

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM SUNDAY, April 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

LITURGY OF COMMUNION

REV. NANCY CLARKE

"PALM SUNDAY AND PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST"

COVID PRECAUTIONS

1. Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
2. Masking is encouraged but no longer mandatory.  
Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

**Bold Text** indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*Chorale Prelude on Winchester New*

arr. C.S. Lang

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We light this candle to remind us that Christ is the light of the world and present in our midst.

**All: May the life and words of Jesus enlighten us on our way.**

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

from Zechariah 9: 9

One: Rejoice greatly and shout aloud,

**All: Look! Your king comes to you on a donkey.**

One: He rides on a colt, the foal of a donkey!

**All: All glory be to God!**

#### CENTERING PRAYER

O God of truth, you have come in Jesus, not to condemn but to restore. Examine us and know our hearts. Strengthen us to praise Jesus today with the crowd. Strengthen us to continue our praises as the crowds move away. Keep us ever loyal to Jesus your Son. We pray in his name. Amen.

**HYMN VU 123** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

(waving palms)

**1** Hosanna, loud hosanna  
the happy children sang;  
through pillared court and temple  
the lovely anthem rang:  
to Jesus, who had blessed them,  
close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises,  
the simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed  
'mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm-branch waving,  
and singing clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
content that little children  
should on his bidding wait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer;  
earth, let your anthems ring.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his humble presence  
eternally rejoice!

Words: Jennette Threlfall 1873

Music: trad. 18<sup>th</sup> Century German tune, adapt. Xavier Ludwig Hartwig 1868

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## A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, help us to see our lives clearly as we journey to the cross. Show us what to lay down and what to take up. Lead us to know what we must end and what we must begin. Guide us to the joy which comes from a closer walk with you. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

### READING

Gerald McGrath

Matthew 26: 14 - 25

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Nancy Clarke

*Palm Sunday and the Passion of Jesus*

## COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

### OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

#### DOXOLOGY

**HYMN VU 541** *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low; give  
thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word, and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674 Music: Genevan Psalter 1551 Used  
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#### OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you poured out your love for us through your Son,  
Jesus. We give our gifts as a sign of our love poured out for you. In  
the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come, all who need a word of peace, all who need a word of  
encouragement, and all who need a word of grounding. The  
invitation to the meal is for everyone: seekers, doubters, believers,  
and everyone in between. Come, for the meal is ready.

**HYMN VU 480** *Let Us Break Bread Together*

**1** Let us break bread together on our knees,  
Let us break bread together on our knees. **R**

#### Refrain:

**When I fall down on my knees  
With my face to the rising sun,  
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.**

**2** Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
Let us drink wine together on our knees. **R**

**3** Let us praise God together on our knees,  
Let us praise God together on our knees. **R**

Words and Music: African/American Spiritual © Harmony 1971 R. F. C. Clarke  
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### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: We give thanks to you, O God, for the gifts of creation and of life.....

So it is that we join with those who have gone before us, with the angels of the heavens and with all who will follow us in the holy community of faith by saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy God,  
Power of life and love!  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!  
Hosanna through the ages!  
Blessed is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!**

When Jesus knew that his hour had come, he gathered with his friends for a meal.....

Loving God, we offer you this bread and this cup, remembering his death and celebrating his resurrection. You have made him the light of the nations and the bearer of justice to the ends of the earth. Therefore, we proclaim our hope.

**Dying, Christ destroyed our death.  
Rising, Christ restored our life.  
Christ will come in glory.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts. Make us one with Christ in his self-giving that through us, he may: bind up the broken-hearted, comfort the mourners, open the eyes of the blind, and proclaim liberty to the captives; until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an overflowing stream. In this hope, and as your people, we praise you:

**Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy. Amen.**

### THE PASTORAL PRAYER

#### 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and  
ever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD

SHARING THE CUP

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you, God. Grant that what we have done and have been given here may remain always in our hearts. Grant that ours may be the faith which issues in action: through Christ our Lord, Amen.

READING

Rev. Nancy Clarke

Matthew 27: 27 -31

**HYMN VU 135** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

**1** Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand:  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land,  
a home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.

**2** Upon the cross of Jesus  
my eyes at times can see  
the very dying form of one  
who suffered there for me;  
and from my smitten heart with tears  
two wonders I confess,  
the wonder of his glorious love,  
and my unworthiness.

**3** I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all, the cross.

Words: Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane 1868 Music: Frederick Charles Maker 1881  
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## BENEDICTION

### CHORAL BENEDICTION

VU 430

God be in my head, and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.  
God be at mine end, and at my departing.  
**Amen.**

Words: The Book of Hours (1514) Music: Walford Davies, 1910  
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### POSTLUDE

*Largo* (from opera *Xerxes*) - G.F. Handel

Flowers in the sanctuary today  
are placed in loving memory of  
my parents,

*Dorothy Horwood and*

*Harold Polson Davis and*

*Brother, Stephen Bruce Davis*

from Mary Davis Little and family



## THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

**Minister** **Rev. Nancy Clarke** is originally from London, Ontario. She graduated from Queen's Theological College and was ordained by the United Church of Canada in 1987. Her first pastoral charge was near Truro, Nova Scotia. In Ontario she has ministered at the Wooler-Stockdale Pastoral Charge near Trenton, the Portland-Elgin Pastoral Charge, at Grace United Church in Sydenham, at St. Matthew's United Church, Kingston and was the Pastoral Care Minister at Chalmers United Church (September 2011 – June 2017 and April 2018 – September 2018). Nancy served the Roblin-Enterprise United Church Pastoral Charge (October 1, 2016 – April 19, 2022). She is currently filling in as Sunday pulpit supply in the Kingston area. She is married to the Anglican Archdeacon Rev. Bill Clarke, who is the minister at St. Thomas's Anglican Church, Kingston. They have 2 adult sons, a daughter-in-law and a young granddaughter.

<b>Reader</b>	Gerald McGrath
<b>Organist</b>	Juliet Milsome
<b>Hymn Singers</b>	Members of Chalmers Choir
<b>Media Techs</b>	Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung
<b>Refreshments</b>	Heather Faris, Jean Sills
<b>Counters</b>	Murray Anderson, Barbara Laidlaw



**After the service,** you are invited to share refreshments and conversation.

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