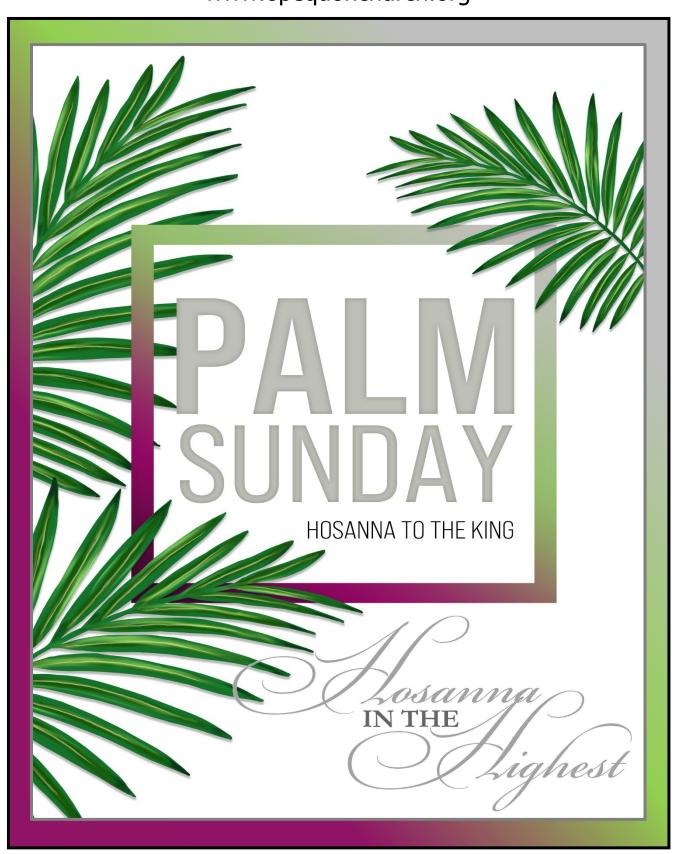
OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602 540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org



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540-662-1843 office@opequonchurch.org

<i>Pastor</i>	David R. Witt
Associate Pastor	Julia H. Burkley
Parish Associate	Tracie Martin
Church Office Administrator	Rachel Lesink
Church Finance Administrator	Ken Smiy
Director of Christian Education	Carole Witt
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries	Rebekah Witt
Director of Music	Susan Homan
Organist	William Heavner
Facilities Coordinator	Robert Sydnor
Nursery Supervisor	Laurie Čarver
Faith Community Nurses	

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

To reach a staff member or if a pastoral concern arises, contact the church office or note who is out of the office and email one of the pastors directly and we will respond in a timely manner.

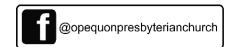
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- We encourage you to share requests for prayer. You may do so by completing the pink form found in the pew rack and placing it in the offering.
- Trust your children to the care of our dedicated, loving workers! The nursery rooms are located through the Gathering Area, down the Gallery and through the Dell Room. An usher will be happy to escort you. Our nursery ministry cares for infants and toddlers to age four.
- Worship Bags are available for children ages 3 kindergarten. These bags are in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the basket when you are leaving.
- **Restrooms and a coat rack** are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- Large-print hymnals, Bibles and bulletins are available from an usher.
- **Personal hearing assistance devices** are available from an usher if you would like to use one.
- Transportation can be provided to worship. Call the church office before 12:00 PM on Friday.

Access our Online Giving at www.opequonchurch.org/giving or scan the OR code here:



Follow us on Facebook:



A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 13, 2025 - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Blood Pressure Checks

*Thank you for taking the time to silence your phones before we begin the Worship Service.

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting. PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in the offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

SOURCE OF SECTION SE

PRELUDELift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates

Arranged by: Thomas Bliss

(Please use this time to prepare your inward spirit for the worship of God.)

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT THE CHURCH BELL RINGS GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Words by: Barbara Furman; Music by: Vicki Tucker Courtney

Zion lift your songs on high! Hosanna to the Son of David. Wave your palm and brush the sky. Hosanna to the Son of David. Lift up your heads and sing! Lay hearts before the King! Let glad hosannas ring. Hosanna to the Son of David. Children follow with a song! Hosanna to the Son of David. Praise the Lord with voices strong! Hosanna to the Son of David. Lift up your heads and sing! Lay hearts before the King! Let glad hosannas ring. Hosanna to the Son of David. Hosanna to the King! Hosanna to the Son of David!

†CALL TO WORSHIP

On this day, Jesus marched

in between the city walls and the Temple,

in between joyful hosannas and doubtful whispers,

in between oppressive poverty and greedy power,

in between rampant fear and hope unfurled.

On this day, Jesus marched in between what had been and what could be.

So may we meet Christ in that liminal space.

May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in between!

[refrain] All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. [refrain]

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. [refrain]

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. [refrain]

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! [refrain]

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, we are truthtellers in the prayer of confession. We are honest about the fact that we are works in progress. We tell the truth of our lives. We lay it all out before God. But this moment of prayer isn't just about us. In the prayer of confession, we also reveal who God is, for our God is merciful. Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. So let us pray, knowing that God's truth will always mean grace for us. Let us pray together responsively and then in personal silence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, forgive me

when I speak before listening, when I speak over my neighbor, when I speak with barbed words.

Creator God, forgive me

when I listen to society, when I listen to my friends, when I listen to the news, but I do not listen to you.

Creator God, forgive me

when I shout out, but do not shout your name, when I listen, but do not listen for your voice. Forgive me. And create in me a heart like yours.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, whether or not you stuck to your Lenten goals this year, whether or not this is your first time in church or your thousandth time, whether or not you know to speak to God or listen for God's voice, God listens to you. God is merciful. God is abounding in steadfast love. There is nothing you could do or leave undone that could keep God from loving you. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven. Not a day goes by that we ever walk alone. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Lord, we lift up your name, with hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, oh Lord, my God! Hosanna in the highest!

Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!
Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!
Lord, we lift up your name, with hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, oh Lord, my God! Glory to the King of kings!
Be exalted, oh Lord, my God! Hosanna in the highest!

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.)
May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

№ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD <

ANTHEM...... Let the Rocks Cry Out!

By: Lloyd Larson

Let the rocks cry out in joyous sounds of praise! Let the people shout with voices gladly raised! Sing hosanna, hosanna! Messiah comes today. Sing hosanna, hosanna! The Savior's on His way! Let the rocks cry out, let the people shout, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" Let the rocks cry out in joyous sounds of praise! Let the people shout with voices gladly raised! Sing hosanna, hosanna! Messiah comes today. Sing hosanna, hosanna! The Savior's on His way! Let the rocks cry out, let the people shout, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" Lift your voice and sing in glad adoration; praise to God on high! See the King who comes in grand celebration, for He comes in the name of the Lord! Let the rocks cry out in joyous sounds of praise! Let the people shout with voices gladly raised! Sing hosanna, hosanna! Messiah comes today. Sing hosanna, hosanna! The Savior's on His way! Let the rocks cry out, let the people shout, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" Lift up your heads, O gates, you ancient doors, let the King of glory in. He is strong and mighty, this King of glory, and He comes in the name of the Lord! Let the rocks cry out in joyous sounds of praise! Let the people shout with voices gladly raised! Sing hosanna, hosanna! Messiah comes today. Sing hosanna, hosanna! The Savior's on His way! Let the rocks cry out, let the people shout, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" "Blessed be the name of the Lord!"

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 50:4-9aPew Bible p. 594 NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 19:28-40Pew Bible p. 854		
CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES" "Jesus Visits Jerusalem" Nursery (Infants – Age 4)		
HYMN No. 197		
for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.		
SERMON"Between Shouting and Silence" Pastor David Witt		

№ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD <

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord Jesus, the crowds offered you their coats to walk on; they waved palm branches, honoring your presence. Today we honor you, our blessed Savior, with our faithful tithes and offerings. We lay these gifts before you, humble tokens of our love, a public display of affection for you, our King of kings. Amen.

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that many years ago a peaceful parade wove its way through the streets of Jerusalem. We believe that on that day, the people cried out, longing and praying for a better world. We believe that these longings came from a place of deep hope, and we believe that hope cannot be silenced. So we listen for the Spirit. We sing Hosanna. We pay attention. For in between the silence and the song, we believe the Spirit is still speaking. Amen.

RECEPTION & RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

SOLUTION GOD'S NAME №

They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms and vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and palms.

When day dimmed down to deepening dark the crowd began to fade till only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade.

Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise, remind us, God, as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.

Instead of palms, a winding sheet will have to be unrolled, a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

†POSTLUDE

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

As you wait for this morning's prelude to begin, you may want to read the text of hymn #93. It is not known who composed "Truro," the tune that sets the text based on Psalm 24: 9-10. There is a distinction between looking "toward" a destination and looking "forward" to it. By the time Jesus was preparing for his "Triumphant Entry" into Jerusalem, he knew he was looking toward the cross. Gerald Peterson captures that obedient but apprehensive feeling Jesus must have been feeling as he moved to fulfill His Earthly journey.



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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Lance Pearce Family
Kim Brathwaite Family
Jayne McIntosh
Tim Higgins
Ann Cartwright
Lynne Rosamilia
Ginger Kyle & Family
Lynne Bryar Johnson

Nate
Gina
Kim McDonald
Jane Bell Family
Pat Williams
Wildfires & Earthquake

Victims

Meredith Beattie

Johansen Bill Dunlap Irene Dubois Littman Family

Betty Chicklo & Family Angela Eberle & Family

Cely Johnson

Walter & Elaine Aikens

Wanda Morris

Billy Wallace Jim Bauserman All Struggling with

Mental Illness

Eddy Strosnider Bart Robertson

Mike Butler Fred Rathel

Mary Beth Cornell

John Zerkle Rick Ours

Kourtney Haake

Danny Lingo

Paula & Mac McNichols

Nancy Pitcock Judy Gaines Ted Jacks Chick Dorofee

Charles "Skip" Schempp

Jim Horner Curt Budny

Federal Government

Workers Bill Robinson

June & Nathan Windle

Gary & Mary Ann
Johnson

Cora Helen Anderson

Judy Orndorff Katie Happel Matthew Ours

Bereaved Israelites &

Palestinians
Jackie Witt
Tim Loftis

Those Suffering from Mental Illness

Mike Shade

Jewish & Muslim Victims

Worldwide Cindy Correll Douglas Dicks Nancy Kerns

Kennedy Ransom

Ukraine

Ethiopia Church Mekane

Yesus

№PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Cameron Andrew Veach, Kayleen Paquette, Kelly Klimek, Jacob & Tiffani Peoples, Sawyer Phillips, Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane, Jacob Heavner, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes, Eli Keaton

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – April 13

Palm Sunday; Blood Pressure Checks

Worship & New Members – Sanctuary & Livestream
Faith Formation – Bageant Room
Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
Worship & New Members – Sanctuary
Senior Outreach Ministry
Spring Arbor Worship

THIS WEEK

Monday:	6:00 PM	Men of Opequon (MOO) – Chick-fil-A
	5:30 PM	Windsong – Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Men of Opequon (MOO) – Fellowship Hall
Tuesday:	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting – Bageant Room
	10:00 AM	Youth Bowling – meet in church parking lot
Wednesday:	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	9:00 AM	WANC Tea – Youth Spot
	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
	10:30 AM	WANC Meeting – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Sherando Food Pantry
	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service – Memorial Sanctuary
Friday:	NOON	Good Friday Reflections — Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Good Friday Worship - Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Kernstown UMC Worship – Picnic Shelter
Saturday:	9:00 AM	Roots & Shoots Garden Work Day

NEXT SUNDAY – April 20

Day of Resurrection, Easter Sunday Communion; Special Music; One Great Hour of Sharing

6:00 AM	Easter Sunrise Worship Service – Pitcock Picnic Shelter
6:45 AM	Easter Breakfast – Fellowship Hall
8:30 AM	Easter Sunday Worship Service — Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	Family Easter Event – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Easter Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE IS TODAY!

Opie's Playhouse will gather **this morning, 9:45 AM—10:45 AM**, in the Memorial Sanctuary. We hope you'll join us for this time of fun and fellowship planned especially for our families with young children. We will have toys and games for children elementary age and under and snacks and drinks for all.

LENT COLORING POSTER PROJECT

There is ONE WEEK left to get our LENT POSTER completely colored! It is coming along very well. The poster table is set up in the Gathering Area with markers available. Pick up a marker and add some color! YOU choose what color goes where! Let's get all the spaces filled in with bright color by EASTER Sunday. Please remember to leave all the markers on the table for others to use as well. Thank you.

MEN OF OPEQUON (MOO)

The Men of Opequon (MOO) gathering for **tomorrow** will begin at **6:00 PM** with dinner at Chick-fil-A. We will then travel to the church for our meeting at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall, where our own Jack Marquis will share about his work with the Federal Bureau of Prisons and we will also share Holy Week devotions. We hope you will join us. All men are invited.

We'll also help with the Easter Sunrise Breakfast—please plan on being a part of the set-up/serving crew at **5:45 AM** on **Easter morning**!

FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE EASTER CROSSES

One of our traditions here at OPC is to add fresh flowers to the mesh covered crosses on **Easter Morning**. There will be one standing near the picnic shelter and the other will be in the center of the traffic circle, just outside the front entrance. You are invited to bring fresh flowers to tuck into the mesh. Covering these symbols of our risen Lord with flowers, they become another joyous reminder of the miracle of Easter.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – Next Sunday

We encourage everyone to give to One Great Hour of Sharing and bring your offering to be received and dedicated on **Easter Sunday**. Special envelopes are available in the bulletins and Gathering Area. OGHS fish banks should be added to the display in the Gathering Area by next Sunday as well.

NOMINATE AN OLDER ADULT FOR "OPEQUON'S 2025 OLDER ADULT OF THE YEAR"

So many of our older adults have been recognized as our "Older Adults of the Year" and we celebrate those crowned in the past: Roy Bayliss, John Boyd, Frances Smith, Louise Duncan, Bill Robinson, Shirley Brumble, Dave Brumble, Rob MacGregor, Ty Headley, Edgar Tufts, Howard Kent, Donna Coffman, Betty Ganoe, Carol Tubbs, Graham Taylor, Carol Treece, Jack Treece, Dick Crane, Gail Crane, Martha Fulton, Becky Proctor, Steve Brown, Edwina Johansen, Betty Chicklo, June Malone, Alan McKay, Jean Smith, and Phil Hunter.

It is time to share nominations for this year's Older Adult of the Year. Who would you like to nominate? There are forms available on the table in the Gathering Area. Share who you nominate and **WHY**.

Nominations are due by May 11 and they may come from anyone in the congregation. Forms may be returned to Carole Witt or dropped in the box provided on the table. The Session will review the nominations and make the selection. The 2025 Older Adult of the Year will be announced at the Older Adult Luncheon on May 28.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Congregational Care and the Deacons are reaching out to ask for volunteers who would be willing to occasionally drive members to medical appointments. This would be on an as-needed basis, with at least several days notice. If you are willing to help provide rides as the need arises, please contact Robin Cooke (980-328-5131 or robincooke67@gmail.com).

WATERCOLOR EXHIBIT TO BENEFIT "MOVE-IN MINISTRY"

OPC member Karen Winters will have her art featured at a Watercolor Exhibit, **April 14 – May 5**, at the Shenandoah Lodge in Lake Frederick, and there will be an Artist Reception this **Wednesday**, **4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**. A percentage of sales will go towards OPC's new mission project "Family Promise Move-in-Ministry." See the announcement cards in the Gathering Area and the Dell Room for more details.

GARDEN WORK DAY

If you are able to come and help with the fence work, top-off the garden beds, plant, water, and/or other garden tasks, come lend a hand in the Roots & Shoots Garden on **Saturday, April 19 (9:00 AM – noon)** and/or at the Planting Day on **Saturday, April 26 (1:00 PM – 3:00 PM)**.

OPC ROOTS & SHOOTS NEWS

The Roots & Shoots Leadership Team would like to thank Beth Eisenhauer for serving as the Garden Administrator this past year. We are so grateful for her service and dedication. Beth has accepted the call to serve as a Deacon and is on two very important OPC Committees, which are requiring much of her time and effort. The Garden Gals (Dana Kelly, Robin Owens, and Joelle Cafaro) are ready to welcome a new Garden Administrator to keep spreadsheet totals of produce, be the contact for community groups who want to volunteer, and send info to the church office for bulletin and newsletter. Those interested should contact Dana Kelly (davedana@comcast.net).

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul." —Alfred Austin

FRIENDS OF THE GORE HOME IN ETHIOPIA

We are seeking scholarship donors for the students at The Gore Home. The Gore Home is an outreach of our partner synod in Ethiopia. It supplies dormitory style housing, complete with house mothers, three meals a day, supervised study hall time, medical care, and tutors. It primarily serves orphans, whose remaining family cannot support them. The students attend public school in the town of Gore, Ethiopia. The cost of a full scholarship is \$1,550 per year; however, we are asking for \$1,450 for the coming school year. Partial scholarships will be combined as appropriate. We want to collect the funds by early summer so that the Home may plan appropriately for the coming school year. The Gore Home can easily house 60 students and there are currently only about 40 there. OPC is the largest source of funds for the Home in the Shenandoah Presbytery, with sponsoring over 40% of the current students.

Please thoughtfully and prayerfully consider helping to sponsor a student at the Gore Home. Please direct any questions about this program to Bill Burslem (wburslem331@gmail.com).

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GET YOUR DIRECTORY PHOTO TAKEN – NEXT SUNDAY

Still need to have your directory photo taken? We will be set up to take photos in the Dell Room **after both services on Easter Sunday**. If you need to schedule a time for us to come to your home and take your directory photo, contact Debbie Bender (540-336-7689) or Alyce Callahan (586-801-0279).

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We rejoice today as we welcome new members to the Opequon Church family. May God bless and enrich their lives as we share the journey of faith and service together. Please reach out and get to know the following new members:

- Cathy Plumb, Transfer of Membership from Sandy Bottom Christian Church in Lynchburg, VA (8:30 AM)
- ❖ H. Murray Shantz, Transfer of Membership from First Presbyterian Church in Winchester, VA (8:30 AM)
- ❖ Izzy & Pauline Cruz, Transfer of Membership from Congregational United Church of Christ in Fairmont, MN (11:00 AM)
- ❖ Amanda & Austin Jenkins, Re-Affirmation of Faith (11:00 AM)
- ❖ Bruce & Kathi Lehnhard, Re-Affirmation of Faith (11:00 AM)
- ❖ Thom & Kay Picciuto, Transfer of Membership from Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Winchester, VA (11:00 AM)

In Remembrance:

Lance John Pearce

November 3, 1940 - April 10, 2025

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.

"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

- John 11:26-26

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Today, April 13 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Scriptures: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Luke 9:28-40 Sermon: "Between Shouting and Silence"

• New Members Received

Blood Pressure Checks

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

April 17 – 7:00 PM (Memorial Sanctuary)

Scripture: Luke 22:1-27

Meditation: "Power & Humility"

GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTIONS

April 18 – Noon (Sanctuary)

Reflection & Meditation, with Music & Readings

• Come at Any Time

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

April 18 – 7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Scriptures: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Luke 23:1-49

Meditation: "Crucify! Crucify Him!"

• Recessional with the Cross

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

April 20 – 6:00 AM (Pitcock Memorial Picnic Shelter)

Scripture: Isaiah 65:17-25; John 20:1-18

- Disciples at the Tomb
- Sharing Worship with Our Neighbors from Kernstown United Methodist Church
- Special Music; Flowering Cross
- Easter Breakfast (6:45 AM)

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION, EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday, April 20 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Scripture: Psalm 126; Luke 24:1-12 Sermon: "Hope Amidst the Mourning"

• Communion; Special Music

- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Family Easter Event (9:45 AM)

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Dale Ervin **Beadle**: Bob Aylor

Door Greeters: Joan & Bob Aylor **Hospitality Greeters**: Ben Brooks

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Wygant, Mike & Trish Crawford, Bailey Rockwell, Brayden

Rockwell, Camden Saunders

Acolyte: Bailey Rockwell **Bell Ringer**: Mo Mohler

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

Building Steward: Terry Hartman

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Ann Denison **Beadle**: Shirley Tomblin

Door Greeters: Maureen & Bill

Wellman

Hospitality Greeters: Ron & Ann

Smith

Ushers: Marj Praml, Kyle Homan, Jason Hathaway, Vern Gamble, Paige Littman, Sam Sherman, Alex

Sardelis

Acolyte: Paige Littman

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How does the music today witness to being in-between the shouting and silence of this week?

Notes on Today's Prayers

>> Where do I need to focus my prayers this week? For whom and for what do I need to pray?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

- >> When have you heard people cheer or shout with joy? Who is in the crowd watching Jesus?
- > Draw a picture of Jesus' followers?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

- How would you describe the type of kingship Jesus embodies? Is this in accord with what people might have expected?
- When have you lifted your voice in exultant praise? Have you ever joined in shouting and singing with a crowd during a political march or rally?
- > Why do the Pharisees want the crowds to be silenced? What do they fear?
- ≥ Can you think of a time in your life when, like the Pharisees, you were appropriately silenced?
- Jesus enters the holy in-between of his final days before he departs from this world. His entry marks the beginning of the end. Do you think his silence helped steady and prepare him for what was to come?
- Have you ever experienced divine silence or silence that restored you in some way?
- As you enter Holy Week, how will you bring all of yourself—your praise, your reverence, your grief, and everything in between?