



Silent Meditation

We shall match your capacity to inflict suffering by our capacity to endure suffering. We will meet your physical force with soul force. Do to us what you will, and we will still love you. We cannot in all good conscience obey your unjust laws and abide by the unjust system, because non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good, so throw us in jail and we will still love you.

Bomb our homes and threaten our children, and, as difficult as it is, we will still love you...

But be assured that we'll wear you down by our capacity to suffer, and one day we will win our freedom. We will not only win freedom for ourselves; we will appeal to your heart and conscience that we will win you in the process, and our victory will be a double victory.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PALM AND PASSION SUNDAY

March 25, 2018

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ☩

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Living God!

Many: **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers
might have the opportunity to sign them.)*

* Children's Hosanna & Processional

* Hymn

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"
David Smith, trumpet

ST. THEODULPH

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 and David's royal Son, Now in the Lord's
name coming, the King and Blessed One. *Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee 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, O good and gracious King! *Refrain*

The company of angels is praising thee on high,
And we with all creation in chorus make reply. *Refrain*

* *All rise in body or spirit* ☩ *Sing Response* ☩ *Seating by Ushers*

Children's Offering & Message

Nancy Ellett Allison

(Following the Children's Message, preschoolers go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children's Church.)

* Call to Worship

Laura Hankins

One: Humble and riding on a donkey,

Many: We greet you; Hosanna in the highest!

One: Acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children,

Many: We cheer you; Hosanna in the highest!

One: Moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power,

Many: We salute you: Hosanna in the highest! Christ our Lord!

* Gospel Lesson

Mark 11:1-11

Laura Hankins

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Call to Prayer

"Sanctify"

by M. Smith and Stu G.

Here I am, In that old place again / Down on my face again
Crying out, I want you to hear my plea / Come down and rescue me
How long will it take? / How long will I have to wait?

Chorus: And all I want is all you have

Come to me, rescue me, fall on me with your love

And all you want is all I have

Come to me, rescue me, fall on me with your love

Sanctify, I want to be set apart / Right to the very heart

Prophecy to the four winds / And breathe life to this very place

How long will it take? / How long will I have to wait?

Lifted up, I've climbed with the strength I have

Right to this mountain top

Looking out, the cloud's getting bigger now

It's time to get ready now

O God ever here, you hear our prayers. Let us listen and pray.

Prayer of Confession

Michael Baldonado

One: On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered the Holy City, Jerusalem.
The crowds cheered and cried out;

Many: Hosanna to the Son of David!

One: By the end of the week, the crowds were gone; few followers remained.

Let the people keep silence.

One: The night he was arrested, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives, as was his custom.

Many: May we pray with Jesus as we remember the night he was arrested; may our faith prove true and sure.

One: Jesus prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."

Many: May we, too, pray not for comfort and ease, not for the easy road, not for a life without trial or worry; but, like Jesus, may we pray that we will do the will of God, no matter the circumstance, not counting the cost.

Assurance of Grace

Michael Baldonado

One: Hear the Good News. Christ came riding a donkey of peace and reconciliation, not a charging warhorse of judgment. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Offertory Invitation

Barbara Thomas

Offertory Music

Jared Fischer

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

φ **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above all heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Offertory Dedication

Barbara Thomas

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

* Hymn 218

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected,
O most afflicted!
2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Jesus, that has slain you.
And I, dear Jesus, I it was denied you;
I crucified you.
3. For me, kind Jesus, was your incarnation,
your mortal sorrow, and your life's oblation;
Your death of anguish and your bitter passion,
for my salvation.
4. Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay you,
I do adore you, and will ever pray you,
think on your pity and your love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Hebrew Scripture *selections from Isaiah 52 & 53* Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Reflection “On Suffering and Non-Violence” Nancy Ellett Allison

“In Feast or Fallow” by Sandra McCracken

When the fields are dry, and the winter is long
Blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor.
When my soul is downcast, and my voice has no song
For mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord.

Chorus: In the harvest feast or the fallow ground
My certain hope is in Jesus found.
My lot, my cup, my portion sure
Whatever comes, we shall endure;
Whatever comes, we shall endure.

On a cross of wood, Christ’s blood was outpoured
He tore through the veil, our rebellion had sewn
Trading pardon for violence, and blessing for scorn
By love’s self-denial, Death’s way he disowned. (*Chorus*)

Gospel Lesson

Mark 15:16-26

Jim Hong

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

* Hymn 224

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

1. When I sur-vey the won-drous cross,
on which the Christ of glo-ry died,
My rich-est gain I count but loss,
and pour con-tempt on all my pride.
2. For-bid it, then, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most
I sac-ri-fice them to Christ's blood.
3. From sa-cred head, from hands, and feet,
sor-row and love flow min-gled down!
Did e'er such love and sor-row meet,
or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of na-ture mine,
that were a pres-ent far too small;
Love so a-maz-ing, so di-vine,
de-mands my soul, my life, my all.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

The First Word

Luke 23:34

Tommy Tomlinson

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

(the first candle is extinguished)

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

arr. Carolyn Jennings

Chancel Choir

The Second Word

Luke 23:43

Phyllis Johnson

Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

(the second candle is extinguished)

The Third Word

John 19:26-27

Alix Felsing

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

(the third candle is extinguished)

"The Crucifixion"

Samuel Barber

Jared Fischer, piano; Laura Valles, soprano

The Fourth Word

Mark 15:34

Michael Baldonado

At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

"And No Bird Sang"

by D. E. Wagner

Chancel Choir

The Fifth Word

John 19:28

Tom Magraw

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty."

(the fifth candle is extinguished)

1. Be-neath the cross of Je-sus I glad-ly take my stand,
the shad-ow of a might-y rock with-in a wea-ry land;
A home with-in the wil-der-ness, a rest up-on the way,
from the burn-ing of the noon-tide heat, and the bur-den of the day.
2. Up-on the cross of Je-sus with-in my mind I see
the ver-y dy-ing form of One who suf-fered there for me;
And from my griev-ing heart with tears two won-ders I con-fess—
the won-ders of Christ’s glo-rious love and my un-wor-thi-ness.
3. I take, O cross, your shad-ow for my a-bid-ing place;
I ask no oth-er sun-shine than the sun-shine of Christ’s face;
Con-tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,
my sin-ful self my on-ly shame, my glo-ry all the cross.

The Sixth Word

John 19:30

Kevin Edwards-Knight

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

(the sixth candle is extinguished)

“Son of Sorrows”

Steve Schallert

Holy Covenant Music Cooperative

The Seventh Word

Luke 23:46

Micheal Hall

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last.

(the seventh candle, and other lights are extinguished)

“Ave Verum Corpus”
Chancel Choir

W. A. Mozart

Translation from the Latin

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,
Who having truly suffered, was sacrificed
On the cross for humankind, whose pierced side
flowed with water and blood:
May it be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet]
in the trial of death.

The Death of Jesus

Mark 15:33-39

Nancy Ellett Allison

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

* Hymn 223

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

WONDROUS LOVE

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!
 What won-drous love is this, O my soul!
 What won-drous love is this! that Christ should come in bliss
 to bear the heav-y cross for my soul, for my soul,
 to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!

2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
 to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
 while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
 while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.

3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy-ful be,
 and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude

Jared Fischer

Our Gratitude to the Holy Covenant Music Cooperative

Benjamin Decker, bass; Caroline Fischer, cello & vocals;
Jared Fischer, piano, guitar & vocals; Brian Hankins, guitar;
David Smith, trumpet & organ; Laura Valles, vocals;
Mike Yonkovig, accordion & keys

Our Gratitude to the Members of the Holy Covenant Chancel Choir

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Bass
Lisa Cloninger	Kristin Andes	Andrew Becker	Riley Pitts
Donna Collins	Joy Decker	Ed Hord	David Smith
Cheri Dennis	Bridget Green	Meg Houlihan	Mike Yonkovig
Dorrie Hankins		Phil Kaveler	
Laura Valles			



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 29, SUPPER 6PM, WORSHIP 7PM
Bring a desert to share.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES, APRIL 1
BRING FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS

8:00 AM WORSHIP

10:55 AM WORSHIP

BRING YOUR EGGS BY MARCH 29 FOR THE EASTER EGG HUNT

12:30 PM EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt with separate search sites for our older and younger children will follow our 10:55 worship service.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder for March: Jeff Edwards-Knight, jeff763@aol.com or 704-651-4838

Deacons for March: Sally Duffy, Diane Rogers

Greeters: Anne Hayes, Eileen Howe

Ushers: Jill Gregg, Eileen Howe, Barbara Schneller,

Shakti Subramanian, Michael Sladek

Acolytes: Micah Baldonado, Henry Lincoln

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger

Tabulators: Terry Raley Dennis, Karen Long

Refreshments: JoAnn Jellison

Recyclers: Suzanne Lamorey

NEW MEMBER/INQUIRER CLASSES BEGIN APRIL 8

To learn more about our congregation or become a member at Holy Covenant, join us on April 8, 9:30 AM for Who We Are & What We Believe

GAME NIGHT, APRIL 14, 6 PM

The **Bold and Beautiful** Covenant Group is hosting a family game night on Saturday, April 14 at HCUCC!

SEARCHING FOR DEEPER SPIRITUAL GROWTH? JOIN US APRIL 24, 7 PM

A monthly, evening gathering is taking shape, and you can be a part of its formation. Join us April 24 at the home of Anne Findlay-Chamberlain. Questions/RSVP: Anne at kahuanne@gmail.com or Rev. Barbara Thomas: Barbarat@holycovenantucc.org

WOMEN'S RETREAT AT BLOWING ROCK CONF CENTER, JUNE 1-3

Please sign up in the gathering room so we can reserve a room for you! The cost is \$170 per person, all inclusive. All women are invited. For more information see **Suzanne Lamorey** or **Rev. Barbara**. Retreat leader is our own Anne Findlay-Chamberlain.

ALL CHURCH RAFTING RETREAT AT YMCA RETREAT CTR, AUGUST 10-12

Everyone is welcome! We will have group sessions on Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday morning. Folks can raft or tube. Cost is approximately \$130 per person not including the rafting/tubing fee. Contact **Barbara Schneller** or **Rev. Barbara Thomas** for additional information.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Susan Bennett Stiles, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Cindy Coble, Linn Finger, Laura Hankins, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelsen, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Yami Senturias, Ed Sharp, Caroline Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Bill Funderburk, Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George & Judy Jongeling (Darline Warren), Pauline McCowan (Martha Bomely), Beth Poyer Meyer, Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Becky Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Norma Thomas (Barbara Thomas), Gary & Wanda Gilbert West (John Rapp), Jason Wingard (Cynthia Simpson)

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor

Rev. Barbara Thomas, Interim Minister for Church & Family Life

Mrs. Cheri Dennis, Ministry Intern

Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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