

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The winds of God blow strong and compelling through our lives.

We feel the insistent warmth of God's presence and seek to awaken.

God invites us to join the parade of the faithful, to demonstrate for the truth of justice and righteousness.

We are drawn to the pageantry of Palm Sunday and to the one who comes in life-changing peace.

Whatever our state of mind or condition of life, we are welcomed to this time of self-searching and worship.

Blessed is the one who comes in God's name.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

Hosanna!

Hosanna in the highest!

CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION UMH #280

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The choice is ever before us: discipleship or rejection, authentic response or playacting, commitment that will go all the way to the cross or hypocrisy which is a living denial. Like the fickle

crowds of the first Palm Sunday, we are called to examine our lives.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all times and places, we confess that we are tempted to join the crowds rather than to stand alone. It is easier to voice the popular view than it is to be a solitary witness for justice and truth. We like safety and security while sometimes shrinking from the risk of involvement. We'll sing "Hosanna" when everyone else is doing so, but not when the hostile "Good Friday" forces may hear us. We do not like to admit our lukewarm response to you, but neither do we want to be considered fanatics.

We believe Jesus came into the world to reconcile us. We know we need this reconciliation. Be patient with us God, help us to understand our need for growth and your purpose for nudging us into being more the people you would have us be. Forgive us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God sweeps into our human scene, transforming all who turn their hearts toward love. There is grace, mercy and renewed strength for all who seek the life Christ offers. Let us rejoice together, for even the stones cry out with the good news. God loves us. God forgives us. We are free in the name of the one who taught us to pray...

CHILDREN'S CHOIR Marilyn Erdman dir.

"Hosanna Loud Hosanna" Hymn #278

Children sing Vs. 1,3, Congregation Vs. 2

JOYS, CONCERNS, GOD MOMENTS

SILENT PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OUR 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*HYMN *"Mantos y Palmas"* UMH #279

SCRIPTURE Matthew 21:1-11

SERMON *"Everyone Loves a Parade"*

THE RECEIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY *"Give Thanks"* TFWS #2036

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks, because God's given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now, let the weak say, “I am strong”; Let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.” Give thanks!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Loving God, we give thanks for the visions and dreams that you share with your people. We offer these gifts in response to your abundant blessings and ask that you use them and the commitment they represent to share your good news with all the world. Amen.

***HYMN** **UMH #277**
“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

BENEDICTION

MN FOODSHARE

The youth lock in brought in 173 pounds of food. Nice job, youth. Our new total is 1720 cash/pounds. Thank you all for helping make this a successful campaign. All food and cash went to the Spring Valley Area Food Shelf. Your neighbors in need are grateful for your generosity.

FOOD4KIDZ

Wow! What a successful event! Over 344 volunteers showed up to package 142,000 meals in Stewartville on April 1st. Maple Leaf Parish had 30 adults and kids helping out. Half of the meals were a rice soy mix and half were rice and beans. 11,880 meals of both types went to Channel One in Rochester. The rest is going to Haiti, Uganda, Honduras and Mozambique. It was exciting to see young and old, friend and new acquaintance all working together. Thank you for your time and helping hands to make this such a great success.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Please join us for Education Committee Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser today, April 9th, after worship. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage & beverages. There will be a free will donation.

MEETING CHANGE

Due to the Maundy Thursday service the SPRC, Finance and Church Council meeting will be held on April 20th.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

4/10	6:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
4/11	7:00 pm	Trustees Meeting
4/13	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday at Faith
4/14	7:00 pm	Good Friday Cherry Grove
4/16	7:00 am	Sunrise Service
	8:00 am	Easter Coffee
	9:00 am	Easter Worship Service
	10:00 am	No Sunday School

PRE-SUMMER FUN

Faith UMC is having a cookout - please join us for some pre-summer fun on Sunday, April 30th from 10:30-12:30 p.m. Serving grilled hamburgers, hotdogs and fixins, baked potato and fixins, salad, brownie ice cream sundaes, and beverages. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for youth to go to apportionments.

FOUNTAIN CONCERT

5th Annual Cowboy Church Musicians Concert and Jam will be held on April 30th at 3 p.m. at the Fountain Community Center, sponsored by Fountain United Methodist Church. Featuring Country, Bluegrass and Gospel music. Freewill offering to be divided between church projects and a new Fountain Community Veterans Memorial. Refreshments will be sold by the Fountain UMC Women.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9th, 2017



**Rev. David Lieder & Rev. Deanna Woodward
In Ministry Together With the People Of
Fountain, Cherry Grove and Spring Valley**