

**GATES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
1049 Wegman Road ♦ Rochester, New York 14624  
[www.gatespres.org](http://www.gatespres.org)  
[Gates Presbyterian Church YouTube Channel](#)

**Palm Sunday**

**March 28, 2021, 10:00 a.m.**

Silent Meditation

“In God’s kingdom, humans get to reflect God at last into the world, in the way they were meant to. They become more fully what humans were meant to be.

That is how God becomes king.”

~ N.T. Wright, *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did, and Why He Matters*

Prelude

“Deep, Deep Love”

arr. by Roy Smith  
Roy Smith, Trumpet  
Julie Smith, Flute and Piano

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Liturgist: The path of forgiveness leads us here.

**All: Standing along the side of the road,  
celebrating the one who gives us life.**

Liturgist: With palms in hand we raise our hopes and voices.

**All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Liturgist: Even if we were silent, the stones would cry out:

**All: All glory, laud and honor! Hosanna in the highest!**

Opening Hymn

“All Glory Laud and Honor”

*Please download a copy of the hymns from the website: [www.gatespres.org](http://www.gatespres.org)*

Call to Confession

*by Thom Shum*

Liturgist: In these days, when we have more time to be worried and fearful, God longs for us to sit by the still waters of love. But our isolation confuses us, our loneliness heightens our doubts, and our doubts seem to lessen our ability to be children of God. Let us bring our prayers to

the One who will restore us with goodness and mercy, as we pray together, saying,

Prayer of Confession

from Rev. Mindi <http://rev-o-lution.org/>

**All:            On this Sunday, O God,  
                  we remember how quickly we change.  
                  How fickle we are,  
                  how we pledge our devotion one moment  
                  and turn our backs the next.  
                  We go from shouting “Hosanna! Save Us!”  
                  to “Crucify Him.”**

**We declare that we love our neighbors  
and then we turn our backs  
on the homeless and hungry in our communities.**

**We speak up for change and justice in one breath,  
and then continue unjust practices in daily lives  
by what we consume and the needs we ignore.**

**Forgive us, O God, for we are half-hearted believers.  
Forgive us, O God, for we are partial justice warriors.  
Forgive us, O God, for we tire easily and we forget,  
and we grow weary.**

**Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith,  
so that we might become whole people  
who live wholly into Your vision of new life.  
In the name of Christ,  
who lived into the fullness of humanity,  
and whom we follow.**

*Silent Prayers of Confession*

Assurance of Pardon

*by Thom Shum*

Liturgist: The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us, bringing hope, life, and forgiveness for each person.

**All:            Now we will go forth as God's children, sent to bring the good  
                  news to everyone we meet. Amen.**

First Reading of the Word

Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29 (NRSV)

Sermon  
Bachmann

“Just Looking Around”

Rev. Laura

Hymn of Response

“This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made”

Blessing of the Palms

~ written by Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, Pastor, First Congregational United Church of Christ in Manhattan, Kansas.

Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration.  
May they remind us of the simple joys of living.  
May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ.

Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice.  
May they remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past.  
May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice.

Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort.  
May they remind us of the road that lies ahead.  
May they encourage us in times of grief and pain.

We give you thanks for the parade, the protest, the processional.  
Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks  
as we cry out together "Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna!" Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

*adapted from Belhar Confession*

**We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.**

**We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ. We believe that, through the working of God’s Spirit, it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.**

Prayers of the Community

*Please remember the following people in your prayers this week:*

- John Walker recovering from surgery.
- *Continued prayers for* Eric Paquin, Angelika Alvarez, Debbie Schnabel, and Sonia Davis.

Petitions will end with "Lord in your mercy," to which the people are invited to respond, "hear our prayer."

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.**

Closing Hymn "A Cheering Chanting, Dizzy Crowd"

Charge and Benediction

Postlude "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" arr. Ovid Young

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Service Participants:

Rev. Laura Bachmann, Pastor; Evelyn Henderberg, Liturgist; Andy Pratt, Piano; Julie Smith, Flute and Piano; Roy Smith, Trumpet; Evan Mikoll, Video Live Stream Director; Karen Kozlowski, Visual Design.

**Life in the Church**

Sunday, March 28		Fellowship Hour (right after worship service ends)
	11:30 a.m.	Parking Lot Event
	2:00 p.m.	Youth – Easter Crafts on Zoom
Wednesday, March 31	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Thursday, April 1	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, April 2	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service
Sunday, April 4	10:00 a.m.	Online Worship
Easter Sunday		Fellowship Hour (right after worship service ends)



**Bible Study**

During Lent, Bible Study will be focused around the community reading of the Lent of Liberation book by Cheri L. Mills.

Every Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Week 6 (March 31) - Days 29 - 40

Join via Zoom: [Bible Study](#)

Meeting ID: 859 6516 3645 Passcode: 488716

One tap mobile: +19292056099,85965163645# US (NY)

## March 28 Parking Lot Event from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. in the GPC Parking Lot

- Pastor Laura & the Public Worship team will be handing out palms.
- Jen will be handing out bags of easter crafts for GPC families.
- The Mission team will be collecting non-perishable food and personal hygiene items again for SWEM and ROCSalt
- The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering and Per Capita will also be collected this day; envelopes were mailed with the March Harbinger.

**Hospitality Team Meeting:** Monday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Linda Beattie ([linda.btt@gmail.com](mailto:linda.btt@gmail.com)) for the Zoom link.

### Per Capita

If you haven't yet contributed **\$35.14** per member, please consider doing so. You can use your Per Capita pledge envelope or put your check in a plain envelope marked "2021 Per Capita" and mail it to the church office. An envelope was also mailed with the March Harbinger and can be dropped off at the March 28 parking lot event.

### Liturgist Schedule

#### April

- 1 *Maundy Thursday* - Larry Wakeman
- 2 *Good Friday* - Keith Morgan
- 4 *Easter Sunday* - Tom Ward
- 11 Mary Hadley
- 18 Claudia Weber
- 25 Kaitlin Shaw

#### May

- 2 Kathy Wakeman
- 9 Roy Smith
- 16 Jan Brewer
- 23 Janice Bilohlavek
- 30 Alex McKeel

### **Families of GPC:**

**TODAY from 2-3 p.m.** Easter Crafts and Conversation

For any age - pick up supplies in parking lot and do on zoom later; RSVP to Jen to receive Zoom link

**One Great Hour of Sharing** envelopes will be collected by the GPC Mission Team at the parking lot event on Palm Sunday, or by mailing them to the church office. OGHS supports hunger programs, self-development of people programs, and disaster assistance programs of the Presbyterian Church.



### Congregational Care

Anyone wishing to let us know of someone needing our care and concern, please call Kay Harder at 721-7392 or the church office.

### Giving for Others

You are invited and encouraged to continue your regular giving to Gates Presbyterian Church. You can mail your contributions to:

Gates Presbyterian Church, 1049 Wegman Road, Rochester, NY 14624

Electronic giving: If you currently utilize online banking or bill pay, add Gates Presbyterian Church as a vendor and include your pledge as you process your other online payments.

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### **2021 National Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD)**

The 2021 national **Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD)** event **will be virtual**, and will take place from **April 18-21**. This year's EAD will advocate for Climate Justice, and will be an opportunity to support the global movement for climate justice centered on and led by the people and communities most vulnerable to climate impacts due to historic racial and colonial inequities. If you or any member of your congregation is interested in receiving more information about this year's virtual event, sign up for e-mail updates at the link below:

<https://advocacydays.org/2021-imagine-gods-earth-people-restored/>

