



March 29, 2026

Palm—Passion Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Prelude

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
You Are Mine*

Keith Ciccone, organ
Joanna Monachino-Orlando, soprano
Ivonne Luna, violin
David Cutshall, saxophone

*The Beginning

Come. Come seeking words of hope.

Come to let your hosannas ring out.

Come. Come to find the voice of Christ.

Come to hear the response of the crowd.

Come. Come to open your ears.

Come to listen to a week in turmoil.

Come. Come to be transformed.

Come to stand together in witness.

Come. Come to approach what words cannot describe.

Come. Let us come to learn the story, our story, of Holy Week.

*Hymn 178

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Karen E. Gale

Passing the Peace

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pass the peace with one another.

*Introit

Tree of Life

**Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of history,
Still you rise with every morn.
Still you rise with every morn.**

**Seed that dies to rise in glory,
May we see ourselves in You.
If we learn to live Your story,
We may die to rise anew.
May we die to rise anew.**

Reading

Hold on to the Hosannas

*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

* Indicates all who are able may stand.

Please silence your cellphones.

Reading How Much?

Children's Time

Reading Turning Over Tables

Special Music *Be Still My Soul* David Cutshall, saxophone

Reading Leave Her Alone!

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Each prayer ends with "Lord in your mercy..." and the people respond, "Hear our prayer."

*Hymn 329 v.1-3 *My Song is Love Unknown*

Reading The Last Time

Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Creator), 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *We Have Been Told* Joanna Monachino-Orlando, soprano

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures, here, below.
Praise God, above, ye heav'nly hosts.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

**God of Holy Week, we give you thanks for this holy story.
Even when we do not understand its meaning,
Even when we doubt it happened this way,
Even when we want to rush ahead to the end,
In this story we find the truths of love and betrayal, hope and hurt. We give these gifts in
thanks for all we receive and continue to receive through the life of Jesus. Amen.**

Reading The Unrepentant Brigand

*Hymn 189 *Before the Cross of Jesus*

*Responsive Benediction

some shout hosanna!
some shout crucify!
some shout "Jesus"
some shout "Barabbas"

some wave palms.
some shake their fists.
Today we choose...
some break bread.
some break silence.

some proclaim Jesus.
some deny Jesus.
some carry the cross.
some run from the cross
Today we choose...

some are angry.
some rejoice.
some anoint with costly perfume.
some complain at the waste.
some like the light.
some prefer the shadows.
Today we choose...

some weep.
some conspire.
some follow.
some hide.
some believe.
some betray.
Today we choose...

Today we choose...
to shout for life.
to follow the cross.
to break bread.
to hold belief.
to trust love.
and tell the world,
We choose to follow Jesus.

Postlude

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Keith Ciccone, organ
Ivonne Luna, violin
David Cutshall, saxophone



Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by Jean Opie

Joanna Monachino-Orlando is a graduate of Anna Maria College where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy in 1984. She earned her Masters Degree in Special Education in 1993 where she taught in the NY Middle School/HS public school system for over 30 years. She has been a Liturgical musician for over 40 years and sang on tour for Pope John Paul II in 1990. She was featured as a woman in History @ Russell Sage College in 1989 for her original composition of an Italian Hymn entitled " O Madre Mia". She recently retired from teaching in 2024 and has been enjoying travel and singing in professional choirs. Also Joanna teaches piano and voice privately in her home in upstate New York.

Ivonne Luna is a Colombian violinist and music educator based in Boston. Her work integrates classical performance, education, and community engagement, with a focus on creating artistically refined and socially impactful musical experiences.



Thank you for joining us at this Service of Worship at
First Congregational Church of Braintree, UCC.
Of all the things you could have done this morning,
we're glad you chose to be with us.

The First Congregational Church of Braintree is an Open & Affirming Congregation working in partnership with all churches of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all God's children into Christian faith regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, political stance or theological perspective, national origin, mental health status, physical and cognitive abilities, and the many diverse forms of family configurations. We proclaim and affirm that full and equal participation in the life and leadership of our church is open to all. We seek to continue learning and growing together as the inclusive Body of Christ. We are committed to spreading the light and love of Christ into the world through worship and service.

**Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.**

First Congregational Church of Braintree
Holy Week 2026

		
Palm Sunday March 29 at 9:30am in the Sanctuary & streaming live With special music.	Maundy Thursday April 2 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary & streaming live Tenebrae Service Candlelight service with communion	Easter Sunday April 5 @ 9:30am in the Sanctuary & streaming live Worship & Communion

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