

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026



QR Code for Nursery
Sign-In and Out Log

† Please stand as you are able.

Prelude
Welcome
Chiming the Trinity
Centering Words

Give thanks. Sing Hosanna. Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

† **Prayer and Blessing of the Palms** Marie Porter

Leader: God our Savior, your Son Jesus entered Jerusalem as Messiah in determined obedience to You and to suffer and to die for us;

People: Let these palms be for us signs of our waywardness and his victory.

Leader: Grant that we who bear these palms in his name may ever hail him as our King;

People: And give us grace to follow him in the way of the cross, which is the way to the resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

† **Processional Hymn** “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (stanzas 1, 2) **UMH 278**
Entrance and Procession with the Palms; kids and families may proceed to the front of the sanctuary, waving their palms. The music may stop after stanza 2.

† **Gospel (Palm) Reading:** Matthew 21:1-11 Marie Porter

Leader: When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. ²He said to them, “Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them.” He sent them off right away. ⁴Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, ⁵*Say to Daughter Zion, “Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey’s offspring.”* ⁶The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them. ⁸Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted,

People: “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

¹⁰And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. “Who is this?” they

asked. ¹¹The crowds answered, “It’s the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

† **Hymn (continued)** “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” (stanzas 3) **UMH 278**
Those in the procession may proceed to their seats. After the hymn, the children may stay or be dismissed to the nursery. Parents must sign their child in using the QR Code above.

The children may proceed to the nursery with volunteers

Prayer of Confession Marie Porter
Lord of non-violent love, we confess to be fickle and fallible. We shout “hosannas” one moment and we give way to ways and whims of the crowd the next. We sing your praises, and then we don’t want you in our lives. We proclaim You as our King, but ‘when push comes to shove’ in being Your disciples we have shrunken away. We want the wholeness and eternal life You offer without having to follow You in the way of the cross. Forgive us, Lord. Lead us in the way of the cross this week and give us courage in how to lose our lives so that we might find it. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Friends, hear this good and hard news: the only way to the resurrection lies through the cross. Jesus spoke these words from the cross, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Friends, thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people.
People (to leader): Thanks be to God! Amen.

† **Peace of Christ**
At this time, you may stand and greet your neighbor offering signs of peace.

† **Hymn** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” **UMH 280**

Prayer for Illumination Marie Porter
God our Redeemer, you sent your Son to be born of a woman and to die for us on a cross. By your Holy Spirit, illumine our lives with your word so, as the scripture is read and proclaimed this day, we may be reconciled and won wholly to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 26:20-45 Marie Porter

Offering and Hymn “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” **TFWS 2256**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures high and low.



Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen

PUMC QR Code

Sermon

“Who is He?”

Rev. Adam Benson

HOLY COMMUNION *adapted from Roddy Hamilton, Church of Scotland*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(Pastor retells the story)

... So, we join with the angels in heaven’s unending hymn: **holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!**

(Pastor continues to retell the story)

... Great is the mystery of faith: **“Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come, again.”**

(Pastor explains why we’re doing this and offers prayer of thanksgiving and Words of Institution)

Receiving Holy Communion

Prayer Following Communion Lord Jesus, I thank You for the gift of Yourself — for coming to me in this holy sacrament. Change me from the inside out. As You gave Yourself to me, I give You my ordinary life — my work, my relationships, my struggles, my small victories and quiet failures. Make me holy like You. Help me to carry what I have received here into the world beyond these doors — to be bread for the hungry, presence for the lonely, and light in the dark places where I walk. You have come to me. Now send me. Amen.

†Hymn

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

UMH 581

†Announcements

†Benediction

†Chiming the Trinity Bell

†Postlude

Parkwood United Methodist Church



www.JohnAugustSwanson.com - copyright 1990 by John August Swanson

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29, 2026