



St. John's United Church of Christ

## Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025



\* Please stand if it is comfortable to do so. **Bold Print=Everyone**

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREET ONE ANOTHER** (be seated)

CHURCH BELL (the bell invites us to worship)

**PRELUDE**

**GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

adapated from Psalm 118

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

This house of worship blesses you, holy God.

God has sent the Light of the World to us.

**Let us celebrate with a procession of palms and shouts of Hosanna!**

O give thanks to the Lord. God is good to us!

**People: God's steadfast love endures forever!**

\***OPENING HYMN** *All Glory, Laud and Honor* #192  
(children process through sanctuary waving palm branches)

\***WE INVITE GOD TO WORSHIP** (unison)

**Merciful Savior, it is our privilege and delight to be in your presence and to bring our praises and worship to you. You are our teacher and our friend, our rock and our hope and our strength and our light. We celebrate your arrival in Jerusalem; we anticipate the agony that is before you; we await your victory over death. Grant that we might walk this journey alongside you as faithful disciples, rather than as participants of the fickle crowd. Amen.**

\***RESPONSE** *How Great Thou Art* (chorus only) #33

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Jesus Loves Me

**\*\*OFFERING INVITATION**

God is so good and we are richly blessed. Let us give back to God with gratitude and thanksgiving.

Congregational Response: *Lord, Jesus, Who through Forty Days* (v.3) 180

\***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

**Gracious God, we bring our tithes and offerings to you as cheerful and grateful givers. You are the giver of every good and perfect gift — of life and of eternal life, of your redeeming grace and mercy, of your love which overcomes our fears and weaknesses. Thank you for blessing us with the gift of yourself, incarnate in Jesus Christ our Savior and Friend, and for counting us worthy to share in his life and ministry. Use these gifts, we pray, for your purposes and glory. Amen.**

**ANTHEM** *Just Beyond the Palms*

Martin

**WE GATHER IN PRAYER**

Silent Prayers – Pastoral Prayer-The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Congregational Response: tune: *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

#196

*In the steps our Savior trod / Let us follow faithfully,*

*Where the sinless Son of God / Went to set us sinners free.*

*Mark each footstep in the strife / Of the Way, the Truth, the Life*

**SCRIPTURE:**

Old Testament: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

New Testament: Luke 19:28-40

The Word of God for the People of God **Thanks be to God**

**SERMON** *From Triumph to Tragedy*

\***CLOSING HYMN** *Hosanna, Loud, Hosanna*

\***BLESSING** (responsively)

We have followed Christ on his triumphant ride into Jerusalem. Let us remain faithful and not turn back as we face his suffering and death;

**For in his suffering — and in our own — lies the promise and the hope of new life. Amen.**

\***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *It is Well with My Soul* (chorus) #561

\***POSTLUDE**

**\*\***You may place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or online at myucc.org and clicking on the *contribute* button. Please prayerfully consider setting up regular online donations to continue our outreach into the community.

**Never put a period where God has put a comma, God is still speaking!**

## ST. JOHN'S UCC STAFF and VOLUNTEERS

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins</b>
<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Terry Goodman</b>
<b>Head Usher</b>	<b>Jake Alexander</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>DeEtta Welte</b>
<b>Music Director, Pianist</b>	<b>Becky Brockman</b>
<b>Children /Family Ministry Coordinator</b>	<b>Will Meyer</b>
<b>Nursery Attendant</b>	<b>Darcie Bahr</b>
<b>Projection</b>	<b>Saundra Lange</b>
<b>Sound</b>	<b>Lonny Vieck</b>
<b>Church Secretary</b>	<b>Angie Robinson</b>
<b>Church Board President</b>	<b>Ed Cummings</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Brett and Keaton Summers</b>

**Donate an Easter** flower in honor of or in memory of a loved one to be displayed on Easter Sunday in the Sanctuary. Please bring it to Memorial Hall by noon on Friday, April 18. An info sheet is provided soon. Please complete it, following the instructions carefully. A list of donors will be included in the May newsletter.

**Preschool Teacher Needed** St. John's United Church of Christ's Preschool has been going strong for 25 years. Our preschool has had effective, caring teachers providing children with a strong foundation for kindergarten and beyond. We are looking for a qualified director/lead teacher to take over the management and teaching responsibilities for the Preschool for the 2025-26 academic year. The position could begin as early as June 1, 2025, but the exact starting date is negotiable. Send resume and 3 letters of reference to St. John's UCC, 606 N. Fifth St., Vincennes, IN. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.



Virtual Worship Service is still available on the church website, [myucc.org](http://myucc.org).  
Worship Services are also "Live Streamed" on the Church's FACEBOOK page



### **THIS WEEK in the Life of St. John's**

#### **SUNDAY, April 13**

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am  
Donuts and Diapers Shower for Nick and Addison Atkinson 10-10:30 am  
Children's Palm Processional  
Worship 10:30 am  
Children's Church

#### **MONDAY, April 14**

BABE Store 12-5:30 pm  
Friends 5-6:15 pm  
Outreach & Missions 6:30 pm

#### **WEDNESDAY, April 16**

Choir 7 pm

#### **THURSDAY, April 17**

Maundy Thursday Service @ Noon in Chapel

#### **FRIDAY, APRIL 18**

Good Friday  
Tenebrae Service of Darkness and Shadows 7 pm  
No Preschool

#### **Saturday, April 19**

Easter Egg Hunt 4-5:30 pm

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

#### **EASTER SUNDAY, April 20**

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am  
Fellowship 9:45 am  
Worship 10:30 am, Butterfly Processional  
Jillian Cummins Baptism  
Children's Church

#### **MONDAY, April 21**

BABE Store 12-5:30 pm  
Friends 5-6:15 pm  
Worship Comm. 6pm  
Church Board 7 pm

#### **WEDNESDAY, April 23**

Choir 7 pm

#### **THURSDAY, April 24**

Girl Scouts 4:30  
Dinner @ Ponderosa 6 pm



## ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Continuing Prayer Requests:** Bruce Deckard, Gary Meyer, Don Osborne, Jr., Norma Meyer, Pat Hutchinson and Family, Gayle Huffer, Brian Fillingim, Carol Graham, Vern Houchins

- Carole and David Culp want to add their nephew's wife, Katrina Memering, to your prayers. Katrina was born with cystic fibrosis. In 2011, she received a double lung transplant. Over time, the drugs she has been taking to maintain the transplant have damaged her kidneys. She is hoping to find a live donor for a kidney transplant.
- Please keep Sarah Lowe in your prayers as her husband is now on hospice.

### Addresses for Shut-ins and Others

**Norma Meyer,** Gentle Care, - Room 8, 1202 S 16th, Vincennes, IN 47591

**Susie Milligan,** Colonial Assisted Living, - Room 118, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

**Leona Conway,** Aperion Care, - C Wing Room C-35, 3801 Old Bruceville Rd, Vincennes, IN 47591

**Marge Beamon,** The Villages at Oak Ridge, - Room 303, 1694 Troy Rd. Washington, IN 47501

**Michael Lankford-** Bridgepoint Health Center, 1900 College Ave., Vincennes, IN 47591

### Home

Bruce Deckard

Gary Meyer

Gayle Huffer

Ellen Riggs



If you have a caregiving need such as a hospital stay, a visit or desire communion, please contact the church office, Janet Goodman (co-chair of Caregivers) or any caregiver listed below. We would appreciate your help and want to make sure everyone is blessed by St. John's when you need it! **St. John's UCC Caregivers-** Ed and Brenda Cummings, Cindy Deckard (co-chair), Connie and Dan Coulter, Peggy Meyer, Ray Pieper, Terry and Janet Goodman, Lonny Vieck, Larry and Betsy Marchino.

### **HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE:**

**Maundy Thursday** (4/17): Service of Holy Communion in Chapel at Noon.

**Good Friday** (4/18): Tenebrae Service of Darkness & Shadows at 7 pm.

**Holy Saturday** (4/19): Easter Egg Hunt 4-5:30 pm.

**Easter** (4/20): Butterfly Processional, Unlocking the "A" word **Celebrate!**

**CONFIRMATION** is less than a month away. Confirmands are required to be in worship on Palm Sunday and Good Friday (7:00 pm). The class will participate in that service—please wear dark clothing and arrive at 6:30 to run through instructions). On **April 27<sup>th</sup>** we will meet at **5 pm** to finalize faith statements and make our stoles. Please bring an adult who can help with the stole (no sewing required) and a steam iron. This will probably take more than an hour. On Saturday, **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** we will rehearse at 10:00 a.m. Confirmation will take place on **May 4<sup>th</sup>** during worship. Group photos will take place at 9:45 that morning.

### Plans for Graduate Recognition Sunday (date pending)

If you or anyone in your family will be graduating from high school, college, or completing any other notable educational achievement, please contact the church office with the following information as soon as possible:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree or special honors: \_\_\_\_\_

Future plans: \_\_\_\_\_

Other info: (i.e. parents' names, connection to our congregation, etc.)

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