



Practically everyone has known the taste of Palm Sunday, the sweetness of success and popularity, and nearly all of us have tasted the bitterness of Good Friday, of failure and rejection.

~ Richard Fairchild

April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Keith Ciccone, organ
Justin Ouellet, violin

PROCLAMATION

Hosanna!

Hosanna!

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

* HYMN 178

All Glory Laud and Honor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pass the peace with one another.

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *Tree of Life (v.2)*

Light of life beyond conceiving, Mighty Spirit of our Lord;
Give new strength to our believing, Give us faith to live your word.

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

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.

* Indicates all who are able may stand

Please silence your cell phones

READING

“It was on a Sunday...”

*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.*

READING

“It was on a Monday...”

CHILDREN'S TIME

READING

“It was on a Tuesday...”

MEDITATION

“In Memory of Her”

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Holy City

Ann Moss, Soprano

READING

“It was on a Wednesday...”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Judas, full of jealousy, where are you?

I am here.

Peter, full of fear, where are you?

I am here.

Thomas, full of doubt, where are you?

I am here.

Men and women of Jerusalem, tempted into mob rule, where are you?

We are here.

Pilate, preserver of false peace, where are you?

I am here.

The story of Christ’s passion and death mirrors our own stories, our own weaknesses and sin.

We all have failed to love, and failed to forgive. We all have turned away from those in need and gone silent when we should speak up.

O God of all our brokenness, hear our silent prayers of confession...

(silence)....

LORD'S PRAYER

Each week in Lent we will be using a different version of the Lord's Prayer so we might hear this prayer in new ways.

God, lover of us all, most holy one.

Help us to respond to you, to create what you want for us here on earth.

Give us today enough for our needs.

Forgive our weak and deliberate offenses. Just as we forgive others when they hurt us

Help us to resist evil and do what is good.

For we are yours, endowed with your power to make your world whole. Amen.

*HYMN 433

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

READING “It was on a Thursday...”

MEDITATION “Judas and Peter”

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Redeemer* *Nicole Coleman Mullen*
David Cutshall, Soprano Saxophone
Justin Ouellet, violin
Keith Ciccone, piano

*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.

*DEDICATION

God of Holy Week, we give you thanks for giving us a 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,
For in this story we find the truths of love and betrayal, of hope and hurt.
We give these gifts in thanks for all we receive and continue to receive through
the life of Jesus. Amen.

READING “It was on a Friday...”

*HYMN 537 *Lift High the Cross*

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING OUT

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who calls for justice.
Hosanna.
Blessed is the one who walks the lonely road of faith.
(silence...)
To be continued...

POSTLUDE



Thank you to all who participated in this worship service sharing their gifts of word and music.

++Today’s readings come from *Stages on the Way* by the Iona Goose Worship Group.



WELCOME to this Service of Worship at First Congregational Church.

Of all the things you could have done this morning, we're glad you chose to be with us.



About Today's Service: We are live-streaming today's service. Playback is available on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTaGrBGnYzfM66pS7Bd4PvA>

Prayer Lists are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Televised Worship Services are broadcast on BCAM: Verizon Channel 28, Comcast Channel 9, on Saturday at 8:00 AM and Sunday at 10:00 AM.

First Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00am—1:00pm.



JUSTIN OUELLET has performed internationally from California to France, collaborating with musicians from all different backgrounds. His training as a classical musician has awarded him opportunities to perform with members of prestigious groups around the world ranging from the Philadelphia Orchestra to Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra. Justin has received recognition for his talents as an artist and educator, receiving the San Jose Jazz Live Aid Grant, Academy of Gospel of Music Educator of the Year and voted best Jazz Instrumentalist by San Francisco Classical Voice. He has produced three solo albums, one with his band d'PaJo, which pays homage to the great Stephanie Grappelli (the d'PaJo Sessions, 2021) as well as: "The 25th Street Sessions" (2019), & "Justin Ouellet: The Covid Sessions", which was released this fall. He and his wife, Ann Moss, split their time between California and Massachusetts.

Soprano **ANN MOSS** is an acclaimed recording artist, passionate teaching artist, and champion of contemporary vocal music. She has released two portrait albums – *Currents and Love Life* – both recorded and produced by multi-GRAMMY® Award winner Leslie Ann Jones at Skywalker Sound. Her most recent release, *Lifeline*, is a modern-day interpretation of the music of Hildegard von Bingen distilled through the lens of the artist's experiences in quarantine. A twice-elected Governor of the San Francisco Chapter of the Recording Academy, Ann shares the organization's commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion, advocating for creators rights, protecting musicians in need, and saving music in our schools. A native of Lincoln, MA, she spent fifteen years living and working in the San Francisco Bay Area and now resides in Watertown with her husband, multi-instrumentalist Justin Ouellet.



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First Church Braintree Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

Deacons - Sunday, April 13 after worship
Leadership Team - Tuesday, April 15 at 7pm (zoom)
Prudential - Thursday, May 1 at 10am
Book Discussion - Thursday, April 24 @ 7:30pm via zoom

Listening Devices Available

Did you hear Pastor Karen's sermon last week? NO? Then perhaps you could use a LISTENING DEVICE! Ask a Deacon for one and give it a try. There are 3 available but we can order more.

Printed Weekly Blast

The church office will print copies of the weekly email blast for those who aren't online. If you would like a printed copy of the blast for yourself or someone else, please let Deb or Pastor Karen know. Tell us if you'd like to pick it up here at Sunday worship or have it mailed it to your home. We mailed the blast to our "at home" folks who do not receive emails and can not attend in person.

Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday Service: Communion and Tenebrae

Thursday, April 17, 2025 @ 7pm



Easter Sunday Sunday, April 20, 2025 @ 9:30AM



EASTER SUNDAY

- Minjin Chung, cello
- Justin Ouellet, Violin/Viola
- Douglas Trudeau, Baritone

Youth Group Fundraiser for Summer Camp:

Sunday, April 27, 2025 4:00—8:00PM

The Youth Group (YG) will be hosting a 50s style diner with burgers/hotdogs/etc Friends, family and the community are invited to attend. Orders will be taken at the car windows and the YG will complete the orders and bring the food to the cars. Spread the word!

50's Drive-in Diner



**Partners in Ministry- First Church Braintree, UCC
Sign-up for April 13, 2025**

Please use this form to sign up for ministry opportunities and activities at our church. Place it in the offering or return it to the office.

Name _____

Best way to contact you Phone/Email _____

You will be contacted in response.

❖ **Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae Service @ 7pm**

A reflective and intimate service marking the events of the Last Supper and the desertion of the disciples

- I can be a reader for the service.
- I need a ride to the service

❖ **United Church of Christ Delegates: Association and Conference Meetings**

As a UCC church we are part of a local Association, the Pilgrim Association of Massachusetts, and the Southern New England Conference, made up of MA, RI and CT. We can send 3 delegates to these meetings to be voting members and anyone else who wants to attend these meetings of our covenant partners.

- I want to serve as a delegate to the Pilgrim Association meeting on April 27 @ 2pm at Hingham UCC
- I want to serve as a delegate to the ONLINE Conference meeting on June 7th, 9-1pm

❖ This person could use a **call from the Pastor** _____

❖ This person needs a **nametag**: _____

To add something to the Pink Sheet: Contact Deb McMartin in the Church Office to get it listed. (781)843-3616 or office@firstchurchbraintree.com or visit Mon - Fri, 9-1

◇ Commit to contacting any volunteers/responders within a week.