



MARCH 29TH, 2026

PALM SUNDAY

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here, and hope that you'll feel right at home.

 **Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.** 

Friendship Pew Pads can be found in each row.



Please fill them out and pass along to your neighbors.

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in.

WPC Directory Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center.



Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with questions.

WPC Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.



If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available, or sync your Bluetooth enabled hearing aids to our sound system. Scan the QR code for instructions.



An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.

An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents is located in the Narthex.



Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.



Fidget Toys for children (and adults) are available at the Narthex entrance.



Gluten Free Cookies are labeled and available during coffee hour.

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.

WPC uses bread that is gluten free and made without tree nuts or peanuts.

Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!

STAFF & HOURS

CHURCH OFFICE

• Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR, ACTING HEAD OF STAFF: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

• pastortaylor@wallingfordpres.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon

• music@wallingfordpres.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

• office@wallingfordpres.org

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

TREASURER: Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

This Week

USHERS: Mary Lou Day

Polly Sacco Ezzell

LITURGIST: Helen Picher

COFFEE HOUR: Connections/

Peacekeeping

Next Week

COFFEE HOUR: Stewardship

*Those who are able, please stand.

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A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"The Gates of Hell are locked from the inside. But the King of Glory is the one who rides in to break the hinges." – C.S. Lewis

"Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was a deliberate, planned, symbolic act. It was a royal entry, but it was the entry of a King who had come to reign from a cross." – NT Wright

"When the Lord enters, the city is shaken! Not with the fear of an army, but with the trembling of a heart that recognizes its Creator. Let us shake our own hearts today, throwing down the branches of our pride to make a path for Him." - St. John Chrysostom (4th Century)

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Prophecies fulfilled, Christ enters as King!

Remember it is written: "Say to Daughter Zion, see, your king comes to you..."

Gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

With hearts full of expectation, like the crowds that day, we too cry out:

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

*OPENING HYMN #197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

PALM SUNDAY PAGEANT

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY: Part 1

The sun was bright, the sky was blue, The dusty roads were crowded, too! The people came from miles around, To hear a happy, joyful sound.

They didn't see a king on gold, Or someone tall and very bold. Instead, upon a donkey small, Came Jesus, who is Lord of all.

"Hosanna!" everyone would cry, As Jesus gently passed them by. They cut down branches from the trees, That swayed and rustled in the breeze.

They laid their cloaks upon the street, To make a path for donkey feet. With palm leaves waving high and low, They cheered to see their Savior go.

PALM SUNDAY HYMN

All Glory Laud and Honor

He rode in on a donkey, along the muddy way

They laid their cloaks beneath him and shouted out "hooray"

They treated him like roy'lty, although he humbly trod

Their branches waving high to their savior and their God.

The children, filled with laughter, did skip and dance and sing

"Hosanna" filled the air now to praise their God and king

He wasn't big and fancy, untouchable or tall

But full of love and light and the savior of us all

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY: Part 2

The children laughed and danced along, And joined the happy, growing throng. They knew that Jesus was their friend, With love that has no bound or end.

Even the stones along the way, Wanted to shout and praise that day! For peace was riding through the gate, While all the people stood to wait.

The city hummed with excitement grand, As news spread quickly through the land. "The Prince of Peace has come to stay, To lead us in a brand new way!"

No swords were drawn, no shields were shown, No heavy crown or golden throne. Just kindness in His steady gaze, And hearts all filled with prayer and praise.

It was a day of love and light, A truly wondrous, holy sight. So wave your branches, join the song, And let's all sing out loud and strong!

PALM SUNDAY HYMN

Siyahamba

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God!

We are waving in the light of God, we are waving in the light of God!

We are cheering in the light of God, we are cheering in the light of God!

BELL ANTHEM

Hosanna/All Glory, Laud and Honor
Chapel Ringers

arr. L. Hagon

CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Righteous God, you seek to enter our lives as you did into Jerusalem, but instead of throwing down our lives before you, as coats upon the road, we keep them to ourselves. Instead of flinging wide the gates of our hearts to let you in, we lock them to keep out change, because we love our sin too much to surrender it. Fling wide the gates of our hearts, O God, dispel the darkness within us, and fill us with your loving light. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, hear the truth that changes everything: Our King Eternal has traversed the valley of death and returned with the keys to life! His Sunday rising has turned our 'Friday' sorrows into 'Easter' joy. In Him, your sin is answered and the world's heart is healed. We stand here today as a people forgiven and a people free. **Thanks be to God!**

*RESPONSE #582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

(VASILE)

Glory to God whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen (x3)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19: 28-48

NRSV NT 83

HYMN OF RESPONSE #198

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

ST. DROSTANE

SERMON

The King You Can't Own: *Why Jerusalem was Terrified*

Rev. Taylor Cornelius

MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Teschner/Lau



Scan the QR code to give via credit card on the Church Center app

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Love, in this Holy Week, we lay before you these gifts, as did those who laid down their palms before you those many years ago. Take our Hosanna's, take our brokenness, take our gifts, take it all for your glory! With them, make a way for peace in this world and bring your Kingdom of Love into fruition through us! Amen.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

... In the darkness, **may the dawn of your love arise!** ...

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 glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #200

The Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

CHRISTIAN LOVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.

*This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by the Clyde Family,
In loving memory of Bill Clyde.*

197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! 198

1 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the
 2 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
 4 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly

tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur -
 pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and
 pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to

sues its road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
 now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 won - dering eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 mor - tal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

This 19th-century Palm Sunday text is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century.

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd 200



1 A cheer - ing, chant - ing, diz - zy crowd had
2 They laid their gar - ments in the road and
3 When day dimmed down to deep - ening dark the
4 Lest we be fooled be - cause our hearts have
5 In - stead of palms, a wind - ing sheet will



stripped the green trees bare, and hail - ing Christ as
spread his path with palms and vows of last - ing
crowd be - gan to fade till on - ly tram - pled
surged with pass - ing praise, re - mind us, God, as
have to be un - rolled, a car - pet much more



king a - loud, waved branch - es in the air.
love be - stowed with roy - al hymns and psalms.
leaves and bark were left from the pa - rade.
this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.
fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

This Palm Sunday hymn recreates the contrasting sounds of Holy Week, moving from the noisy public acclaim of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the solitary silence of his body being prepared for burial. It gently reminds us that self-giving is the mark of Christ's true sovereignty.

TEXT: Thomas H. Troeger, 1985

MUSIC: Paul Benoit, OSB, 1959, alt.

Text © 1985 Oxford University Press

Music © 1960 World Library Publications

CHRISTIAN LOVE

CM

Luke 19: 28-48

²⁸After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰“Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³²Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ³⁸“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” ⁴⁰“I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

⁴¹As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it ⁴²and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

⁴⁵When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. ⁴⁶“It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be a house of prayer’; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’” ⁴⁷Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. ⁴⁸Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

THIS WEEK AT WPC

THANK YOU Our sincerest gratitude to all who helped make our Easter Egg-stravaganza such a roaring success! Many thanks to everyone who donated candy, spread the word, stuffed eggs, hid them and coordinated the event. Thank you for YOUR help in making it a great outreach to our community. God bless and Happy Easter!

WELCOME BRIANA Briana Davidson, our new Nursery Care Worker, is responsible for providing loving care and supervision for infants and toddlers (12 months - pre-K) during Sunday services. Welcome to the WPC family!

PALM SUNDAY CHILDCARE Following the pageant, all children should go to the Reception Room for activities including a Palm Sunday movie, coloring page and snacks.

CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE Today, Sunday, March 29th at 3pm the "Concerts for a Cause" series at Wallingford Presbyterian Church continues with an afternoon of music for voice, flute and piano. Featuring "The Deepest Desire" by Jake Heggie, and other works ranging from Mozart to Brahms to Mouquet, the program offers something for everyone! The beneficiary of this concert is Project W, part of The Community Foundation, where they believe that through collective compassion, dedication and thoughtful giving, we can help women and families in our community thrive.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE Experience a moving, candlelight journey through a first-century Seder as we trace the steps of the Last Supper from the Temple to the Upper Room, **7:30 pm, Thursday, April 2**. Through Scripture, song and Communion, we will discover how Jesus transformed ancient traditions into a New Covenant of grace.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE Enter the deepening shadows of a formal Tenebrae service, where sacred music and ancient liturgy lead us to the foot of the cross, **7:30pm, Friday, April 3**. Witness the power of the Passion through soaring solos and silent reflection as we experience the weight and wonder of Christ's sacrifice for us.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

8AM OUTDOOR SERVICE Celebrate the Resurrection in the courtyard amidst the beauty of nature, **8am, Sunday, April 5**. With acoustic guitar, classic hymns and the Word, experience the timeless joy of the empty tomb. Pastor Taylor preaching.

10AM INDOOR SERVICE Celebrate the triumph of the Resurrection in a majestic, music-filled service in the Sanctuary, **10am, Sunday, April 5**. Join us for a joyous celebration of the empty tomb through our most beloved hymns, stirring Scripture and the enduring power of the Risen Christ. Pastor Taylor preaching.

EASTER EGG HUNT Kids – stay for the egg hunt following the Easter service, **11am, Sunday, April 5**. Open to all children up to age 11.

LOOKING AHEAD

WOW Join for refreshments, **7pm, Wednesday, April 8**, and a lesson led by Karen Emmons.



SPROUTS BIBLE BINGO Play Bible Bingo together – winners get to choose a prize, **5pm, Friday, April 10**. Enjoy games, eat dinner and end with a devotional, Bible story and song. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register.



PROGRESSIVE DINNER Appetizers in one location, dinner in another, desserts in a third – a fun way to get to know or reconnect with other WPC adults, **4:30-9pm, Saturday, April 11**. Attend all three or just come for the first course. Each person will be assigned an app, side dish or dessert to compliment the meal and asked to contribute \$10 to offset the costs. Use the QR code to register/host or sign up in Fellowship Hall. Registration closes 11am, Sunday, April 5. Interested in childcare at the church or have questions? Contact Chris Darr or Lise Meloy.

GIVING AND SERVICE

EASTER HAMS Have a ham you won't be cooking? Donate it to the Deacons! Mark it "Deacons" and put it in the church refrigerator. **Continues through Wednesday, April 1.**

LANDSCAPING VOLUNTEERS Louise Rowland is now responsible for the flower beds on the church property and is seeking volunteers to "pitch in" as needed. She is also looking for some gardening equipment (especially if you are downsizing and no longer need it). Like to help/donate? Call/text Louise (925-270-9418).

RED WAGON WPC supports 3 food pantries – Chester Eastside, LifeWerks & Media Food Bank. Chester Eastside is requesting:

- | | |
|--|--|
| -Cereal/oatmeal | -Peanut butter/grape jelly |
| -Canned fruit/applesauce | -Canned chicken |
| -Canned fish | -Canned vegetables |
| -Rice | -Side dishes (Lipton, Knorr) |
| -Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) and wipes | -Male and female personal hygiene products |



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Millions of people around the world lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The work done through causes supported by OGHS – disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change and immigration/migration and refugees – serves individuals and communities in need, providing people with safety, sustenance and hope. Use the pew envelopes or QR code. **Continues through Sunday, April 5.**

WPC Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday	Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday
09.00am- Chapel Ringers	06.30pm- Bell Choir
09.00am- Pageant Call/Run Through	07.30pm- Maundy Thursday Service
10.00am- Worship	Friday, April 3 - Good Friday
11.00am- Coffee Hour	06.30pm- Chancel Choir
03.00pm- Concert for a Cause	07.30pm- Good Friday Service
Monday, March 30	Saturday, April 4
10.00am- Staff Meeting	Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday
10.00am- Bible Study	08.00am- Sunrise Service
07.30pm- Communications Meeting	09.00am- Bell Choir
Tuesday, March 31	09.30am- Chancel Choir
Wednesday, April 1	10.00am- Worship
	11.00am- Coffee Hour
	11.00am- Egg Hunt

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