



**First Parish Church, Congregational
On the Village Green
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

*Awaken to the Light and Love of God;
Be a Joyful Beacon to the World*

**First Parish Church, Congregational
United Church of Christ
March 24, 2024, 10 AM
Palm Sunday**

Ringling of the Bell and Lighting of the Candles

Prelude Ride on, King Jesus! – arr. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Paul Knox, soloist

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can-a hinder me. Ride on, King Jesus, ride on!

No man can-a hinder me. I was but young when I begun, no man can-a hinder me; but now my race is almost done – no man can-a hinder me.

Ride on, King Jesus, no man can-a hinder me. Ride on, King Jesus, no man can-a hinder me.

King Jesus rides a milk-white horse, no man can-a hinder me. De ribber of Jordan He did cross, no man can -a hinder me. Ride on, King Jesus, no man can-a hinder me, ride on, King Jesus, ride on! No man can-a hinder me. Ride, Ride, Ride!

Please maintain a prayerful quiet during the prelude as we prepare our hearts for worship.

***Call to Worship**

One: We open our eyes to see his glory.

Many: **We open our ears to hear his wisdom.**

One: We open our hands to offer him gifts.

Many: **We open our mouths to sing his praise.**

One: We open our hearts to offer him our love.

Many: **Hosanna! Hosanna!**

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

Welcome

First Parish Church is rooted in the Congregational tradition of democratic governance and the full inclusion and participation of all who call this their spiritual home. We take seriously the responsibility to make the Christian faith our own in this time and place, and seek to live lives of generous service.

*** Hymn All Glory, Laud, and Honor – #216, NCH**

The Palm Sunday Gospel Mark 11: 1-11 Simone Argento

¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' " ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna!

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

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Passing of the Peace

Anthem My Song Is Love Unknown – Edwin T. Childs (1945)

Words: Samuel Crossman (1624-1683)

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me; love to the loveless shown, that they may lovely be. Who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take, frail flesh and die? Sometimes they strew His way, and His sweet praises sing; resounding all the day Hosannas to their King: then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for His death they thirst and cry. Why, what hath my Lord done to cause this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight, sweet injuries! Yet they at these are why the Lord most high so cruelly dies. Here might I stay and sing, of Him my soul adores; never was love, dear King! Never was grief like yours. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

Prayer Intentions

Pastoral Prayer

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 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.

Meditation Anthem The Road Home – Stephen Paulus (1949-2014), lyrics by Michael Dennis Browne

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

[Intro]Ooo-ooo-ooo-ooo

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own that I left, that I lost so long ago?

All these years I have wandered - oh, when will I know?

There's a way, there's a road that will lead me home

Ooo-ooo-ooo-ooo

After wind, after rain when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day - through the air there's a calling from far away. There's a voice I can

hear that will lead me home

Ooo-ooo-ooo-ooo

Rise up, follow me come away, is the call, with the love in your heart as the only song. There is no such beauty as where you belong - rise up, follow me -

I will lead you home.

Ooo-ooo-ooo-ooo

Scripture Reading Psalm 118:1 -2, 19-29 Betsy Nickless

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

- ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
- Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.
- ²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Sermon "Hosanna!" Rev. Katherine Schofield

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Solo Take Me to the King – Kirk Franklin (1970)

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Take me to the King. I don't have much to bring. My heart is torn in pieces; it's my offering. Take me to the King. Truth is, I'm tired, options are few. I'm trying to pray, but where are You? I'm all churched out, hurt and abused. I can't fake what's left to do. Truth is, I'm weak, no strength to fight. No tears to cry even if I tried. But still, my soul refuses to die. One touch will change my life. Take me to the King. I don't have much to bring. My heart's torn in pieces; it's my offering. Lay me at the throne. Leave me there alone to gaze upon Your glory and sing to you this song. Please take me to the King. Truth is, it's time to stop playing these games. We need a word for the people's pain. So Lord, speak right now. Let it fall like rain. We're desperate. We're chasing after You. No rules, no religion. I've made my decision to run to You, the Healer that I need. Take me to the King. I don't have much to bring. My heart's torn to pieces; it's my offering. Lay me at the throne. Leave me there alone to gaze upon Your

glory and sing to You this song. Take me to the Lord, we're in the way. We keep making mistakes. The glory's not for us; It's all for You. Take me to the King. I don't have much to bring. My heart's torn to pieces; it's my offering. Lay me at the throne. Leave me there alone to gaze upon Your glory, sing to You this song. Take me to the King. Take me to the King. Take me to the King.

*** Doxology #780 NCH**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

*** Hymn Hosanna, Loud Hosanna - #213 NCH**

*** Blessing**

Closing Song May It Be (from The Lord of the Rings) – Enya (1961), lyrics by Roma Ryan; arr. Mark A. Brymer

May it be an evening star shines down upon you. May it be when darkness falls, your heart will be true. You walk a lonely road; oh, how far you are from home. *Mor-ni-e u-tu li-e. Believe and you will find your way. **Mor-ni-e a-lan-ti-e. A promise lives within you now. May it be the shadow's call will fly away. May it be you journey on to light the day. When the night is overcome, you may rise to find the sun. *Mor-ni-e u-tu li-e. Believe and you will find your way. **Mor- ni-e a-lan-ti-e. A promise lives within you now.

*darkness has come, in Quenya

** darkness has fallen, in Quenya

** Indicates the congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

Our Deacon is Susan Parker .

Welcome to all who are new to our Worship time.

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to ask a Deacon should you need help.

Join us following worship for coffee and conversation.

New Members Info Session Sunday, April 7, following worship

Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith, ask any questions you may have, and get to know other newcomers and church members? Whether you're planning to join First Parish Church as a member or not, this Info Session will help you learn more about our commitments as a faith community, the various programs and ministries we offer, and how you can get involved. Contact Pastor Katherine for more info.

To join our mailing list please fill out a "Welcome Card" to place in the collection plate or contact office.fpchurch@gmail.com, 978 -526-7661 x 1.

Manchester Seniors - Drop in for Coffee and Conversation Every Monday 10 AM-12:00 PM (except holidays) at the First Parish Community Hall located behind Santander Bank. Hospitality provided by The Friends of The Manchester Council on Aging. Come sit down and talk!

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday , March 28th at 7pm

Good Friday , March 29th at Noon

Easter, March 31

Ecumenical Sunrise Service 6:26am at Singing Beach

Easter at First Parish at 10am. Easter egg hunt following the service!

Readers and Greeters are always needed. To volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up online.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49_-diaconate

Our FPCC **Compassion child** , Chepkirwok always needs supporters, [sign up now](#). Questions can be directed to Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com

All-Ages Family Game Night and Potluck

Saturday, April 6th, 5-8pm in the Chapel Hall

Bring your family. Bring your friends. Bring your favorite board game and a dish to share. Or just bring yourself - and get ready to have fun.



You can contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge [@PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester](https://www.paypal.com/paytoemail?email=@PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester)

Hands on Community Service, all items can be dropped at the Chapel or Church ☩

- **Operation Troop Support Socks**, any size any color. Small board and card games.
- **The Open Door** the need is great so please donate what you can. Pantry items welcome. Coffee & tea, granola bars, oatmeal, pancake & waffle mix, maple syrup, 100% fruit juice. They are also grateful for bake mixes including muffin mixes.
- **The Grace Center** welcomes gift cards from local grocery markets to help the center provide cream, butter and other perishables.

The Seaside Parish Knitters meet each 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-3 pm, (April 4 & 18). We welcome all to stop by anytime during that time. Over the years we have enjoyed our time knitting and crocheting items for baptismal events at the church, shawls and blankets for friends at home, scarves, neck gators, and helmet liners for our veterans in combat, and mittens and hats for Cape Ann children. We are always looking for knitting needles and yarn that you might be considering "casting" aside, especially wool. Contact Penny Lapham at 978-526-7128.

Book Group tomorrow evening, March 25, 7 PM at Lauren Gudonis' home, 56 Masconomo St. Manchester. We will discuss "Hang the Moon" by Jeanette Walls. RSVP to Lauren at lbgudonis@gmail.com. **April 29, 6:30 PM**, we will discuss the book of Genesis at Liz Loomis' home, 34 Bennett St. Manchester. RSVP loomisliz@hotmail.com.