



POLK CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 28, 2021

Find [lent devotions here](#)

See what's happening in [Youth](#) and [Children's Ministries](#)

Check our website for opportunities to [Serve](#) by providing a meal or making care calls

[Give](#) to our church's mission and ministries

**[Schedule for Holy Week & Easter:](#)**

**Palm/Passion Sunday** – 9:30 AM  
in-person & online

**Good Friday** – 7:00 PM online only

**Easter Sunday** – 9:30 AM outdoors  
(church soccer field) & online

**Easter Egg Hunt** – 10:30 AM  
outdoors (immediately following  
Easter worship)

**[Contact us:](#)**

**Children/Youth Ministry:**

Lauren Wilken

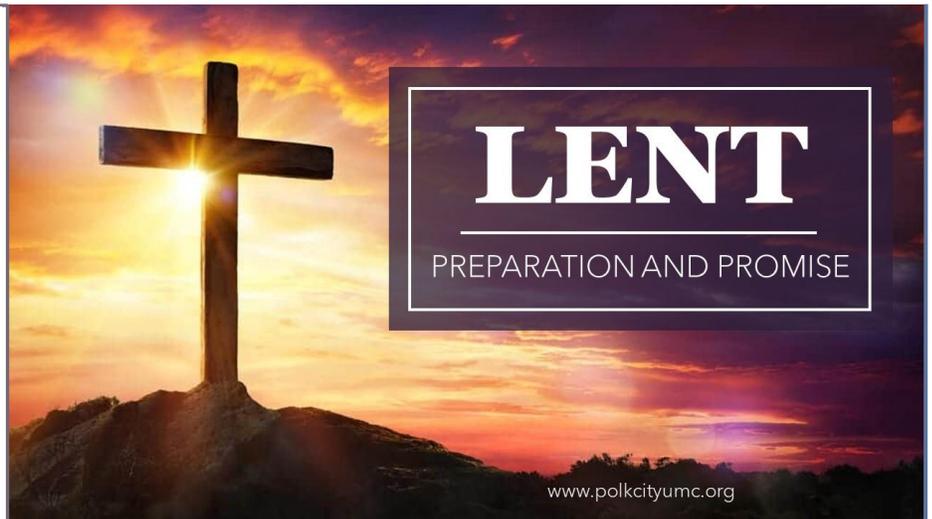
[lauren.wilken@polkcityumc.org](mailto:lauren.wilken@polkcityumc.org)

**Pastor:**

Melody Webb

[melody.webb@polkcityumc.org](mailto:melody.webb@polkcityumc.org)

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LENT

PREPARATION AND PROMISE

[www.polkcityumc.org](http://www.polkcityumc.org)

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Worship online: [Facebook Live](#) or on our [Website](#)

*All words for communal speaking are included below.*

*You are encouraged to either speak the words in bold aloud as you worship, and to sing out your praise, or to attend to these words for worship and meditate on their meaning.*

*You are also invited to greet one another and post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or to fill out the [website](#) connect card.*

### CENTERING MOMENT

This is a day of exaltation and joy, as Jesus arrives in Jerusalem to loud hosannas. But even as we watch the Word made flesh, the very light of the world, being welcomed into the holy city with shouts of Hosanna, with waving palms and scattered garments, we also know how this story ends. “The light came to his own people, and his own people didn’t welcome him” (John 1:11). As we light the candles for worship this morning, give thanks for God’s promised King, and invite the light of Christ to fill you with all the joy of Palm Sunday.

Some of you have palm branches this morning or a cross made from a palm frond. You are invited to hold up or wave those as we sing our Hosannas! Come. Let us worship God. **[light altar candles]**

## SONG OF PRAISE

“Hosanna”

### OPENING PRAYER

God of Passion and Palms, come to us this day. Enter our hearts as you once entered Jerusalem, full of passion and purpose. Help us receive you with joy and thanksgiving, that we may enter your ministry and be counted among your people. In the name of Christ our cornerstone, we pray. Amen.

### CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Carol Parrott

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Lauren Wilken

Post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

### 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, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Make your offering [online](#) or mail checks to 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 (Attn: Finance Secretary)

### DOXOLOGY

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were an offering far too small

Love so amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul, my life, my all

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty and everlasting God, as we bring our gifts and lay them at your altar, we remember the crowds in Jerusalem who laid their cloaks on the road, shouting “Hosanna” as Jesus passed. We know they were looking for a Messiah who was different from who you sent Jesus to be – not one of political power and military might, but one who came in compassion and mercy to heal, love, and save. Search our hearts that we might be confident that the Messiah for whom we long is the one you know we need – Jesus Christ, your anointed one, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### LITURGY OF THE PALMS

A Palm Sunday Drama by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

#### I. THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

**Narrator:** When Jesus drew near to Bethpage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying, “Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, Why are you untying it?’ you shall say; The Lord has need of it.” So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them.

**People:** And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them “Why are you untying the colt?”

**Peter:** And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it.

**Narrator:** And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying:

### HYMN

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

**Refrain:** All glory, laud and honor to thee, redeemer king,

Worship liturgy: Rev. Mary Scifres, Rev. B. J. Beu, Walter Wangerin, Jr.  
Used by permission.

To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

1. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One. (*refrain*)

**People:** And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples! They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to shut up!"

**Narrator:** He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent the very stones themselves would cry out"

HYMN "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

*Refrain:* All glory, laud and honor to thee, redeemer king,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

4. To thee before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (*refrain*)

**Narrator:** And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying, "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation."

## II. THE PREPARATION AND THE EATING OF THE LAST SUPPER

**Narrator:** Now, the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the Temple Priests were seeking how to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.

**Judas:** Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of the multitude.

**Narrator:** Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare Passover for us, that we may eat it."

**People:** They said to him, "But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?"

**Narrator:** He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; there make ready." And they went and found it as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

**People:** And they began to question, “Who, Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?”

**Narrator:** He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

**Judas:** Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Is it I, Master?”

**Narrator:** Jesus said to him, “You have said so.”

**Peter:** Simon Peter was indignant. “But not I!” he said. And he declared, “Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you.”

**Narrator:** “Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

**Peter:** Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!”

**People:** And so said all of the disciples, over and over again.

**SONG** “Come to the Table”

We all start on the outside  
The outside looking in  
This is where grace begins  
We were hungry we were thirsty  
With nothing left to give  
Oh the shape that we were in  
Just when all hope seemed lost  
Love opened the door for us

He said come to the table  
Come join the sinners who have been redeemed  
Take your place beside the Savior  
Sit down and be set free  
Come to the table

Come meet this motley crew of misfits  
These liars and these thieves  
There's no one unwelcome here  
So that sin and shame that you've brought with you  
You can leave it at the door  
And let mercy draw you near (*chorus*)

### III. THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

**Narrator:** And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

**People:** Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.

**Narrator:** And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, “Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done.”

**People:** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done –

**Narrator:** And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

**People:** Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

**Judas:** While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss Him.

**Narrator:** But Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?”

**Judas:** Judas said “Hail, Master.”

**People:** When the disciples saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”

**Peter:** And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

**Narrator:** But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him.

**People:** Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

**Narrator:** Jesus said to those who had come out against him, “When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me, But this is your hour and the power of darkness.” Then they seized him .

#### IV. THE JUDGEMENT

**Narrator:** Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest’s house.

**Peter:** Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

**People:** Then a maid, seeing him sitting in the light, said, “This man also was with him.”

**Peter:** But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.”

**People:** And a little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.”

**Peter:** But Peter said, “Man, I am not.”

**People:** An hour later another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”

**Peter:** But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!”

**Narrator:** And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

**Peter:** And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and he wept bitterly.

**Narrator:** Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

**People:** “Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?”

**Narrator:** And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council;

**People:** And they said, “If you are the Christ, tell us.”

**Narrator:** But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God —”

**People:** And they said, “Are you the Son of God, then?”

**Narrator:** And he said to them, “You say that I am.”

**People:** And they said “Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, blasphemy!”

**HYMN** “Ah, Holy Jesus”

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how has thou offended,  
That we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted!

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!  
’Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

## **V. DAWN FRIDAY: JESUS BEFORE PILATE**

**Narrator:** Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pontius Pilate.

**People:** And they began to curse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!”

**Pilate:** And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

**Narrator:** And he answered him, “You have said so.”

**Pilate:** And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes, “I find no crime in this man.”

**People:** But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place.”

**Pilate:** And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod.

**Narrator:** Where he was vehemently accused and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.

**Pilate:** Pilate said to the rulers of the people, “You have brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him —”

