

***Palm Sunday***  
**March 24, 2024**

Welcome and Announcements		
Prelude	Christopher A. McCroskey	
<i>(As the Prelude begins, prayerfully prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)</i>		
Call to Worship	<i>“With the Waving of Palms”</i>	Choir
Centering Words		
*Hymn	<i>“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”</i>	278
Opening Prayer		
Prayer of Illumination		
*Hymn	<i>“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”</i>	277
“Let the Children Come!”		
<i>(Those 3 years of age through 8 years of age may go to Children’s Church.)</i>		
*Psalter	Psalm 118:14-29	839-840
Anthem	<i>“Via Dolorosa”</i>	Kathy Seppamaki
Gospel Reading	Mark 11:1-11	Pages 48-49 (N.T.)
Sermon	<i>“Save Us!”</i>	Rev. John Jordan
*Affirmation of Faith	<i>“Apostles’ Creed”</i>	881
*Gloria Patri	<i>“Glory Be to the Father”</i>	70
Pastoral Prayer		
Lord’s Prayer		
Presentation of Tithes & Offerings		
Offertory		Christopher A. McCroskey
*Doxology	<i>“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”</i>	95
*Hymn	<i>“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”</i>	160
*Dismissal With Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>“With the Waving of Palms”</i>	Choir
*The Congregation May Stand		

***Leading in Worship Today***

Pastor:	<i>John D. Jordan</i>	AV Director:	<i>Marie Stiles</i>
Choir Director:	<i>Christopher A. McCroskey</i>	AV Assistant:	<i>Chris Derrick</i>
Church Musician			

***VISITORS ARE WELCOME*** in the service of worship! Please make use of the visitor’s tags (located in the pew backs) to help us better welcome you as a visitor to Trinity this morning. We ask that you also please fill in the pew pad as it passes to register your attendance with us. **Large print hymnals** are available from the ushers. An ***INFANT AND TODDLER NURSERY*** is provided during the worship hour. Parents: please ask an usher for assistance.

You may join as a member into the life and work of this congregation by Confession of Faith or by Transfer of Membership from another church. If you would be interested in becoming a member, please speak to the pastor.

***TODAY’S LOVELY FLOWERS** are given to the **Glory of God.***

“AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRIES BY OUR PRAYERS...

English Pearcy	Patsy Zeigler	Charlie Hooker	Kaye Floyd	Patsy Shuler	Taylor Linholm
Becky Derrick	John Ballentine	Mary Kamoroff	Jimmy Grah	Latson Lewis	

**Shut-Ins:** Esther Carter; Gillett Hipp; Linda Maloch; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath

**Family and Friends:** **Russell Eubanks** (*son-in-law of Jo Ann Heiting*);**Nancy Whitehead** (*former member*); **Malcolm Skipper** (*grandfather of Matthew Skipper*); **Mildred McQuitty** (*great-grandmother of Matthew Skipper*);**Logan Sturkie** (*granddaughter of Marty Johnson’s neighbor*); **Bryan Collard** (*brother-in-law of Mary Sue Lewis*); **Charlyn McNeill** (*sister of Mary Sue Lewis*); **Elizabeth Kelsey & Jamie Barnett** (*friends of John & Kay Jordan*); **Alex Courtney** (*friend of great nephew of Joyce Robinson*); **Lawrence Gilbert** (*friend of Becky Derrick*); **Bob Bohnstengel** (*spouse of Jo Ann Heiting’s cousin*); **Judy Spence** (*former member*); **Anne Piercy** (*former member*); **Missy Abrams** (*stepdaughter of Lissa Abrams*); **Mary Davis** (*daughter of Bob & Libby Strickland*); **Gloria Erd** (*friend of Lynn Martin*); **Pearl Geddens** (*mother of Tom Geddens*); **Ross Deal** (*grandson of Mary Kamoroff*); **Nancy Wilson** (*friend of Jeanette Hornsby*); **David Turner** (*brother of Pam Turner*); **Ernie & Betsey Hendrix, Chip Mixon** (*friends of Tommy Gleaton*); **Ron & Janet Walker** (*friends of Tommy & Chris Gleaton*); **Merit Takach** (*friend of Joyce and Brent Robinson*); **James Boggs** (*father of Claire Boggs*); **Stacy Coggins** (*daughter of Steve Aiello*); **Sweat Family** ( *friends of Marty Johnson*); **Bill Areheart** (*friend of Bonnie Ramsey*); **David Grandshaw** (*brother-in-law of Edwa Meek*); **Robert Bradley** (*Business Associate of Simon Ross*); **Gary Becton** (*friend of Mark Branham*); **Florence Lee Carter, Monnie Tiller** (*friends of Chris Derrick*); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (*stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey*); **Alexa Lookingbill, Teddy Derrick** (*uncle of Arvan Derrick*); **Haidee Baehr** (*friends of Ruth Frady*); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (*cousins of Gale Frady*); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (*friends of Gale Frady*); **Bernardo Velasquez, Walt & Janet Beck** (*friends of Jo Ann Heiting*); **Adam Lavender** (*son of Phil Lavender*)

OUR PRESENCE ...

Attendance 03/17 Sunday School 8 Morning Worship: 36

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 03/17 \$ 2,125.00

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS.”

Church Calendar

TODAY Taste of Trinity

Ministry Team Meeting following Taste of Trinity

Deadline for Donations In Lieu of Lilies

Holy Week Service @ Trinity UMC, 6 p.m.

03/25 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Week Service @ Brookland UMC, 6 p.m.

03/26 Holy Week Service @ Shiloh UMC, 6 p.m.

03/27 Holy Week Service @ Platt UMC, 6 p.m.

Choir, 6 p.m.

03/28 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service @ Trinity, 6 p.m.

03/29 Office Closed

03/30 Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.



**Today following Worship**

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held immediately following the service. It will continue on the fourth Sunday of every month. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!

**Please Note:** The Ministry Team will meet every month immediately following Taste of Trinity.



<b>Sunday, March 24</b>	Trinity UMC	Debbie Miller preaching
<b>Monday, March 25</b>	Brookland	Morgan Byers preaching
<b>Tuesday, March 26</b>	Shiloh	Mark Payne preaching
<b>Wednesday, March 27</b>	Platt Springs	John Jordan preaching
<b>Thursday, March 28</b>	Trinity UMC	John Jordan preaching

All services start at 6 p.m. Mark your calendars for these times of worship and fellowship with our sister United Methodist churches in the West Metro Area.



**Saturday, March 30  
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Join us for a morning of fun as we meet in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m. for an Easter Egg Hunt! There will also be crafts and refreshments!

We are in need of small wrapped candy to fill the eggs or donations to purchase the candy. The candy and donations can be dropped off at the Church Office through Thursday, March 28.



**Easter Sunday  
March 31**

Easter is traditionally a time of joy, but in this year’s Easter Cantata we will also look at the despair that the followers of Jesus experienced before that first Easter dawned upon them. We will look back with them at the memories and reflections of their life with Jesus. We’ll share the impact of his death before coming to the joy of new life through his spirit, which brought them, as it will bring us, from despair to joy, which is the theme of this year’s Easter Cantata. Please join us on Easter morning, Sunday March 31st for, “From Despair to Joy”.

Save Us!

3/24/2024

Mark 11:1-11

Palm Sunday

Jesus was coming to Jerusalem! Jesus from Galilee, the Messiah, was finally coming to Jerusalem! The people spread their cloaks or leafy branches on the road. They shouted, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

This was a procession for a victorious king. This was the king the people hoped for. This was the Messiah, the anointed one. They shouted, Hosanna!

This King coming to Jerusalem was different from any other king. Kings rode in on great stallions or in gilded chariots. They rode horses or chariots that only the elite could afford. They entered on means that conveyed power and might.

This King rode in on a colt, a borrowed one at that. This was not the colt of a great stallion but the colt of a donkey. This King entered, riding the colt of a common beast of burden. This conveyance did not exude power and might but humbleness. This King did not identify with the elite but with the common person.

Kings or their representatives could take whatever they needed. They needed a donkey, and they saw your donkey. They took it. They did not buy or borrow; they took. If you objected, they said the king needed it, too bad. Usually, a sword would take care of any objection.

This King told his representatives to find the colt. If anyone objected, they were to say that he would send it back there immediately. This King would take the colt, use it, and then send it back immediately. This King would not take the colt for any longer than necessary.

Kings entered a city with a retinue of armed guards. He would be surrounded by loyal soldiers, armed with swords, spears, and shields, glinting in the sun. They would march in unison, each step in rhythm. Horns and drums would announce the arrival of the king.

This King was surrounded by fishermen, tax collectors, zealots, and other riff-raff. They carried shepherd crooks and walking staffs. They did not march, they walked. There were no horns or drums, just people shouting, “Hosanna!”

Kings were met by dignitaries. They met the most prominent citizens of the city. They had a huge banquet with speeches and accolades. They gave a sacrifice to the gods.

This King was met by no one. He went to the temple, looked around, then left with his rag-tag retinue.

Kings were coronated with ceremonies and parades.

This King was coronated with a mock trial and paraded through the city like a common criminal.

Kings received a crown of gold and jewels.

This King received a crown of thorns.

Kings were hailed, “Long live the king!”

This King was mocked and rejected, “Give us Barabas!”

Kings were exalted on a throne.

This King was exalted on a cross.

Kings were given the royal seal and signet.

This King was given a seal of flogging and a signet of nails.

No, this King was like no other. He was humble. He identified with the common people. This King did not take but gave. The people shouted, Hosanna!

Hosanna is derived from the Hebrew words meaning to save or deliver. The people were shouting for this king to save them.

To save them from what? The people who spread their cloaks and leafy branches thought the king was coming to save them from foreign rule. For 750 years, Israel had been under foreign rule, Judah for 538. Except for a brief period of Hosmonian rule, Gentiles had ruled the land: first the Assyrians, then the Babylonians, the Persians, the Greeks, the Ptolemies, and now the Romans. The “king of the Jews” was not a Jew! This King, a real Jew, would save them from foreign rule and usher in a new rule.

This King would save them from the oppression of foreign powers, the high taxes, the abuse of power by the rulers, and the Pharisees. This King would lift the yoke of oppression and bring justice. He would overthrow the oppressors and run the Gentiles out of town. A revolution was beginning to overthrow Herod and Rome and bring back the Davidic glory to Israel.

Instead, this King was going to cast off the yoke of oppression. He was going to cast off an oppressive yoke that was greater than any empire. He was going to cast off the oppressive chains that bound every human, the oppressed and the oppressor. He was going to cast off the chains of sin which had bound humankind since the days of Adam.

This King was going to usher in a new rule, a new Kingdom. A Kingdom not bound by geopolitical boundaries, but a new rule for all people. This King was ushering in the Kingdom of God.

This King was a king to rule all people, not certain people. Instead of might, power, oppression, and violence, this king would rule with justice, mercy, grace, and love.

The people who cast their cloaks and leafy branches on the road probably thought it was all over on Friday. But that was just the beginning of the new Kingdom, the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom that has no end. They wanted to be saved from the present ruler, but God wanted them saved for God’s Kingdom.

We often cry out to be saved. We cry, “Save us, Lord!” Save us from sin. Save us from evil thoughts. Save us from the oppression of pain, grief, anger, resentment, guilt, and all other thoughts and attitudes that keep us bound. Save Us!

The Lord does save us. The Lord saves us from sin. The Lord saves us from evil thoughts. The Lord saves us from all that keeps us bound. The Lord takes us just as we are and lifts us out of the muck and mire of sin. No matter how guilty we may be The Lord gives us grace and frees us from sin.

Yes, we are freed. We are freed from the bondage of sin, but that's not all. We are free to be used by God to become a new creation. We are free for the image of God to be restored in us. We become new creatures with the image of God restored in us as we continually grow in grace. We are free to be drawn closer to the perfect love of God and for our neighbor. We are free to do the work of God's Kingdom and to restore the image of God in all creation.

Yes, this King saves us from sin. This King accepts us as we are and that is good news. But the news is even better. This King does not leave us as we are. This King transforms us, restoring us into the Image of God. This King does not rule over us from on high, but rules in relationship with us.

This King saves us. He saves us from sin and for citizenship in his Kingdom, to be ruled with justice, mercy, grace, and love, and be glorified in his presence for eternity.