**Montoursville Presbyterian Church**

900 Elm Street, Montoursville, PA

March 24, 2024 9:30am

**Morning Worship with Public Profession of faith**

**Palm Sunday**



**God’s People Gather**

*Please observe prayerful silence when the prelude begins.*

PRELUDE “Jerusalem” *Henry Parker*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

CHORAL INTROIT

**We Praise the Lord**

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Psalm 118:15-17, 19-21)

L: Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: “The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!

**P: The LORD’s right hand is lifted high; the LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!”**

L: I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

**P: Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.**

L: This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter.

**P: I will give You thanks, for You answered me, You have become my salvation.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: (red) 281 “All Glory, Laud and Honor”

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Eternal God, in Jesus Christ, You entered Jerusalem to die for our sins. We confess that we have not hailed You as King, or gone before You in the world with praise. For brief faith that fades in trouble, for zeal that fades as quickly as it comes, for hopes we do not pursue, have mercy on us. Forgive us all our sins, O God, and give us such trust in Your power that we may live for You and tell of Your loving-kindness; for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.** [*silent confession*]

Assurance of Pardon

\*Response of Praise: “Gloria Patri”

**Hear God’s Word**

CHILDREN’S LESSON AND DISTRIBUTING PALMS

“The Palms” (see insert)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE PROPHET: Zechariah 9:9-17 (pp. 953, 1451)

THE EPISTLE: Philippians 2:1-11 (pp. 1179, 1785)

CHORAL ANTHEM “Palm Sunday Hosanna” *Chancel Choir*

THE GOSPEL: John 12:12-19 (pp. 1078, 1637)

THE SERMON: Getting Crowded! *Rev. David C. Smith*

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE: 91 “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

**The Disciples Give Thanks**

CONFIRMATION AND PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH

Presentation

Profession of Faith

Apostles’ Creed (p. 14)

Laying on of Hands

Welcome

The Peace

L: The peace of God be always with you.

**P: And also with you.**

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory  “Hosanna” *Noel Benson*

\* Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

THE SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and Lord’s Prayer

**We Go Forth To Serve**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* HYMN OF SENDING: 89 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Open the Gates of the Temple” arr. *Phoebe Palmer Knapp*

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: *Rev. David C. Smith*

Liturgist:  *Diane Casella*

Greeters: *Gary & Kathy Williams*

Ushers: *K. Fenstermacher, K. Fenstermacher, L. Holland, S. Lott*

Organist: *Debbie Keller*

Director of Music Ministries: *Ryan Neidig*

**This Week at MPC**

**Sunday, March 24th Palm Sunday**

9:30am Worship Service (S)

10:45am Potluck brunch/egg hunt (FH)

5:30pm FISH dinner and egg hunt (MCEC)

**Monday, March 25th**

9:00am Prayer Group (MCEC)

10:00am-11:30am Yoga (FH)

**Tuesday, March 26th** *(bulletin announcements due)*

**Wednesday, March 27th**

**Thursday, March 28th Maundy Thursday**

6:30pm-8:30pm AA Meeting (FH)

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service (S)

**Friday, March 29th** **Good Friday**

Office Closed

10:00am-11:30am Yoga (FH)

**Saturday, March 30th**

**Sunday,** **March 31st Easter Sunday**

6:30am Sunrise Service

9:30am Worship Service (S)

Last Week’s Attendance: 71

**Pastor’s Office:** (570) 368-4747 presbysmith@gmail.com

**Church Office:** Mon-Thurs 9:00-noon (570) 368-1595

**Mailing Address:** 205 Tule St. Montoursville, PA 17754

**E-mail:** montourpc@gmail.com

**Website:** www.montourpres.org

**Announcements for the week of March 24, 2024**

**Welcome to the Montoursville Presbyterian Church.**

Visitors: Please complete a Visitor Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. If you are looking for a church home or membership, please see the Pastor, an Usher, or call the office.

**To assist with your worship experience, we offer:**

**Personal hearing devices** – please see an Usher

**Pew cushions** – stored above the coat racks in the Narthex

**Large print hymnals** – in the Narthex

**Handicap/family restroom** – off the far end of Fellowship Hall

**Nursery care** for children ages up to 5 years old

**Staff:** Deb Rupert,

Hannah Means, Adele Dunkleberger, Gwen Dunkleberger

**TODAY** - There will be a breakfast potluck after church this morning in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy a breakfast treat as well as a time to greet our newly confirmed members. Also, FISH is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt after worship.  All children through 4th grade are invited to participate.  Please meet in Fellowship Hall.

**Maundy Thursday and Easter,** we will celebrate the **Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.**

**Easter Schedule:**

**Easter Sunrise Service**, in the Memorial Garden, will be at 6:30am on Easter morning, March 31.

**Easter worship, with Communion**, will be at 9:30am this Sunday morning, the Day of Resurrection!

**Upcoming FISH activities**

**TODAY** — Egg hunts all day long!  Please meet in Don King’s classroom (room off the narthex with the stained-glass windows) immediately after the Palm Sunday service to hide eggs for the younger kids in the congregation.  Come to the MCEC @ 5:30 pm for dinner and our own egg hunt!  Bring a friend!

**Thank you**to everyone who donated towards the egg hunts today.  All our hunters will be rewarded with all sorts of lovely treats thanks to your generosity!!

**A picture containing plant

Description automatically generated The Palms**

O’er all the way green palms and blossoms gay

Are strewn this day in festal preparation,

Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away;

E’en now the throng to welcome him prepare.

His word goes forth, and peoples by its might

Freedom regain once more from degradation;

Humanity doth give to each his right

While those in darkness are restored to light.

CHORUS

Join all and sing his name declare;

Let ev’ry voice resound with joyous acclamation!

Praise ye the Lord, Hosanna!

Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation.

**Upcoming Greeters**

3/31 Means family

4/7 Katie Bergen, Liam & Layla Weber

**Upcoming Ushers**

3/31 L. Keller, B. Mathias, M. Long, A. Long

4/7 D. Shearer, K. Shearer, W. Kremser, M. Kremser

**Prayer List**

**Illness, recovery and support:** Susan Baker, Sandy Bernan, Paul Blickley, Nancy Book, Lane Bower, Donald Burleigh and family, Koen Butler, Hobart & Hedi Campbell, Patrick Carmody, Elaine Cressman, Pat Damaska, Jackie DeAngelo, Joyce Dotts, Betty Edkin, Ellie English, Gail Fetterman, Janine Fisher, Margaret Fox, Christine Fry, Kevin Gardner, Marcelyn George, Gayle Herron, Clara May Hoff, Jeff Hoff, Linda Holland, Rosemary Holmes, John & Margaret Hopper, Wayne Keller, Doug & Tanga Killian, Pat Korizno, Marilyn Loccassio, Michael Lozano, the Maciejewski family, Brooke Marshall, Ester McLaughlin, Doris Messersmith, Mary Ann Merrill, Barb Miller, Ariel Muhs, Mary Lou & Rick Odell, Amy Peck, Buzz Platt, Phil Preziosi, Peggy Rennick, Cathy Rush, Bob Schild, Brad Shaffer, John & Penny Shaw, Kay Shearer, Ellory Sobol-Shelton and family, Laura Shepard, Bob Shimp, Bobbie Simms, Mindy & Stan Smith, Cheri Stiles, Dorothy Stipp, Jim Sunderland, Fran Tallini, Lois Thomas, Sue Ulmer, Carol & John Wagner, the Walker family, Aiden Wallace, the Wentzel family, Bobby Wheeler, Marieva Williams, Dawn Zipay.

**Grief:** family and friends of Kevin Little

**Military:**  Duane (DJ) Burleigh, Ryan Burns, Lt. Col. Brady Cillo, Caleb Frantz, Gabe King, Dani Kline, Sgt. J. Patrick Lawracy, David McCollin, Jason Yurek, All military personnel, and their families.

**Others:**  Nthemba Church (Sister church in Africa); Ministries of MPC; Peace in the World; Camp Krislund; Health Care Workers; Schools and Colleges and Universities; Doctors Without Borders; those suffering as a result of the Israel/Hamas war; Ethiopia; Haiti; Ukraine; Sudan; those suffering from natural disasters; all victims of violence.

**Please give updates on the status of those on the prayer list to Anne Strein (570-368-1595, montourpc@gmail.com.)**