

*Zion United Church of Christ  
March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 --- 8:00 AM  
Palm Sunday  
Rev Stephen Stark*



(\*Please stand if comfortably able)

*Prelude  
Acolyte  
Ringing of Bell  
Liturgist*

**Joni Kloeckner  
Lucy Mottola  
Usher  
Julie Edwards**

*Welcome*

*\*Passing of the Peace*

*\*Opening Music --- "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" --- #304*

*\*Call to Worship*

People of God, do not be afraid, for your Savior is coming,  
**riding on a donkey, daring to raise the branches of liberation.**

Shout your hosannas in the street and in the sanctuary.

**Hosanna in the highest! Our Savior has come to set us free!**

Palm branches and praise mark this day with hope.

**Hosanna, come and save us!**

*\*Opening Prayer*

*Children's Time*

*Prayer of Confession*

God of our hosannas, it would be all too easy to embrace a vision of you as entering Jerusalem with all the pomp and circumstance and violence that power provides. And yet, that is not your way and we confess that we often whisper with the ways of fear rather than shout of your liberation for all people. Help us to lay our lives at your feet and welcome you with shouts of joy. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon*

*Worship Hymn --- "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" --- #216*

*Holy Scriptures*

Psalm Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Listen to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
**Glory to you, O Christ.**

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 11:1-11

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 15:1-39

Here ends the reading of the word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon*

**Depths of Love: "Blessed Is the One"**

**Rev. Stephen Stark**

*Worship Hymn --- "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" --- #213*

*Prayers for the World*

Pastor: Lord, hear our prayer  
Response: **and in your love, answer.**

*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, for ever. Amen.**

*Service of Holy Communion*

(Red Wine or White Grape Juice)

(Communion liturgy is located in the hymnal on page 16, option A)

*Hymn of Preparation --- "Let Us Break Bread Together" --- #330*

*Invitation*

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.**

*Communion Prayer*

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Sanctus*

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

### *Words of Institution*

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

**Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!**

Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt, and light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

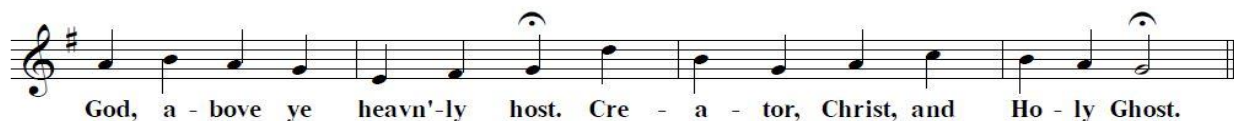
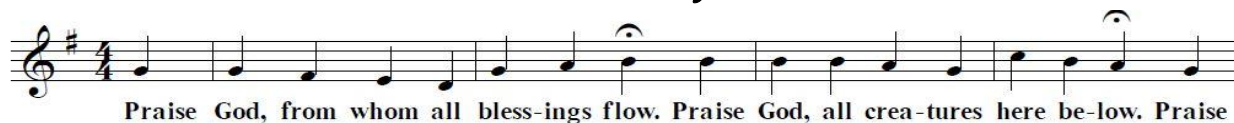
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

### *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west, from north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

### *Announcements for the Good of the Community*

#### *\*Offering*



#### *\*Prayer of Dedication*

God of the great shouts of hope, just as you received the voices of the crowd upon your entry into Jerusalem, receive these gifts as an expression of our joy and gratitude. Take our voices and our offerings and use them to proclaim your salvation to all people. Amen.

#### *\*Closing Music --- "This Is the Day" --- #84*

#### *\*Benediction*

#### *\*Threefold Amen*



#### *\*Postlude Music*

Pray for...Those Who Cannot Be Here with Us

Sharol Guerin, Dorothy Bridgeforth, June Mitchell, Bill Malina, Jody & Larry Cox, and  
Janice Kolmer

Pray for...Those with Health Concerns

Rebecca Catlin, Jim & Judy Korte, Logan & Zoey Vallee, Andrea Mense, and Paul Sterrett

Pray for...Ministers and Ministries

Biddleborn Trinity UCC Rev. Tarrah Vaupel & Breese St. John's UCC

We kindly request for everyone to keep St. George Catholic Church in their prayers this week as they work towards recovery from a recent kitchen fire. Fortunately, there were no injuries and the damage was limited to just the kitchen area.

*Announcements...*

- Ecumenical Lenten Service –  
Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>, 7pm @ First Baptist Church of NB
- Holy Week Services –
  - Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday Service @ 7pm
  - Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday Service @ 7pm
- Easter Sunday Services and Events
- Community Dinner Donations

*March 31<sup>st</sup> Service  
Volunteers*

- Liturgists: Charissa Thorpe & Molly Stark
- Techs: Rodney Washburn & Bev Adams
- Acolytes: Brody Zotz & Seth Stark

*Upcoming Events...*

- Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> – Ecumenical Easter Service at First Baptist Church of NB @ 7pm
- Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday Service @ 7pm
- Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday Service @ 7pm
- Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> – Easter Services 8am & 10:30am;  
Easter Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt Between Services

Online Giving QR Code  
(Scan with your phone  
to be taken to Vanco)



**Service Credits**

Liturgy adapted – *Fear: Service Prayers for Palm/Passion Sunday Year B*,

Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky  
Conference. Palm\_Passion-Sunday-Lent-6B-March-24

**Palm Sunday Prayer** – adapted from a prayer written by Annabel Shilson-  
Thomas (UK). Posted on RevGalBlogPals.

<https://revgalblogpals.org/2008/03/16/palm-sunday-prayer/>

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Zion United Church of Christ

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Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm

Website: [www.zionuccnb.net](http://www.zionuccnb.net)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nbzucc](http://www.facebook.com/nbzucc)

YouTube: Zion UCC New Baden, IL

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Stark