



**Stone Church of Willow Glen -
Presbyterian Church (USA)
San José, California**

**March 24, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
Palm/Passion Sunday**

The Preparation for the Word

*Before worship, speak with God. During worship, let God speak to you.
After worship, speak with those around you.*

Chimes

Prelude

“Ceremonial March”

*Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Matt Marcott

Introit

“Hosanna”

*Bryan Geoffrey Leech
Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director*

Call to Worship

Sing songs of loudest praise!

Hosanna!

Sing songs that are unashamed.

Hosanna!

Sing songs without being afraid.

Hosanna!

Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

Hosanna!

Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

Matt Marcotte, Liturgist

***Opening Hymn #88** “All Glory Laud and Honor”

<Refrain>

**All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

1

Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed one.

<Refrain>

2

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present.

<Refrain>

3

To thee before your passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.

<Refrain>

4

Thou didst accept their praises:
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King!

Call to Confession

The Gospel of John tells us that crowds gathered to praise Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, singing and shouting with confidence. After describing the crowd, however, the Gospel writer zooms in on the disciples and tells us that while the crowds shouted praise at Jesus, the disciples were confused. John 12:16 says, “the disciples did not understand what was happening”. A lot of our lives may look like this: either we understand God's presence in our lives and want to shout it from the rooftop—or we're standing on the side of the parade missing our chance to sing. That is why we need the prayer of confession. Because life happens fast, and without a doubt, we have stood where the disciples stood. So let us pray, for we don't want to miss our chance to sing:

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we want to run into the streets and sing your praise! We want to be bold and unashamed of this good-news Gospel. However, too often we find ourselves standing against the wall. Too often we stay quiet. Too often we let others carry the song. Forgive us for the moments when we could lead the parade but instead find ourselves standing on the sidelines. Show us which songs are ours to sing. Show us which parades are ours to lead, and then give us the courage and conviction to do both. With hope and honesty we pray, amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, no matter where you are on the parade route—whether you are waving palm branches through the streets or standing against the wall, quiet and cautious—Jesus marched for you. Jesus' love, his striving for justice and mercy, it was for you. You are included in this story and nothing can ever change that. So hear these words and trust them deep in your bones: We have reason to sing, for Jesus Christ loved you yesterday. Jesus Christ loves you today. And Jesus Christ will love you tomorrow. You are forgiven, claimed, and sent to serve. Go out and sing. Go out trusting these words. Amen.

Silence

***The Passing of the Peace**

*The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.*

OGHS Moment

Maureen Chandler, StoneWorks Chair

We Listen To God's Word

Anthem

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates"

Lloyd Larson

Song

"Hosanna in the Highest"

Ruth Elaine Schram

Stepping Stones Choir; Peggy Spool, Director; Stone Chancel Choir

Today's Reading

John 12:12-16 (N.T., p. 106)

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!'

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Sermon

"Then They Remembered"

Rev. Dr. Libby Boatwright

We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*"Schmücke Dich, O Liebe Seele"
(Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness)*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

***Dedication of the People and Their Gifts Hymn #592**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.***

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People and the 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.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn**

"A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd"

#200 Glory to God hymnal

1
*A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had
stripped the green trees bare, And hailing Christ
as king aloud, waved branches in the air.*

4
*Lest we be fooled because our hearts have
surged with passing praise, Remind us, God, as
this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.*

2
*They laid their garments in the road and
spread his path with palms And vows of lasting
love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms.*

5
*Instead of palms, a winding sheet will
have to be unrolled, A carpet much more
fit to greet the king a cross will hold.*

3
*When day dimmed down to deepening dark the
crowd began to fade Till only trampled
leaves and bark were left from the parade.*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Phoenix Processional"

Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

*Feel free to depart quietly. Please be mindful of those enjoying the postlude.
Please exit thru the back doors, thru the Narthex to the patio.*

***Those who are able may rise in body or spirit.**

Bulletin Cover Art – "Then They Remembered" by Gwynn Garrity

Bulletin Cover Artist Statement ~ "Then They Remembered"

Inspired by John 12:12-16

In the Matthew, Mark, and Luke versions of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, two unnamed disciples follow Jesus' orders to retrieve a colt. In these accounts, the disciples actively participate in the parade, laying down their cloaks and singing praise. In contrast, John's version of this story provides minimal details and the disciples are hardly mentioned at all. However, the text does a unique thing: it breaks the fourth wall to tell us something important: "His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered" (John 12:16).

Is Peter at the parade? Does he lay down his cloak and follow the others? Does he sing songs of loudest praise? Or is he lost in the cacophony of the crowds, confused by and afraid of what is taking place? Maybe he is thinking about the blur of events in the days just before: Lazarus raised from the dead, Jesus anointed in Bethany, the crowds knocking down their doors, the plot to kill Jesus and Lazarus swelling like a darkened, fast-approaching sky.

They didn't understand at first, but then they remembered. This image attempts to visualize these two locations in time and space. On the left, Peter looks out from the palm procession—his eyes glazed over as he watches Jesus riding into the city where he will surely meet his death. As the crowds sing "hosanna!" for a new, soon-to-be-killed-king, the dissonance of the scene causes Peter to tremble—like a guitar string snapped suddenly mid-tune.

In the top right is Peter's mirror image. In this mirage, we glimpse the future. Peter stands aghast at the empty tomb, waves of hope and relief rushing through him like a river of grace, the remembering happening all at once—like a childhood song plucked from memory, like the refrain of a chorus that won't let you go: it's true, it's true, thank God it's true. - Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

LENTEN THEME

Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God. When you look closely at Peter's story, you find Jesus at each step along the way—offering him abundance, catching him when he begins to sink, challenging him when he stands in the way, washing his feet, predicting his betrayal, and offering him agapē love. This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We're not idolizing or vilifying him; instead, we're hoping to wander alongside him, open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Wandering Heart: "Songs of loudest praise"

Courage

We summon every ounce of courage.
We give ourselves pep talks
and we call our friends.
We dig deep within.
We practice the words out loud,
rolling them around in our mouths,
imagining the response.
We deal out every "what if" card our brain holds on to
and spend absurd amounts of time
imagining all the ways it could go wrong.
And then finally, blessedly, we say it:
I love you.
To speak the truth of your heart takes courage.
It always has.
But please,
summon your courage,
join the parade,
and speak with conviction.
For God has been saying to the world since day one:
I love you.
What is your response?



2023 Easter Flowers, given by...

Amity & Eric Bateman	In honor of their child, Raven
Bateman Family	In memory of loved ones who have passed
The Coleman Espinal Family	In honor of Rosemary Coleman as we celebrate her 95 th birthday
Sheri Cunningham	In memory of those who have built this church and in honor of those who continue its building
Charlotte Dickson	My parents, Charles & Bertha Ramsburg

Jim Hagan	In memory of Linda Hagan
Claudia Hamm	In honor of Jeanette Rapp who continues to enhance our worship with gifts of liturgical arts.
Mary-Ann Hudson	In memory of husband Glenn C. Hudson
Jerry & Jan Keifer	In honor of: Mary Kate, Max, Holly, Lauren, Eleanor and Matt
Bob & Fran Lowry	In memory of Ruth Lowry & Veronica Augello and in honor of Samantha and Madeline Lowry
Marcia Ludwig	In memory of hiker friends, Vern Sproat, Nancy Martin & Monica Rohen
Martha Mamula	In memory of her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Milton Mamula
Jeff Mattan	In memory of Fabein Pichon
Fred & Lizanne Oliver	In memory of Eleanor & Arnold Lingle and Martha & Claude Oliver
Kathleen Oliver	In memory of Eugene & Elsie Oliver, William and Else Schmidt, Myrtle Oliver, Melsa Clapp, and Dulcie Janzen
Bruce & Ida Raby	In memory Ruth Weaver and Ewing Shipley, Ida's sister and brother
Jeanette Rapp	In memory of my sister, Dr. Juanita Roderick Latham
Claire Ribble	In memory of Harold and Alice Rathbun
Bill Ribble	In memory of Betsy, Bill and Jaynie Ribble
Dorothy Rowe	In memory of my parents – Elinor and Lester Rowe
Raquel Smith	In memory of Betty Smith and Luiz Barroso
Joyce Summers	In memory of our mothers, Bernice Rich and Mettalee Geesa
The Van Den Bosch Family	In honor of all Stone Church Staff and Supporters
Judy West	In memory of my parents, Anne & Roy West
Nancy Weiss	In memory of my husband, Gary Weiss and Lorin Weiss my brother in law
In memory of those who passed away since last Easter...	
Sue Evans, Ed Tablak, Gary Weiss	

The Stone Church of Willow Glen PC(USA)

1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA 95125
Office Hours M-F 9am - 1pm
1 (408) 269 - 1593
www.stonechurch.org
Pastors' day off: Mondays

If you're interested in becoming a member of Stone Church, please contact the office (office_manager@stonechurch.org)

The Stone Church of Willow Glen acknowledges that the land on which we worship this morning is the unceded land of the Muwekma Ohlone people.

During February, **the Deacons**,
and friends are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.
All are invited!

Welcome Guests and Visitors! We hope you already feel at home among us here at Stone Church. The nearest **restroom** is located between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall; exit thru the double doors at the front of the Sanctuary (near the TV). Everyone is invited for **refreshments** and fellowship in the Social Hall and on the patio after worship. We welcome the sound of any little ones during worship, but if your baby (age 0-3) gets too wiggly for you, you may take them to the **Nursery**, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary & the Social Hall. It's open each Sunday for children ages 0-3 during worship. All older children are invited to participate in the children's sermon time, followed by church school.

Children's Church School - Children attend worship with their parents, and go to Church School after the Children's Sermon. Also, there are some children's activity boxes in the Narthex to use in the Sanctuary prior to the children's sermon.

The Floral and Palm decorations, as well as the palm strips distributed, are given by Jeanette Rapp in honor of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and in memory of the Rev. Dr. Richard J. Rapp.

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth (Libby) Boatwright – We have the pleasure again this week to have Rev. Dr. Boatwright preach for us today. She is a pastor who wears many hats: chaplain, pastor, author, and certified financial planner, who's currently a relief chaplain for Stanford Health Care, frequent guest preacher, lecturer, and podcast guest on end-of-life issues, based on her book, The Last Things We Talk About, a compilation of her 35 years counseling people on these issues. She has also been featured in Morning-star, Barrons, and appeared on ABC's Nightly News. A recent widow, she loves visiting with her sons and their families, and enjoying the outdoors.

OGHS – One Great Hour of Sharing, one of our 4 annual special offerings, will be collected **today**. Through your gifts to this nation-wide PC(USA) effort, you serve people locally and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophe, and working with communities to over-come oppression.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt Today! – Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kindergartners to Fifth Graders, are invited to search for colorful, filled eggs today after worship. Gather on the patio after the service.

Youth Group Tonight! – All 6th – 12th graders and their friends are invited to gather in the Social Hall tonight (5-7pm) to dye Ukrainian style eggs. We will also eat, and discuss Easter Sunrise Service.

Flower Cross – During Holy Week, please add flowers and/or personal *messages/prayers/a word* written on a fabric strip (provided) to the flower cross on the church's front lawn. We encourage all to participate.

STOP Human Trafficking! Take action and stand with us as we call attention to human trafficking by standing with our signs on Lincoln Ave. Human trafficking is the recruitment, transport or transfer of persons using force, fraud or coercion to exploit them for acts of labor or sex. It is a form of modern-day slavery. If this issue speaks to you, please join us as we take our "stand" **tomorrow, March 25th** (8:15 a.m.), meet in the church office. Signs & brochures are provided. Questions? Contact Claudia Hamm (jinchamm@gmail.com).

Lenten Taizé – Our last Lenten Taizé service will be this Tue, Mar 26th; doors open 6:30 pm; service is from 6:45 - 7:30pm.

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service this coming Thu, Mar 28th (7:30pm) includes Communion and the Chancel Choir.

Good Friday -- This coming Fri, Mar 29th (12-3pm) our Sanctuary will be open for prayer.

Easter Sunday Services – Next Sunday, we have two Easter services: (6:30 am) "Early Service" in the Social Hall; and our traditional 9:30 am service in the Sanctuary. **Our new Transitional Pastor, Fred Harrell will preach (see insert)!** No Children's Church School, but the nursery is open for ages 0-3 at 9:30 am.

Women's Retreat – There is still time to sign-up for this fun weekend away (**April 12-14**); the **sign-up deadline is this coming Fri, Mar 29th**. Visit the retreat table in the Social Hall after worship. Info can also be found in the Friday email.

The Congregational Survey from our Mission Study Committee went out on the 13th. If you haven't seen it in your inbox, be sure and check your spam folder for "Survey Monkey," the online survey tool. The survey is part of the research we're doing to write a Mission Study Report that will describe who we are as a congregation, and what we see as Stone Church's role in our community. **The survey deadline is 11:45 p.m. this coming Wed, Mar 27th.**

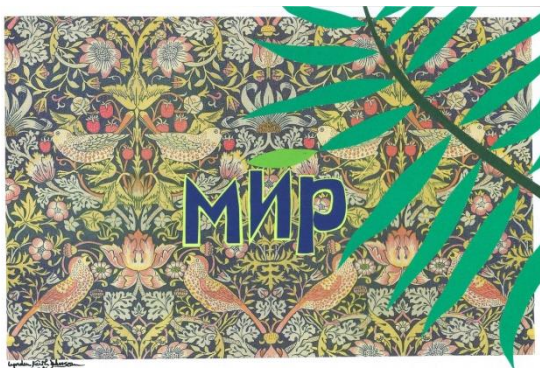
Copies of the paper version are available in the church office workroom. Return these to the Office Manager's mailbox. Only one survey could be sent to each email address, if you share an email address and both want to take the survey, one person will need to complete the paper one.

Also please note there is an error for Question #18 RE: "religion in which you were raised." "Catholic" was accidentally omitted when the questions were transferred to the online tool and this error cannot be fixed now that the survey is open. We apologize for this omission.

Rev. Reyes-Chow's Presentation – The Friday email provided a link to a PDF version of Bruce's presentation from Tuesday night. If you did not receive the Friday email, you can pick up a paper copy of the presentation in the office.

Westminster Woods is open for Summer Camp registration <https://www.westminsterwoods.org/>. They are located in Occidental CA and offer summer programs, weekend programs, challenge courses & more.

Thank You to those who helped in today's service: **ASL** ~ Hannah Davis; **Ushers** ~ Rhonda & Bill Lakatos; **Sound** ~ Steve Nelson; **Floral** ~ Diane Van Den Bosch



Palm Sunday Art - Lynden Johnson. This is the first of 3 art pieces done for Holy Week: . Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter. Artist note: My 2024 Lenten discipline has been the creation of images, which include the word "PEACE" in various languages. Peace offered for our hearts, minds, and souls. Peace offered for the congregants of our church, peace offered for all factions of our country, and peace offered for all peoples of our world.

March 24 – 31, 2024

Sunday (3/24) Palm Sunday
8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10 - 10:30am Church School - Fireside Room
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
10:30 - 11am Easter Egg Hunt - Patio
5 - 7pm Chromatic Converg. Reh - SA
5 - 7pm Youth Group Ukrainian Eggs -

Monday (3/25) Jennifer off
8:15 - 9:15am Stand Against Human Trafficking
Lincoln Ave
4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
6 - 7:30pm Vivace - SA

Tuesday (3/26) Jennifer off
12:30 - 3pm Library Work - Conf.Room
6:30 - 7pm Lenten Taize - SA
7:30 - 9pm Deacons - SH

Wednesday (3/27)
4:30 - 6:30pm Vivace - SH/SA
7:30 - 9pm Choir Rehearsal - SH

Thursday (3/28) Maundy Thursday
7:30 - 8:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship - SA

Friday (3/29) Good Friday

12 - 3pm Sanctuary Open for Prayer - SA

Saturday (3/30)
10am - 12pm Resounding Achord - SA

Next Sunday (3/31) Easter
6:30 - 7:30am Sunrise Service - SH
8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10 - 10:30am Church School - Fireside Room
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
5 - 7pm Chromatic Converg. Rehearsal

MARCH Birthdays - (2nd) Babila Mfonfu; (3rd) Joyce Summers; (4th) Kathleen O'Brien; (5th) Carol Martin; (6th) Mary Jo Blazek; (8th) Jan Keifer, Diane Van den Bosch; (10th) Lea Lawrence-Moiso; (12th) Vern Tegger; (14th) Grant Nilson; (16th) Caryl Westerberg, Jennifer Scott-Brand; (20th) Grant Balao; (23rd) Rev. Evie Macway; (24th) Fran Cole; (25th) Susan Erickson-Viitanen; (26th) Kelley Alwood; (28th); (29th) Cindy Bevan; (31st) Eric Bateman.

MARCH Anniversaries - (15th) Sue & Jay Evans (1969); (19th) Nancy & Gary Weiss (1967).

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Presbyterian Women – Jan Keifer -
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Stephen Ministry Coordinator – Michele Smith
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StoneCares – Stonecares@stonechurch.org
Web Master - Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Fran Basso Carter Edwards Gary Fritz Barbara Krause Brad Tips	Jeremy Easton Mel Goertz Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg
The Board of Deacons		
Moderator ~ Marta Espinal (marta.espinal@sbcglobal.net)		
Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Michele Edwards Kathleen Oliver Nancy Paul Jenny Pichon Maureen Searing	Gail Chaid Sheri Cunningham Janice Goertz Chris Nilson Laraine Pitcher	Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Karen Wessels
Nominating Committee		
Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)		
Class of 2024	Class of 2025	
Janice Goertz Claudia Hamm Steve Nelson	Derk Johnson Don Skipwith Lizanne Oliver	



The Rev. Fred Harrell – Transitional Pastor
fred@stonechurch.org (April 1)
Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate
rovinrev@gmail.com
The Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita
Nancy Kromm – Choir Director
nancy_kromm@stonechurch.org
Barbara Vella – Organist
barbvella2@gmail.com
Peggy Spool – Children's Choir Director
Amber Biscardi – Church School Administrator
(Interim)
amber_biscardi@stonechurch.org
Jennifer Scott-Brand – Office & Facility Manager
office_manager@stonechurch.org
Ruthanne Martinez – Treasurer
treasurer@stonechurch.org
ASL Interpreter Coordinator –
stonechurch.stephfoisy@gmail.com
Liliana Borda – Nursery Supervisor
Victor & Sonia Perez – Custodians
Hilleguus Faber – Memorial Coordinator
Lizanne Oliver – Wedding Coordinator
Mary Johnson - Parish Nurse
Men's Mission & Ministry (MMM) – Leland Wong
hikingscco@gmail.com
Prayer Chain Coordinator – Maureen Searing
mosearing@gmail.com