

Southport Congregational Church

United Church of Christ 524 Pequot Avenue Southport, Connecticut 06890 office@southportucc.org

Rev. Paul Whitmore, Senior Minister

Rev. Laura Whitmore, Associate Minister

THE SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 28, 2021, at ten o'clock Palm Sunday

PRELUDE

"Deo Gracias" arr. David N. Johnson
"Overture to Occasional Oratorio" Handel

Steve Perrett and Gretchen Perret, Trumpets
Anthony DeQuattro, Tympani
Elaine DeGrood, Organ

WELCOME Rev. Paul Whitmore

HYMN

"All Glory Laud And Honor"

All glory, laud, and honor To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children, made sweet hosannas ring!
The people of the Hebrews, with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems, before thee we present.

Thou are the King of Israel, thou David's royal son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One;
To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King. All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King, To whom the lips of children, made sweet hosannas ring! Amen.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Julie Center, Student Minister

Leader: Hosanna to the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Let us shout our

blessings and sing our praises!

People: Let us embrace the fullness of life that Christ gives!

Leader: Let us open wide the gates of our hearts and let our Savior enter!

People: We open our hearts to allow Christ to transform our lives!

Leader: Let us join our voices with those who gathered to wave palm branches and

praise Jesus, saying....

People: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER (Trespasses)

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.

SONG "Give Me Oil In My Lamp / Sing Hosanna"

Cherub Choir Quartet ~ Ava Keiser, Lily Keiser, Michela Messina and Amelia Uhl
Directed by: Marnie Kruse
Accompaniment by: Elaine DeGrood, piano

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Paul Whitmore

Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,
the victory 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 we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.

O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Ali Kralovec-Kirchherr, Student Minister

CALL TO OFFERING

To give towards your **2021 Stewardship Pledge Contribution**, please text the following: To: **73256** Message: **Sptccgiving Pledge \$___**

To give to the **Sunday Offering**, please text the following: To: **73256** Message: **Sptccgiving Plate** \$____

To give **online**, please click **here** to be taken to our website.

To **mail** us your offering or pledge, please send a check to: Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890 *Thank you!*

OFFERTORY

"See The Conquering Hero" Handel

Senior Choir, Trumpets and Tympani

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, your abundant love and generosity is beyond comprehension. With our gratitude on this Palm Sunday, we thank you for all of your gifts that sustain us, and for all of the overflowing love we enjoy. With this opportunity for us to share, we pray that these gifts which we share from our hearts will be used to spread your love to those in need. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

(See Insert)

SERMON

"JESUS, DID YOU KNOW?"

Rev. Laura Whitmore

CLOSING HYMN

"The Palms"

Gabriel Fauré

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festal preparation,
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare;

Chorus: Join all and sing, His name declare,

Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation.

Hosanna! Praised be the Lord,

Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation.

His word goes forth and peoples by its might
Once more their freedom gain from degradation;
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light.

Chorus

Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, Of all they sons sing the emancipation;

Through boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem Brings forth the hope to thee forevermore.

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BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Alleluia"

Senior Choir

POSTLUDE

"Moderato" from Water Music Handel
Trumpets, Tympani and
Organ

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JOIN US FOR EASTER NEXT SUNDAY, IN-PERSON! Just as Christ brings new life and rebirth, our doors will be flung open to welcome you back for in-person worship! Join us for one of the following: 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service at Sasco Beach led by our Confirmands (no reservations required), 9:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary (reservations required) with special music with Timpani, Brass and our Choir, or 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary (reservations required) with special music with Timpani, Brass and our Choir. The 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services will be presented in the same manner. Church School for 3 year olds through Grade 8 will be held outside, during both services - children should go directly to the Barn for Easter Activities & Fun! Our 9:00 service will also be livestreamed. RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE by TELEPHONE ONLY PLEASE – by calling the church office at 203-255-1594, during regular business hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday. Reservations can be made until Friday, April 1.

### IN-PERSON WORSHIP WILL CONTINUE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.

**FOLLOWING EASTER** We look forward to worshiping together again in our Sanctuary. Reservations will be required in advance. **RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE by TELEPHONE ONLY PLEASE – by calling the church office at 203-255-1594, during regular business hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. Church School will also remain in person - please drop off students at the Barn before the start of worship. Middle School Church School will resume with Mrs. Jimeson on April 25<sup>th</sup> - until then, Middle School youth are welcome to attend at the Barn.** 

**HOLY WEEK IS HERE** We have many wonderful events for you to participate in as we complete our Lenten journey and make our way to Easter! Click <u>here</u> for the schedule of events. All events, with the exception of the Luminary Labyrinth Walk will take place on our <u>Livestream SCC Channel</u>. The Luminary Labyrinth Walk will take place outside on Wednesday in our front parking lot from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Please stay tuned for emails with the bulletin for each event.

# TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EASTER LILIES THAT WILL FILL THE SANCTUARY FOR EASTER NEXT WEEK! You may purchase a plant in Honor of or In Memory of your loved ones (this information will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin.) If you would like to make a donation, please provide the following information: 1) The name of the person(s) you are giving the flower for and whether it is in HONOR OF or in MEMORY OF them. 2) Indicate if you will pick up your plant(s) after noon on Easter Sunday or if you would like to donate it to be delivered to some of our church members. Each plant is \$15.00 To donate online click HERE Or to text your donation Text the number: 73256 with the Message: SPTCCGIVING Lily \$15. To mail your donation, please send a check to: Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890. If you would like to download an Easter Lily Donation form, please click here. Thank you!

**THE PALMS ADORNING OUR ALTAR** today are given to the glory of God by The Flower Committee.

WE THANK THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM TEAM Parker Whitmore, Ella Conopask and Hannah Kleinbeck for their help during today's livestreamed service!

WE THANK OUR SENIOR CHOIR, CHERUB CHOIR AND TRUMPETS AND BRASS FOR TODAY'S MUSIC for today's special music.

WE THANK OUR DEACONS FOR FILLING OUR CROSS WITH PALMS If you haven't already, please stop by the church and take some palms home for your family.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO OUR EASTER FOOD DRIVE!** Our High School Youth Group will assemble the bags this evening and the Mission Outreach Board will distribute them to Emerge, Alpha Home, The Kennedy Center and Adam J. Lewis Academy.

**CHERUB CHOIR RESUMES IN-PERSON ON APRIL 11.** All Cherubs are invited to join Miss Marnie and come in-person to Cherub Choir rehearsals in the Barn from 9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SENIOR CHOIR AND FRIENDS What a treat we had on Sunday! We loved every minute of the Senior Choir & Friends from near and far singing "Ride The Chariot." Thank you! In case you missed it, or would like to enjoy it again, here is a **link** to the video.

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Jesus, Did You Know? Rev. Laura Whitmore March 28, 2021

The Messianic Scriptures

Jesus Knows About The Coin In The Fish's Mouth. When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. "What do you think, Simon?" he asked. "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?" "From others," Peter answered. "Then the children are exempt," Jesus said to him. "But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

(Matthew 17:25-27)

Jesus knows About The Samaritan Woman's Husbands. Now he had to go through Samaria. So, he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.). The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.). Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. (John 4:4-19)

Jesus Knows That Lazarus Had Died. After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So, then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

(John 11:11-17)

The Temptation of Jesus. Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test." Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Get thee behind me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve God only." Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

(Matthew 4:1-11)

The Baptism of Jesus. Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

The Transfiguration of Jesus. About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.). While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

(Luke 9:28-36)

Peter's Affirmation. When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is? They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

(Matthew 16:13-20)

Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go yonder and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee (James and John), he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then Jesus said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou will be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. And Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, Jesus went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, thy will be done." And, again, Jesus came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

(Luke 22:39-46, Matthew 26:36-46)

Southport Congregational Church

P.O. Box 366, 524 Pequot Avenue Southport, Connecticut 06890 Tel. (203) 255-1594, Fax (203) 255-4706

website: www.southportucc.org, email: office@southportucc.org

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Minister - Paul D. Whitmore

Student Minister - Ali Marie Kralovec-Kirchherr · Student Minister - Julie Center

Business Manager - Paul DiPrato · Communications Manager - Alisa Ryan

Church Secretary - Pam Poling · Bookkeeper - Maria Bogatikova

Investment Manager - Nancy Long · Director of Music - Elaine DeGrood

Youth Choir Director - Phillip Bettencourt · Assistant Youth Choir Director - Marnie Kruse

Soloists - Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, Leslie Uhl · Custodian - Sydney Sinclair

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		Leahkay White	- 2024			+ Denotes Scribe	
						 Denotes Vice Chair 	•

