

United Presbyterian Church
March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday



WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Allen Pease
PRELUDE *Fugue in E Major BWV 878 – J.S. Bach* Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Commissioned Pastor Alejandra Haddad

Pastor: "Hosanna!" They shouted. "Save us!"

People: "Hosanna!" We're shouting. "Save us!"

Pastor: Savior, ride into our hearts again,

People: wash us with excitement and hope,

Pastor: give us a reason to praise

People: and to shout again, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

Opening Hymn – Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – #89

Call to Confession

When we say, "We don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "There's no way out," we deny who God is. Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession (in unison with Pastor)

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow our humble Savior, our wise fool, our all in all. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross.

People: Nothing we can do can deter him.

Pastor: He has determined that we are worth saving.

People: By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* *Gloria Patri* #579

*Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share that peace with one another.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy Spirit, share with us your wisdom; gift us with your hope; sustain us with your truth. Be in our hearing and our thinking, that through the words of Scripture we might know your call on our lives. Amen.

Music for Meditation

UPC Quartet

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a* Pastor Alejandra Haddad

Gospel Lesson *Maththew 21: 1 - 11* Reverend Marietta Macy

Reverend: The words of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Who Is This?

Reverend Marrietta Macy

*Hymn of Praise

Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us

#387

Affirmation of faith (from Philippians 2:5-11)

Reverend: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

People: who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

Reverend: but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

People: And being found in human form, he humbled himself and be-came obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Reverend: Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

People: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

Reverend: in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

People: and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER – Pastor Haddad
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 forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING – Reverend Macy
One Great Hour of Sharing will also be received
Offertory

**Doxology* #592

Prayer of Dedication

**Hymn of Faith as We Enter Holy Week*
An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare #94

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Reverend Macy

POSTLUDE Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

Kevin Roby Virginia Kathleen Anita

His Eyes Mission in Honduras Nyaka Global in Uganda

People of Middle East & Cyprus, Georgia, Nigeria, Sudan & Ukraine

All people who are suffering from armed conflict.

Brownstown Presbyterian, led by Rev. James Blankenbeker. Christ's church at Brownstown Presbyterian requests prayer for our future. Please pray that we, as Christ's body, would be open and available to the movement of God the Holy Spirit in building our capacity for transformation in ourselves, our community, in the Presbytery and in our world.

United Presbyterian Church Staff



Commissioned Pastor – Alejandra Haddad – (812) 322-5327

Secretary–Allen Pease – office (812) 332-1850; cell (812) 325-7849

upcbloomington@gmail.com

Treasurer–Andy Hill andy@andyhill.us

Music Director – Benjamin Watkins – (864) 980-7731

benjamintaylorwatkins@gmail.com

Christian Education – Melanie Mathis-McBride – susieq_msm@yahoo.com

An Invitation to Handel's Messiah

The congregation at UPC is invited to a performance of excerpts from Handel's Messiah on April 2, 2026, at 7:30 pm at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church. The performance features congregation members and friends, many of whom are affiliated with the Jacobs School of Music at IU. It is free and open to the public with refreshments following the concert. UPC is most warmly welcome to join us. Pastor Philip, Bloomington RPC

Masters Recital

UPC Quartet member Jackson Ray is presenting his Masters Recital this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Ford-Crawford Hall at 200 S. Eagleson Ave., Simon Music Center, Bloomington 47405, on the IU campus. It may also be enjoyed at LIVE@jacobs

One Great Hour of Sharing

... does just that, working for justice around the world with partners who know the needs of their own communities. A way churches are answering the call is through grassroots organizing, a faith-rooted approach to addressing systemic injustices within local contexts.

The One Great Hour of Sharing PC(USA) Special Offering will be received at UPC today and Easter Sunday. Special envelopes are in the narthex.