

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

April 13, 2025
Palm/Passion Sunday



10:00 a.m.

*If you are able, please stand.
Please turn off cell phones.

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

“It is an old, old story: Love comes into the world as a little child, fresh from God. When Love grows up, Love feeds people, Love heals people, Love turns things upside down. Love's actions do not set well with the people in charge. They warn Love to leave well enough alone. Love meets hate, meets politics, meets fear.

Love goes on loving, which gets Love killed—not by villains in black hats but by people like us: clergy, patriots, God-fearing folk. What brought them together was their rage at him [at Love] for being less than they wanted him to be—or for being more than they wanted him to be—but in any case for not being who they wanted him to be, and they killed him for it.”

Barbara Brown Taylor, *God in Pain*



Prelude

Canon in D
Mark Serkin, cello

Johann Pachelbel

Introit

Ride On, King Jesus!
Ravon Middlebrooks

spiritual

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 118)

Pastor Greg Horn

One: The stone that the builders rejected

All: Has become the chief cornerstone.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let us worship God.

Prayer of Preparation and Confession (unison)

Have mercy on us, O God, for—like the crowds long ago—our treatment of you tells more about us. You call us to trust and follow, but we deny, abandon and betray you. You lead us to the cross, but in our discomfort and need for control, we try to skip the empty tomb and go straight to feeling good about ourselves. Seeking to fill our own emptiness, we are empty.

Transform us, O God. Pour out your Holy Spirit once again upon all our brokenness, that your grace may fill in the cracks of our broken places, make us whole. Help us to welcome you on this Palm Sunday—and then embrace you with our whole hearts.

our silent prayers of preparation and confession

The Lord's Prayer

**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 the glory, forever. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

***Proclamation Hymn 196** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
(verses 1, 2 & 3)

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

[You are invited to join the children and wave your palms as we sing!]

Welcome & Life of the Church

(Please fill out the Friendship Pad completely and pass it along.)

Time for Children

(All children are invited forward. Afterward, children may go to Sunday School.)

Hymn 175 (seated)

Seek Ye First

Lafferty

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Dramatic Reading

"From Palm Sunday to the Passion"

according to Matthew's Gospel

Amy Bortey

John Weidemann

Joanne Bowman

Jerry Browning

Melody Williams

Ravon Middlebrooks

Tom Williams

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Choral Response

Benedictus

Karl Jenkins

Chancel Choir

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

We Worship With Our Offerings

the morning offering and
One Great Hour of Sharing offering

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Deep River

spiritual

Mark Serkin, cello

Prayer of the People

***Closing Hymn** (insert)

In Christ Alone

Stuart Townend

[We depart in silence.]

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

† † † † † † † †

*The flowers decorating the chancel this morning
are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Paul Baker
by his wife, Barbara.*

WELCOME and thank you for your part in this service of worship. If you are a visitor here at the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair (PCUM), you are especially welcome. May you sense in this place the presence and the love of God in Christ. After worship, you are invited for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER for anything you might need, and please help fellow worshipers by exiting and entering the sanctuary at times other than during prayers or scripture readings.

CHILDCARE for toddlers and a nursery for younger children are always available during worship in the North Wing, located off Fellowship Hall. Please ask an usher for directions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all children preschool through 7th grade are located in the North Wing. Ask the ushers for directions. Parents of kids participating in Sunday School for the first time: please step out briefly with your child(ren) as they are dismissed to register them and complete an emergency contact form.

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ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING TODAY – This morning, at the same time as the regular morning collection of offerings, the PCUM worshiping family will receive the special **One Great Hour of Sharing** (OGHS) offering. Please consider giving gratefully and generously to both.

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through OGHS to share God's love with people experiencing great need and challenge. Your gifts to OGHS support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance/resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

TODAY IS LAST DAY TO DEDICATE EASTER FLOWERS – Remember or honor a loved one Easter Sunday by dedicating Easter Flowers that will adorn the sanctuary and proclaim the Good News of God’s gift of new and abundant life in the resurrected Christ. Dedication forms are available in your bulletin. Each plant is \$15.

PCUM’s WEEKLY MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP meets Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. All teens and tweens 6th–8th grade are invited to come out to have fun, share dinner, and meet old and new friends.

SIGN UP TO HELP PREPARE & SERVE COFFEE HOUR – Hospitality is a priority of this church family. Sign up to help on the Coffee Hour Calendar in the Deacons’ Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – Join fellow volunteers serving hungry neighbors for an experience that feeds everyone! PCUM prepares and serves an evening meal in Montclair every 4th Saturday of the month and lunch in Newark the 3rd Saturday. *Sign up at pcum.org/serve-others.*

HOLY WEEK @ PCUM



MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 17th, at 7:30 pm: Plan to take part in this meaningful Holy Week experience as the PCUM family gathers around the Lord’s Table to focus on the great love God of in Christ that sustains us even through the darkest times.

The name ‘**MAUNDY**’ derives from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means “commandment,” referring to Jesus’ commandment to his disciples after washing their feet at the Last Supper: “For I have set you an example, that you should also do as I have done to you.” (John13:15). **TENEBRÆ** is the Latin word for darkness. During this experiential narrative service, prepare to experience and understand Easter more fully by recounting the story of our Lord Jesus Christ’s journey from the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane, to Peter’s denial and the trials before Pilate and Herod. As Jesus’ crucifixion nears, lights in the sanctuary are progressively extinguished.

EASTER WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS on **Sunday, April 20th**, will be at **9:00 am & 11:00 am**. There will be coffee and fellowship time between services in Fellowship Hall and PCUM’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:20 a.m. on the East Lawn (weather permitting).

EASTER EGG HUNT AND PARTY: PCUM’s annual Easter Egg Hunt and Party will be on Easter Sunday, between the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. The egg hunt begins promptly at 10:20 a.m. and will be followed by crafts and games. Please note the egg hunt is divided into separate areas for toddlers and preschoolers ages 3 and under. Children of all ages, including visitors and guests, are welcome to participate! Please RSVP by emailing Millie Tourtelot at millie@pcum.org.

Thoughtful, Nourishing Worship † Vibrant Ministry to Children & Youth

Relationships † Participation † Service to Others and to the World † Relevance and Authenticity

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Pastor & Head of Staff:

The Rev. Gregory A. Horn

Director of Music Ministries:

Anne Marie Juliano

Director of Christian Education: Millie Tourtelot

Co-Youth Leader: Garrett Pahl

Children’s Programs/Co-Youth Leader: Sierra Joy

Church Administrator: Denise Silecchia

Livestream Techs: Tres Williams, Jerome Nelson

Custodian: Jimmy Abad

In Christ Alone

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

♩ = 60

G D G A D/F#

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

G D/F# Em7 G/A D G G

light, my strength my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -
 world, by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A D D/F#

ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Till on the
 day, up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

G D/F# Asus A D/F# G Bm7

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His

Asus A G D G A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A

cease. My com - fort - er, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I
 fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I
 me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of
 hand; 'Til He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll

D Am7 Em7 D A7sus D

stand.
 live.
 Christ.
 stand!