

**UNITED CHURCH** *of* CHAPEL HILL  
**FESTIVAL WORSHIP**



**MARCH 22, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.**

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

\*Please stand, as able, when indicated by asterisk. **Bold text indicates congregational response.**

---

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

Meditation on ST. ANNE

## CHORAL INTROIT

*Mary Don't You Weep*

Traditional African American Spiritual,  
arr. East Fork

## WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into God's presence,  
you who imagine and you who seek,  
you who disrupt and you who repair.

**By the Spirit, we gather in hope.**

Come into God's keeping,  
you who bear the divine image,  
you who are in this world but not of it,  
you who feel tested and tried.

**In Christ, we gather and we belong**

Come into God's presence,  
singing for joy and for justice;  
bringing prayer and worship,  
faithful and enduring acts of resistance.

**To God be the glory! We gather to praise!**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

As we walk through the wild wilderness of Lent, we imagine a world where all creation is at peace. We imagine a world without war, where creation flourishes and children are safe. Let these dreams of peace begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 25

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

## \*COLLECT IN ESPAÑOL

Dios misericordioso, que nos llamas a amar a nuestro prójimo como a nosotros mismos, nos has bendecido con muchas lenguas para alabar tu santo nombre. Oramos por la unidad de la iglesia, por todos los que celebran su culto en inglés o en español, y por los inmigrantes que viven de la fe en un país desconocido. Por Cristo Jesús, que hace un hogar para todos tus hijos. Amén.

*Merciful God, who calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves, you have blessed us with many tongues to praise your holy name. We pray for the unity of the church, for all who worship in English or Spanish, and for immigrants who live by faith in an unfamiliar country. Through Christ Jesus, who makes a home for all your children. Amen.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mark 12:13-17  
Titus 3:1-8

Pew Bible page 824  
Pew Bible page 969

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

*Praise God All Ye Little Children*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the children's response. Both staves are in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God! Praise God, all you lit-tle chil - dren. God is love, God is love.

Praise God! Praise God, all you lit-tle chil - dren. God is love, God is love.

## SERMON

*I Pledge Allegiance to the \_\_\_\_\_*

Rev. Caleb Wolf

## MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

## CALL TO SHARING

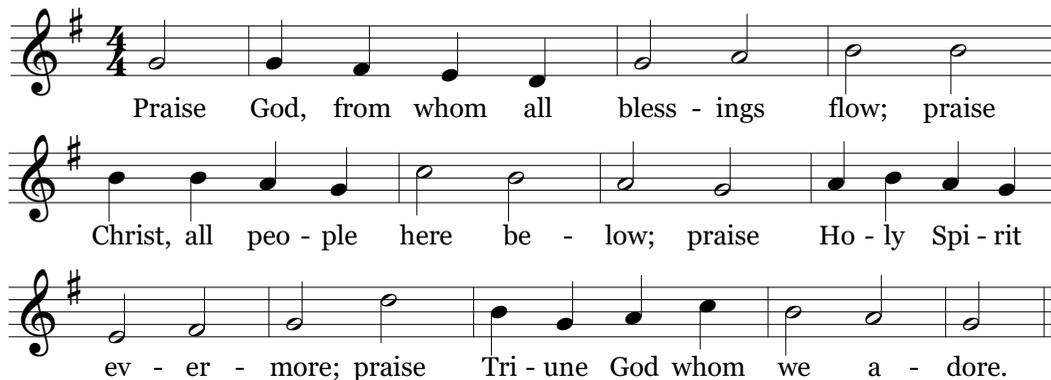
## ANTHEM

*Lord, I Believe*

Rosephanye Powell

## \*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
Christ, all peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spi - rit  
ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore.

## \*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your fears, your hopes, your dreams.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our generous, imaginative God.

**We joyfully give our thanks and praise.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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, forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews.*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## \*HYMN OF BLESSING 577

*God the Omnipotent!*

RUSSIAN HYMN

## \*BENEDICTION

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Prelude Solennel de Suite Medievale*

Jean Langlais

**Program note:** This dramatic “solemn prelude” opens an organ mass – often played during Lent – by the renowned, blind French organist and composer Jean Langlais. It is inspired by Gregorian Chant.

## GRATITUDE CORNER

The Welcome & Growth Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Andrea Tanner for the countless ways she has shaped and strengthened our church this past year through the leadership of this committee. Her creativity, steady commitment, and behind-the-scenes work—often in ways many don't see week to week—have made a meaningful and lasting impact. We are incredibly grateful and so lucky to serve alongside her.

**Submissions needed!** If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to [mme@unitedchurch.org](mailto:mme@unitedchurch.org).



# Easter Lilies

[bit.ly/26easterlily](https://bit.ly/26easterlily)

You are invited to purchase Easter lilies in honor or memory of a loved one. Each lily is \$25. Please place your order and make your payment by Sunday, March 29.

Find more information and complete the order form:



## Pillars of Promise Capital Campaign Giving Update

**Pledges (as of 3/20/26): \$1,726,938**

**Gifts received (as of 3/20/26): \$1,107,720 (64% of pledged amount)**

*Thank you!*

The earlier gifts are received for the capital campaign, the less UCCH has to rely on external sources of funding like loans. If you are able, please complete your pledge as soon as possible. If you have not yet made a pledge or gift to the capital campaign and would like to, please contact Church Administrator Kati Ruark ([kruark@unitedchurch.org](mailto:kruark@unitedchurch.org)).

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHAPEL HILL HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2026

**Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 22**

**10:30am** Festival & La Mesa Worship | **1:30pm** CROP Hunger Walk @Carrboro Town Commons

**Palm Sunday - March 29**

**10:30am** Joint, bilingual Service of Palms (Sanctuary). *Gather on the lawn at 10:15 to participate in the palm procession.*

**Maundy Thursday - April 2**

**7pm** Bilingual service of prayer, music, & Communion in memory of the Last Supper (Narthex)

**Good Friday - April 3**

**5pm** Stations of the Cross featuring music, art, & storytelling (Starting in the Sanctuary)

**7pm** *Tenebrae* service in the tradition of Taizé (Sanctuary)

**Holy Saturday - April 4**

**8pm** Spanish language service to keep vigil with the tomb of Jesus (On the lawn)

**Easter Sunday - April 5**

**8am** Sunrise Service (Sanctuary portico)

Breakfast & UVoP performance in the Fellowship Hall

**10:30am** Festival & La Mesa Worship

Service times updated

## WELCOME!

If you are new to United Church, we are so glad you are here. Please complete a Welcome Card that can be found in the back of the pew, introduce yourself to a pastor after the service, and take a gift bag with more information about our congregation (available on the table outside the sanctuary). We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments following worship today.

## THE CROP WALK IS TODAY!

It's not too late to join the UCCH CROP Hunger Walk team! Stop by our table in Fellowship Hall today for information, donations and t-shirts. The need has never been greater for those facing food insecurity in our community and around the world. For more details and to register, visit our team page (<https://bit.ly/ucchcrop26>). In-person registration and entertainment start at **1:30** at Carrboro Town Commons, and **step-off is at 2:30**.

## HELP PLANT THE PEACEMAKING GARDEN

We are ready to plant the Peacemaking Garden in the central traffic circle outside the sanctuary. Please join us on **Friday, March 27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.** to plant native perennials, grasses, and small trees. We could use many hands to work under the guidance of our gardener, Alan Johnson. Sign up here (or just show up as you're available!): <https://bit.ly/pcegarden>

## NEXT WEEK: JOINT SERVICE FOR PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday we will hold a joint, bilingual Palm Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. If you would like to participate in the palm procession, please join us on the front lawn by 10:15 a.m. to receive directions and palm fronds.

## PALM SUNDAY & EASTER NURSERY CARE

United Church will offer nursery care on Palm Sunday and Easter from 10:15 a.m. until the conclusion of the services. While this care is available, we encourage families to attend these services together as they are designed to be family-friendly.

We will host a brief egg hunt on the front lawn immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Easter services. Each child will be provided with a bag and a specific number of eggs to find.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS ARTWORK NEEDED

Anyone who would like to contribute artwork for the Good Friday Stations of the Cross service (5 p.m. on April 3) is invited to do so! All media are welcome—painting, photography, collage, sculpture, textile, etc. View more information and sign up to provide an art piece connected to a station using the form linked in the Enews (or contact Anitra, [agrove@unitedchurch.org](mailto:agrove@unitedchurch.org)).

## UCCH YOGA: MARCH & APRIL CLASSES

Join Melanie Joiner ([melanie.spence@gmail.com](mailto:melanie.spence@gmail.com)) for an all-levels yoga class focused on building resilience and community on **Fridays, March 27 and April 10 at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall**.

## SAVE THE DATE | 2026 CHURCH YARD SALE

Save the date! The 3rd annual yard sale supporting our language classes will be held the morning of April 25. More information about donating items and volunteer opportunities will be available soon. Collection of small items will start March 29; large items (such as furniture and exercise equipment) can be brought to the church April 21-23.

## MONDAY BOOK GROUP: NEW BOOK

The Monday Noon Book Group is starting a new book tomorrow: *The Road to Wisdom: On Truth, Science, Faith, and Trust* by Francis S. Collins. The book group meets weekly on Zoom. Contact Janet Flowers to learn more or join the group: [Janet\\_Flowers@unc.edu](mailto:Janet_Flowers@unc.edu).

## NEXT COMMUNITY FORUM: APRIL 12

*Sunday, April 12 | 9:15 a.m. | Fellowship Hall*  
There will be no Community Forum on March 29 or April 5. They will return on April 12 when we welcome Betsy Small, author of *Before: A Discovery of Loss in Sierra Leone*.

## SIGN UP FOR THE PAULI MURRAY FIELD TRIP

*Saturday, May 2 | 2:00-3:30 p.m.*  
Join a tour of the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice in Durham. This tour is limited to 30 and costs \$20 per person. Learn more and register via the link in our Enews.

## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN ENEWS

Our email newsletter is sent weekly on Tuesdays (English) and Fridays (Spanish). Sign up at [unitedchurch.org](http://unitedchurch.org).

## FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ Crossan, J.D. God and the ambiguity of power. In "God & Empire," p49-96. 261.7 Cro G
- ★ Charles, M., & Rah, S.-C. The kingdom of God is about relationship, not empire. In "Unsettling Truths," p39-51. 261.7 Cha U
- ★ Brueggemann, W. Power and truth among us. In "Truth Speaks to Power: The Countercultural Nature of Scripture," p149-167. 230 Bru T
- ★ McLaren, B.D. How God's commonwealth of peace confronts earthly empires of hostility. In "Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?," p232-238. 261.2 McL W

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. A volunteer, Karen Demby, will be in the library after the worship service, to assist you in finding library materials.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

## SERVICE NOTES

**MUSIC:** Julie Mitchell, organ; East Fork; Chancel Choir  
**DEACON:** Leigh Gosnell  
**GREETERS:** Dianne Bertsch, George Collins, Peter Barnes  
**READER:** Peter Schay  
**LIVESTREAM:** Bob Sielken  
**SOUNDBOARD:** Toby McCoy  
**COFFEE HOST:** Kay Williams

**COVER ART:** *The tribute money* (detail), from the Flemish school, follower of Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640). Oil on canvas, 17th C. Public domain.  
**COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** *Praise Him All Ye Little Children*, words & music ©2019 the Lorenz Publishing Company.

## UNITED CHURCH STAFF

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Rev. Cameron Barr  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Rev. Caleb Wolf  
**MINISTER TO CHILDREN:** Anitra Grove  
**MINISTER TO YOUTH AND FAMILIES:** Jackson Ringley  
**MINISTER OF MUSIC:** Reyna Alston  
**PROGRAM ORGANIST:** Julie Mitchell  
**ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF:** Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Jennifer Anderson (Junior Choir Director)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:** Kati Ruark  
**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Duane Gilbert  
**COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER:** Marisa Mee  
**SEXTON:** Bruce Thomas  
**KITCHEN STEWARDS:** Hser Nay Htoo & Zoila Fonseca  
**NURSERY ASSISTANTS:** Harper Gray, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, Anna Grove, Jack Tanner, & Josh Hart

***Bienvenido. Welcome.*** Visitors are invited to take a contact card from the Narthex or Sanctuary pew pockets to fill out and place in the offering plate. / *Se invita a los visitantes a coger una tarjeta de contacto de los bolsillos de los bancos del Nártex o del Santuario para rellenarla y depositarla en el plato de las ofrendas.*

*Or complete the form online:  
O rellene el formulario en línea:*



Your support of UCCH makes our worship and ministry possible.  
Give online: [onrealm.org/ucch/give/now](https://onrealm.org/ucch/give/now) | Venmo: @UCCHNC

**WEBSITE**  
[unitedchurch.org](https://unitedchurch.org)

**FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, & YOUTUBE**  
[/unitedchurchofchapelhill](https://www.facebook.com/unitedchurchofchapelhill)

**PHONE**  
919-942-3540

**A PLACE of BELONGING** FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN