc to help advertise the CROP Walk. Sunday School materials can also be ordered. I did a project with our SS kids each year to get them excited about CROP We have had the rally at two locations to make it easier for team leaders. The supplies are all available online and are no cost. I have lots left from this year.

3. Apply for a walk permit from the city. This too can be done online. They require a map of the walk route. I have a copy. The walk has begun at the building where Free Lunch is served and ends up there as well 911 Gilbert Court. They have been very generous in allowing us to be inside before and after the walk if the weather is not good.

4. Apply for insurance. This also is done online and is provided by CWS.

CROP has a new theme every 1-2 years, but basically, we are walking to help stop hunger. 25% of money raised goes directly to the Comm Unity Food Bank in Iowa City.

For further information and to volunteer please contact Barb Lang at: bj60lange@q.com or 319-351-3762.