



Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



Procession in the Streets of Jerusalem (Le cortège dans les rues de Jérusalem)

Jacques Tissot, French, watercolor over graphite, 1892

PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 13, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Processional
(William Mathias)

Organ

INTROIT

Rejoice! O Jerusalem!
(Livingston Gearhart)

Sanctuary Choir

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Zechariah 9, Mark 11

Rejoice, sons of Zion! Shout for joy, daughters of Jerusalem!

Look now and see: your king is coming to you.

He comes triumphant and victorious, yet humble and riding on a donkey.

The Lord will now save his people, as a shepherd saves his flock from danger!

Hosanna! God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

GREETING

* HYMN

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

UMH 278 (red book)

A PRAYER OF PALM SUNDAY

Lord Jesus,

your arrival in Jerusalem was welcomed with waving palms
and shouts of praise.

So many people that day saw you as the fulfillment
of everything for which they hoped.

It is no less true today.

How strange, though, that many of these voices,
shouting in acclamation of you,
would in a few days be crying out for your condemnation.

Surrounded by admirers in that moment, soon you would be abandoned
- even by your closest friends.

**We confess that we too may make a joyful noise at your coming,
but that we at times have turned our backs on you
when the way became steep.**

Too often have we served you by our words,
instead of with the sacrificial gift of our lives.

We intend to follow you wherever you lead, but often we do not.

Instead, like Peter, we deny you in hopes of blending in with the crowd.

Forgive us for our timid and faltering faith! Forgive us, Lord, for our part in
taking you to the cross, for requiring you...to suffer and die.

(A time of silent confession follows)

Lord have mercy; hear our prayer. **Amen.**

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Were You There
(ar. Stan Pethel)

Sanctuary Orchestra

DOXOLOGY

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
*To thee, before thy passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.*

A Reading of The Passion from the Four Gospels

(Today's English Version)

I The Road to Jerusalem

As Jesus came near Bethphage and Bethany,
at the foot of the Mount of Olives,
he sent two disciples ahead with these instructions:

Go to the village there ahead of you,
and as you enter you will find a colt tied up
that has never been ridden upon.

Untie it and bring it here.

If someone asks you why you are untying it,
tell him that the Master needs it.

Luke 19:29-30

They brought the colt to Jesus, then threw their cloaks over the animal
and helped him get on.

As he rode along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

When he came near Jerusalem,

at the place where the road went down from the Mount of Olives,
his disciples began to praise and thank God in loud voices
for all the things that they had seen:

Hosanna! Hosanna!

God bless the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory to God!

Luke 19:35-38

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd addressed Jesus:

Teacher, command your disciples to be quiet!

Jesus answered:

I tell you that if they keep quiet,
the stones themselves will cry out.

Luke 19:39-40

ANTHEM

To the Lamb on the Throne
(Dan Forrest)

Sanctuary Orchestra

Meditation

II In the Temple

When they arrived in Jerusalem, Jesus went to the Temple and began to drive out all those who were buying and selling. He overturned the tables of the money changers, and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He would not let anyone carry anything through the Temple courtyard. He said:

It is written in the Scriptures that God said
“*My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.*”
But you have turned it into a hideout for thieves! Mark 11:15-17

MUSICAL INTERLUDE *We Sang Our Glad Hosannas* FWS 2111 (vv. 1-2)
(people remain seated)

Every day as he taught in the Temple, the chief priests and the elders would come to him. They asked:

What right do you have to do these things?
Who gave you this authority? Matthew 21:23

The Pharisees made a plan to trap Jesus with their questions:
(*with slyness*) Teacher, we know that you tell the truth.

Tell us, then, what do you think:
is it against our Law to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor?
Should we pay them or not? Matthew 22:16-17

They all came together and tried to trap him with more questions:

- 1 **Teacher, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?**
- 2 **Teacher, what do you think about the Messiah - whose descendant is he?** Matthew 22:34-36,42

There was much whispering in the crowd about him.

- 2 **He is a good man!**

some people said.

But others said,

- 1 **No, he misleads the people!**

Some of the people in the crowd heard him speak and said

- 2 **This man really is a prophet!**

Others said,

The Messiah will not come from Galilee.

Study the Scriptures and you will learn:

- 1 **No prophet ever comes from Galilee!** John 7:40-52

The chief priests and the elders met together in the palace of Caiaphas, the High Priest, and made plans to arrest Jesus secretly and put him to death. They said:

We must not do it during the festival,

or the people will riot.

Matthew 26:3-5

But one of the twelve disciples, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and asked:

What will you give me if I hand Jesus over to you?

They counted out thirty silver coins and gave them to him.

From then on Judas was seeking the chance to hand Jesus over to them.

Matthew 26:14-16

Meditation

III Arrest and Trial

When it was evening, Jesus sat at table with the twelve disciples, and as they were eating, he said:

I tell you that one of you will betray me,
one who is eating with me.

The disciples were upset and began to ask him, one after the other:

Surely you don't mean me, do you?

Surely you don't mean me, do you?

Matthew 26:20-23

Then Jesus said to them:

This very night all of you will run away and leave me.

Peter said:

I will never leave you, even though all the rest do!

Jesus answered him:

I tell you that before the rooster crows tonight
you will say three times that you do not know me.

Peter said:

I will never say that, even if I have to die with you!

And all the disciples said the same thing:

I will never say that, even if I have to die with you!

Matthew 26:31-35

HYMN

Christ Is the World's Light
(the people remain seated)

UMH 288 (vv. 1,3)

Jesus left the city and went, as he usually did, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him.

Luke 22:39

Now the betrayer had given the crowd a signal:

The man I kiss is the one you want.

Arrest him and take him away under guard.

Mark 14:44

Judas went up to Jesus and said,

Hail, Master!

and kissed him.

So they laid hands on Jesus and bound him tightly.

Matthew 26:49-50

Jesus said to them:

Did you have to come with swords and clubs to capture me,
as though I were an outlaw?

Day after day I was with you teaching in the Temple,
and you did not arrest me!

Then all the disciples left him... and ran away.

Mark 14:48-50

They arrested Jesus and took him to the house of the High Priest,
while Peter followed at a distance.

A fire had been lit in the center of the courtyard,
and Peter joined the guards there, warming himself.
When one of the servant girls saw him sitting there at the fire,
she looked straight at him and said:

This man too was with Jesus!

But Peter denied it:

Woman, I don't even know him!

After a little while a man noticed Peter and said

1 You are one of them too!

But Peter answered:

No, I'm not!

And about an hour later another man insisted strongly:

**2 There isn't any doubt that this man was with Jesus,
because he too is a Galilean!**

But Peter answered:

I don't know what you are talking about!

At once while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed.

Jesus turned around and looked straight at Peter,
and Peter remembered what he had said to him
and he went out and wept bitterly.

Luke 22:54-62

Now the chief priests and the whole Council brought testimony
against Jesus to put him to death.

Many bore false witness against him:

**We heard him say, I will tear down this Temple
and after three days build another!**

but their witness did not agree.

The High Priest stood up in front of them all and questioned Jesus:

Have you no answer to the accusations they bring against you?

But Jesus kept quiet, and would not say a word.

Again the High Priest questioned him:

Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Most High God?

and Jesus answered,

I am, and you will all see the Son of Man
seated at the right hand of the Almighty,
coming with the clouds of heaven.

At this, the High Priest tore his robes and said:

We don't need any more witnesses!
You have heard his blasphemy - what is your decision?

1 **Guilty!**

2 **Guilty!**

1&2 **Put him to death! Put him to death!**

Mark 14:55-64

And they **spat** in his **face**...and beat him.

Prophecy for us, Messiah!

1 **Who is it that struck you?**

Matthew 26:67-68

2 **Hail, King of the Jews!**

Matthew 27:29

And they said many other insulting things to him.

Luke 22:65

Then they took Jesus to Pilate, where they began to accuse him:

**We caught this man misleading our people,
telling them not to pay taxes to the Emperor
claiming that he himself is the Messiah, a king.**

Luke 23:1-2

Pilate asked them:

What accusation do you have against this man?

**If he were not a criminal,
we would not have brought him to you.**

But I find no reason to condemn him.

Take him and try him according to your own law.

We have no law to put anyone to death.

I cannot find any reason to condemn him.

1 **Crucify him!**

2 **Crucify him!**

But he is your king! You want me to kill your king?

We have no king but Caesar!

John 18:29-31; 19:5,14-15

So they led Jesus out to crucify him.

On the way they met a man named Simon of Cyrene
who was coming into the city from the country,
and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross.

Mark 15:20-21

HYMN

*"What Wondrous Love Is This"
(the people remain seated)*

UMH 292 (v. 1)

IV Golgotha

They took Jesus to a place called Golgotha, which means The Place of the Skull.
There they tried to give him wine mixed with a drug called myrrh,
but Jesus would not drink it.

Then they crucified him and divided his clothes among themselves,
throwing dice to see who would get which piece of clothing. Mark 15:22-24

Meditation

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him.
The notice of accusation against him read:
"The King of the Jews."

People passing by shook their heads and hurled insults at Jesus:
You were going to tear down the Temple,
and build it back in three days!

Now come down from the cross and save yourself!

In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the Law mocked Jesus:

- 1 **He saved others, but he cannot save himself!**
- 2 **Let us see the Messiah, the King of Israel,
come down from the cross now,
and we will believe in him!**

Mark 15:25-26, 29-32

At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted three hours. At three o'clock, Jesus cried out with a loud voice,
Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

which means, *My God, my God, why did you abandon me?*

Listen, he is calling for Elijah!

**Let us see if Elijah will come now
and bring him down from the cross!**

And with a loud cry, Jesus died.

Mark 15:35-38

Interlude

The curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two...
from **top** to **bottom**.

Mark 15:35-38

The earth shook, rocks split apart, graves broke open.
When the army officer and the soldiers with him
saw the earthquake and everything else that happened,
they were terrified, and said:

Surely this was the Son of God!

Surely this was the Son of God!

Matthew 27:51-52, 54

It was toward evening when Joseph of Arimathea arrived.

He was a respected member of the Council

who was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Joseph brought a linen sheet, took the body down, wrapped it in the sheet,
and placed it in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock.

Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb. Mark 15:42-43, 46

The chief priests and the Pharisees met with Pilate, and he told them:

Take a guard,

go and make the tomb as secure as you can.

So they left,

and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone
and leaving the guard on watch.

Matthew 27:62, 65-66

The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how Jesus' body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes, but they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

Luke 23:55-56

[A TIME OF SILENCE]

*Response of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

UMH 298 (vv. 1-3)

[The stripping of the Chancel]

BENEDICTION

Worship Leaders and People Depart in Silence

Please take the opportunity to meet your neighbors!

Our palms are in remembrance of Jesus' triumphant journey to Jerusalem.

NEW HERE?

Follow the signs to our Fellowship Area for coffee, connection, and our Kids Corner. We'd love to welcome you and are honored you chose us to worship with today!

WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US FOR EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP APRIL 20



6:30 AM – Join us on the front lawn where we will welcome the dawning light of Christ's rising.

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM – Gather in the Sanctuary for the joy of Easter Sunday worship through dramatic readings, choral and orchestral music, preaching, prayer and song.

9:30 AM – We also welcome you to Easter Sunday worship on the front lawn! This service will also feature diverse and wonderful music, proclamation, prayer and praise.

4:45 PM - Come worship with us at The Table. Share in the Easter joy, a meal and good conversation about wondrous hope.

Scan to visit our Easter at WUMC webpage for more information.

WAYS TO GIVE

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give..." 2 Corinthians 9:7



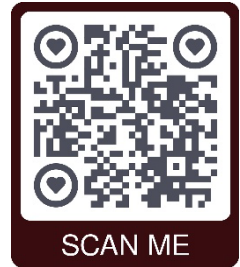
TEXT TO GIVE

TEXT YOUR GIFT TO 757-992-9862. You do not need an account to give; simply text your gift amount in any format (\$10, 10, 10.00). Receipts are sent via email.



CASH/ CHECK

Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays or the church office Mon - Fri. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and makes a real difference in the lives of those we serve!



Giving Makes an Impact

Your generosity changes lives and empowers ministries. Visit our Resources page at williamsburgumc.org/articles to read inspiring stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond.

GIVE VIA OUR APP

Scan the QR Code to download for Android and iPhone

THIS WEEK AT WUMC

ReNEW Youth Group

Apr 13 @ 12:30pm Youth

Room Youth Group is designed to offer holistic faith formation for students in 6th-12th grade. Join us for lunch, faith exploration, and fun from 12:30 – 2:00pm.



Maundy Thursday

Apr 17 @ 6pm Fellowship Hall

Join us for an interactive time that combines engaging craft and activity stations, a festive meal and worship, as we consider Jesus' supper in the Upper Room with his disciples.



The Table – Sunday Night Service

Apr 13 @ 5pm in Fellowship

Hall A relaxed, welcoming space where we gather as a community to share a meal and explore our faith together through guided conversations.



Good Friday

Apr 18 @ 6:00pm Chapel

simple service of prayer and quiet.



At 7:00pm Sanctuary Join us for a service where the story of Christ's suffering meets us in the depths of our own through confession, music, contemplation, and silence.

Elevate Your Fitness

Apr 14 & Apr 16 @ 9:30am in Fellowship Hall

Come experience sessions crafted with care, featuring heart-boosting chair aerobics, muscle-strengthening light weight training, and equilibrium-enhancing balance exercises.



EASTER EGG HUNT

Apr 19 @ 10:00am Front

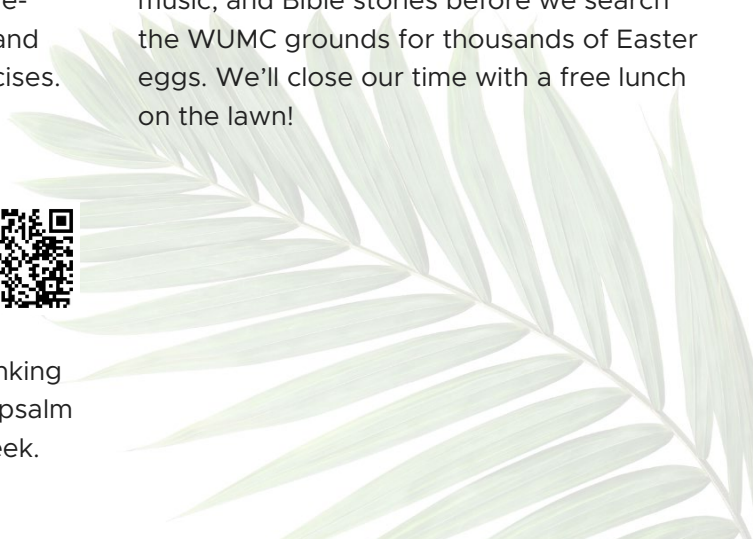
Lawn Come join us for a morning of exploring the mysterY of Easter through games, crafts, music, and Bible stories before we search the WUMC grounds for thousands of Easter eggs. We'll close our time with a free lunch on the lawn!



Pastors' Bible Study

Apr 16 @ 7pm room 103 and Apr 17 at 10:30am via Zoom

Join Pastors Dave, Meghan, and Troy in taking up the spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, and deeply engaging with one psalm each week during Lent and Holy Week.



2025 LENTEN OFFERING

Lent is traditionally a time when we focus on committing to spiritual practices to help us grow in faith and love of God and neighbor. An important spiritual practice for the members of WUMC during Lent is living into Jesus' call to give to support those in need (see Matthew 6:2 and 25:31-46). The Local and Global Outreach Committees have selected the following as a means to live into that call:

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

- **Church World Service**

This ministry is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Fourteen denominations (including the UMC) work together through this initiative. Your gift will be sent to support their work in Tanzania supporting families as they create food security and stable incomes.

Learn more: www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/africa/tanzania.

- **Good Shepherd Community School, Zambia**

This community school of in Ng'ombe Compound and surrounding areas in Lusaka, Zambia has been a passion of WUMC's own Jeanne Niebel since 2004. It educates children and supports their spiritual development while providing resources like technology and books.

- **UMCOR Global Initiatives**

UMCOR is a humanitarian organization that provides for the mental, physical, and spiritual needs of people around the world reeling from natural and human-made disasters. This ministry assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion or status. This year's offering will focus on needs around the world. *Learn more:* www.umcmision.org/umcor.

LOCAL INITIATIVES

- **Housing Partnerships**

Since 1985, this organization has served the Williamsburg community and surrounding neighborhoods to ensure that everyone has a safe, warm, and dry home. To accomplish this goal, they use a volunteer-driven approach to repair the homes of the area's most impoverished residents, especially the elderly and the disabled. *Learn more:* www.housingpartnerships.org.

- **Latisha's House, Virginia**

This organization provides a long-term, transitional housing program for adult, female survivors of sex trafficking and offers individualized support to empower them to build a bridge from their traumatic past to a positive future.

Learn more: www.latishashouse.com.

- **William & Mary Food for All**

This group supports the William & Mary Campus Food Exchange and swipe drives (providing additional meals for students throughout the year. It continues and expands these resources to serve students, faculty, and staff who may face issues of food access. *Learn more:* foodforall.pages.wm.edu.



Give online today
tinyurl.com/2025-lenten-gift

EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES



Men's Ministry williamsburgumc.org/adults/men

United Methodist Men is a fellowship committed to the growth and expansion of the church's mission. Our Purpose is to provide a supportive fellowship for men seeking to know Jesus Christ, grow spiritually, and help others find a welcoming place for Christ in their hearts and lives.



Women's Ministry williamsburgumc.org/women

We are a community for women who find deep meaning in relationship to God and each other. We understand that life is often packed full of activities and obligations — from juggling jobs to taking care of family. That's why we offer a space that combines study with meaningful fellowship and outreach opportunities.



Youth Ministries williamsburgumc.org/youth

As students grow and mature, we believe faith should grow and deepen with them. Our WUMC ReNEW Youth Group is designed to offer holistic faith formation for students in 6th - 12th grade. We study the Bible, learn spiritual practices, and respond through creative expression and intentional mission.



Children's Ministries williamsburgumc.org/children

We offer faith formation to our youngest disciples through Sunday Nursery and Children's Worship, monthly Messy Church, and regular events for fun and fellowship. We also offer music programs, a vibrant preschool and music school and welcome Cub Scouts through our doors each week.

EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES



Local Outreach williamsburgumc.org/local-outreach

Our Local Outreach committee serves as the cornerstone of our commitment to embody Christ's love beyond our walls. We firmly believe that faith is not merely a personal journey but a transformative reality that compels us to be in mission to the world around us.



Global Outreach williamsburgumc.org/global-outreach

Our global initiatives range from missionary sponsorships and disaster relief efforts to educational and healthcare projects. These endeavors aim not only to meet immediate needs but also to lay the groundwork for sustainable development and spiritual growth in communities around the world.



Music Ministries williamsburgumc.org/music

We eagerly experience God through diverse types of music. More than 150 adults, children, and Youth participate in our ensembles and share their musical gifts with our congregation. You'll find a wide range of opportunities tailored for all ages in our WUMC Music Ministry.



Join A Class or a Small Group

williamsburgumc.org/classes and williamsburgumc.org/small-groups

Studies and Small Groups help us grow spiritually and relationally, reflecting Jesus' example of teaching within community. Sunday school, Bible studies, and various short or long-term studies provide opportunities to learn from Christ and each other. Small groups (intentionally limited in size) foster deeper conversations, mutual support and accountability. Together, we journey toward understanding our lives, faith, and relationships more deeply.

TODAYS SERVICE LEADERS

Worship Leaders: Dave Rochford, Meghan Roth-Clayton, Troy Sims

Director of Worship Arts: Lou Anne Smith

Organist: Tom Marshall

Acolytes 8:15: 11:00: Ella Bullock

Greeters 8:15: Linda Upshaw, Steve Tingen **11:00:** Suzanna Chapman and Diane Colestock

Ushers 8:15: Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalannes Hoover, Tom Justice, Monty Mason, Michael Johnson, Cindy Garman-Squier, Dan Squier **11:00:** Gene & Debbie Bruss, Barbra & Monty Monteith, Nancy Donnelly, Sherry Brubaker and Clark Wallace

Sound and Livestream: Jimmy McCarter, Todd Lindley, Josh Clayton

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Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.

Please submit to Nancy Reynolds

nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Barbara Blanton, **Finance Manager** (x106)

Josh Clayton, **Digital Media Specialist** (x107)

Meghan Roth Clayton, **Pastor of Congregational Care** (x114)

Zach Griggs, **Family Ministries Coordinator** (x109)

Thomas Marshall, **Organist** (757 713-0584)

Mike Motes, **Provisional Bookkeeper** (x116)

Ellen Bushman, **Director Respite Care** (x118)

Laura Pittman, **Director Kid's Morning Out** (x113)

Nancy Reynolds, **Engagement and Administrative Coordinator** (x104)

Dave Rochford, **Lead Pastor** (x110)

Michelle Roy, **Director of Congregation & Community Engagement** (x103)

Troy Sims, **Minister of Discipleship** (x108)

Lou-Anne Smith, **Director of Worship Arts** (x105)

Rick Viancour, **Facilities Manager** (x101)

Anthony Williams, **Assoc. Director Worship Arts, Director Early Childhood Music** (x115)

Ryan LaRock, **Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation**



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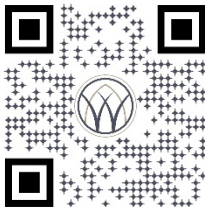
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