

Order of worship

March 25, 2018

Palm Sunday

10:00 am

(please enter and be seated in quiet meditation and prayer)

MORNING MEDITATION

“We have to do what is good at least as far as we can determine; then we have to let it go.” Fr. Daniel Berrigan

PRELUDE

OPENING WORDS

Joyce Monska

***CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God of all life,

People: Soaring music, falling rain,

Leader: Springtime joy, evening rest,

People: Children's laughter, loud hosannas.

Leader: Come home to us. O God. Let us taste your goodness.

People: Let us feel the love of God through our restlessness.

Leader: O Lenten mysteries. Easter hopes.

People: Come home to us, O God. Dwell within us. Fill this place with your holiness and your amazing grace.

***OPENING HYMN: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" UMH #278

INVOCATION

Joyce Monska

Leader: O Lord hold us close this day, for the challenges of life exist in every place and time..

People: Guide us through all uncertainty. Help us to steer through triumphs and failures. Balance our doubts and betrayals and our shadows and questions with your conditional love.

Leader: Hold us close, dear Lord, for your grace is far stronger than our fears.

People: Hold us tight so that we might look into our hearts and find your forgiveness. Walk with us this day from suffering and death into life eternal.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. David F. Hurst

Leader: Eternal God, we confess that we are all too often get caught up in the excitement and jubilation of the crowd.

People: As we parade through life, our cries become the same as everyone else. We have become fickle. We celebrate our salvation one moment and call for the death of your Son the next! Forgive us, Lord as we pray. Help us to serve you. Give us the willingness do your will and to find faith in our hearts.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Almighty God, who in your mercy, we are promised forgiveness. Help us to accept your love so that we might change. Strengthen us, that we will follow your Will. Through the love and blessing of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE

***CHILDREN'S TIME

Eduardo and Children

Psalter Reading: Psalm 118 UMH p – 839-840

Nancy Harding

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer

***Response “Glory Be to the Father”

“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 ”

Scripture Reading

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9 (chair Bible OT pg. 681) Nancy Harding

***Hymn of Preparation: " Jesus Shall Reign"

UMH # 157

Second Lesson: Mark 11:1-11

(chair Bible MT pg. 47)

Rev. David F. Hurst

Sermon: Celebration Falsehood

Rev. David F. Hurst

Ministry of Giving "Our God"

Church Choir

***Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all gifts; Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

***PARTING HYMN: "All Glory Laud and Honor" UMH # 280

(please be seated after singing of hymn)

BENEDICTION

Leader: O Lord, may the joy of this day be celebrated with care and love.

People: May God's grace be abundant and forgiving. May the awesome Mystery of God bring new life to all. Amen

POSTLUDE

(A reminder to enter the sanctuary in silent meditation for those wishing to sit in silent meditation or prayer. Thank You)

The Altar service flowers this morning are given in memory of Natalie Birrell and Edna Couture given by Roxie Pin.

Church dates for this week, the week of March 25th

Monday, March 26th - Missions Mtg. - 3:15pm

Tuesday, March 27th - Choir Rehearsal - 6:15pm

Wednesday, March 28th - Church Office open 9am - 3pm

Thursday, March 29th - 6:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service
(see announcement)

Thursday, March 29th 8pm - Friday March 30th Noon
(open church vigil)

Church dates for next week, week of April 1st

Wednesday, April 4th - Church Office Open 9am - 3pm

Wednesday, April 4th - Deadline for Supper Reservations

Friday, April 6th - Fellowship Hall set up for supper

Saturday, April 7th - 5:30pm - Roast Pork Supper

(sign up to help, set up, serve, kitchen, clean up) during
hospitality time following this mornings' service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maundy Thursday Service - 6:30pm (for details, please read insert)

Holy Thursday 8pm - Good Friday 12 Noon - open church vigil

Eight - One hour time slots are still available - Please sign up today!

Roast Pork Dinner - Saturday, April 7th. (please read insert)

Sign up for helping with set up, serving, kitchen or clean up during
hospitality time following this mornings' service.

Thank you from Martha Kellett

Dear Friends of Christ United; Thanks to all for the shower of birthday greeting and the many treats you sent my way. The weekly DVD's are much appreciated also. Sure helps this growing old bit! (Martha was 99 years young on March 10th)

Christ United Methodist Church, 271 Rocky Hill Rd, Northampton, Ma.

email: christnorthampton@gmail.com / office phone (413) 584-5935

Web: ChristUMCNorthampton.org / Face book: [ChristNorthampton](https://www.facebook.com/ChristNorthampton)

Rev. David F. Hurst (413) 426-6031(email: dfhurst@verizon.net)