



# PALM SUNDAY

April 13, 2025

## **Welcome to Community.**

*We are glad you are here. While here we hope you will feel welcome and find the service meaningful.*

*Childcare (infants through 4 year olds) is available. Worship boxes for younger children to borrow during worship are located at the entrance.*

*Large Print bulletins are available. Please see an usher for assistance.*

## **– We Gather For Worship –**

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **– We Become Still Before God –**

Use this time to quiet your mind, to turn your focus to God. Allow the music and prayer of preparation to turn your focus to God. Say to yourself, “I am here to meet God. Nothing else matters for now. God is important.” “Be still and know that God is God”. (Ps. 46:10)

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION – *(Prayer to offer up silently)*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who on this day received the worship of those who hailed you as their King: Accept our praise and adoration, our worship and love;

Open my eyes to see your glory.

Open my ears to hear your wisdom.

Open my hands to offer you my service.

Open my mouth to sing your praise.

Open my heart to offer you my love.

May I join all who on this day proclaim you as our Lord and King! Amen.

## **– We Are Called Into God’s Presence –**

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*Entrance Into Jerusalem*

Words & Music by Wes Cameron

Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes!

Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes!

Shout! Shout! Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Shout! Shout! Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

The King has entered Jerusalem. Blessed is he who comes!  
The crowds with palm branches waving. Blessed is he who comes! (Repeat all)

Who is this man? The prophet from Galilee. Who is this man?  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord most high!

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**People:** **We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips; Singing, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord”.**

**Leader:** We will gather around the table eating of the bread and drinking from the cup, proclaiming Christ’s holy sacrifice, finding forgiveness and being nourished by Christ’s love.

**People:** **We will be drawn to the foot of the cross, remembering the suffering and death of Jesus, there to know the cost of our salvation, to sense the power of love that changes lives.**

**All:** **Jesus as you lead us through this week, we look forward to the resurrection celebration. But we know that first we must take this journey with you. Give us open spirits and faithful feet to follow.**

#### \*OPENING 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.**

**Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,  
Who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One. Refrain**

**The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our prayer and praise and anthems before Thee we present. Refrain**

**To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. Refrain**

**Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King. Refrain**

### **– We Confess –**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

##### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, in the midst of our shouts of Hosanna, we pause. We pause to remember that going up to Jerusalem cost Jesus his very life. So we come before you to confess that we are conscious of the way religious words and holy phrases can slip so easily from our lips yet fall flat in our lives.**

**We have welcomed your sacrifice for us and yet can fail to live a sacrificial life for you. Forgive us when our faith is shallow, our following is timid, and we have too many ready excuses for why we go our own way. Turn us round again, we pray, by your Holy Spirit. May your Spirit empower our commitment to faithfully serve you with our lives. Amen.**

*In the presence of a forgiving God, We become aware of the ways we fall short of God’s best hopes for us, and ways we have hurt others. As you pray the prayer of confession; think how the words express specific sins in your life and the life of the church. We turn to God asking forgiveness.*

*Claim the truth that through God’s grace and Christ giving of himself on the cross, we are forgiven. Let this truth set you free from your sins so you may be restored to God and one another.*

*All children are invited  
to come forward for the  
Children's Moment.*

*The giving of an offering  
not only supports the  
ministry of Christ  
but it is the symbolic  
dedication of our life  
and all that we have to  
give to God in response  
to his love. Remember  
that all things belong to  
God, and that we are  
entrusted to use all  
that we have to bring  
glory to God.*

*The Scripture bears  
witness to the word of  
God. Listen beyond the  
human word for the  
Word of God. Pray that  
the Spirit will speak to  
you through the text.*

*All Scripture is God-  
breathed and is useful  
for teaching, rebuking,  
correcting and training  
in righteousness, so that  
the servant of God may  
be thoroughly equipped  
for every good work.  
2 Timothy 3:16-17*

## RESPONSE TO THE CONFESSION

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

**“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our redeemer, the Lord of heav’n, our King.  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!**

## – We Share Our Gifts –

### CHILDREN’S MOMENT

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

### FRIENDSHIP RECORD

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#### *Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## – We Hear God’s Word –

### READING FROM THE WORD OF GOD – *John 12:12-26*

**Leader:** The word of God for the people of God

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### SERMON

**The Way Isn’t What you Would Expect**

Rev. Rod Stone

## – We Offer Our Prayers –

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As you entered the sanctuary today, you should have received a rock with a cross engraved on it. This rock represents the Lord as our rock.

With the rock in your hand, you are invited to hold your hand and arm straight out in front of you. Feel the weight of the rock as you hold it. This represents the weight of the choices we make every day. During the responsive statement, you are invited to bring your hand with the rock to your heart. This movement represents an intentional and physical act of choosing the ways of Christ. We will do this movement with each choice affirmed in the liturgy.

Leader: Lord, in the midst of pain, brokenness, and sorrow,

**All: I choose the way of healing.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of war, hatred and violence,

**All: I choose the way of peace.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of a world that so readily judges and condemns,

**All: I choose the way of compassion.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of those who suffer,

**All: I choose solitary.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of greed and self-interest,

**All: I choose sacrifice.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of apathy and complacency,

**All: I choose conviction.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of resentment, hurt feelings and wrong actions,

**All: I choose the way of forgiveness.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of despair, discouragement, and doubt,

**All: I choose the way of hope.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of fear, uncertainty, and insecurities,

**All: I choose the way of faith.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of division, injustice and inequality of every kind,

**All: I choose the way of justice.**

Leader: Lord, in the midst of all the many choices I face,

**All: I choose the way of love.**

Leader: We always have a choice. Every day we have a choice—how will the events of your day and your life affect you? It's the challenge of the witness of Jesus—the challenge of a truly faithful life—a daily spiritual discipline for each of us to rise up every day and say “I choose the way of love.” Take the rock with you and display it in a place that will remind you of the call to choose the ways of Christ.

## – Celebrating Christ's Life and Love –

*The small communion  
wafers are free of gluten,  
wheat, dairy, yeast, egg,  
soy, nuts and corn.*

PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

*Bless the Lord*

Taize

**Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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 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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare*

**An upper room did our Lord prepare  
For those He loved until the end:  
And His disciples still gather there  
To celebrate their risen friend.**

**A lasting gift Jesus gave His own:  
To share His bread, His loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
He by His cross shall lift us up.**

**And after supper He washed their feet,  
For service, too, is sacrament.  
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:  
Sent out to serve, as He was sent.**

**No end there is! We depart in peace,  
He loves beyond the uttermost:  
In every room in our Father's house  
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.**

## – We Go Out to Be God’s Presence in the World –

### \*BENEDICTION

*As you leave this place and go into the world, remember that you are a child of God.  
You belong to God and are loved. Leave with confidence, love and compassion.*

### THE POSTLUDE

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of Worship

\*Please stand if you are able.

Accompanist: Ed Martel

Ushers: Nancy and Pat Oakley, Susanne and Chip Brown

Greeters: Jan and Jon Minoff

Audio: Steve Lapping

Holy Grounds: Andy and Robyn Potter

### **Children’s Church:**

If you are a visitor here and have a child that would like to attend children’s church they are more than welcome to join us! After the children’s sermon, all children ages kindergarten through fifth grade are dismissed to go downstairs with the teachers. We have a snack, game, Bible lesson, and craft. If your child has any food allergies or other health/behavior concerns please come downstairs with your child and let the teachers know. We have visitor forms as well that are located by the worship boxes and bulletins. When church is finished please come downstairs to pick your child up. We also have a nursery that is available from birth-preschool age. Thank you!

*Our worship does  
not end at the  
conclusion of this  
service. We go forth  
to love and serve the  
LORD in daily living.  
In so doing, we seek to  
fulfill our mission to  
“love God and make  
God’s love known”.*

### **The Mission of Community Presbyterian Church:**

*“We exist not for ourselves, but to love God and  
make God’s love known.”*

## – Community Happenings –

### Weekly Calendar

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#### Sunday – Palm Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Confirmation Class – Loft  
10:30 a.m. Worship – Fellowship Hall  
11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class – Fannie B Gray Parlor  
12:00 p.m. AGSS Team Leader Meeting – Conference Room

#### Monday

- 9:00 a.m. PEO – Chapel  
10:00 a.m. SNG Group – Great Room  
4:00 p.m. Designing Women – Everette House  
6:30 p.m. Barbershop – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Troop 7B Committee Meeting – Fannie B Gray Parlor  
7:15 p.m. Troop 7G – Victory Village

#### Tuesday

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – Pinecrest Inn  
4:00 p.m. Brookside Tutoring – Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Pack 7 Committee Meeting – Fannie B. Gray Parlor

#### Wednesday

- 5:45 p.m. Women's Study – Fannie B. Gray Parlor

#### Thursday

- 8:00 a.m. Meeting – Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Purls – Library  
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

#### Friday

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Garden  
6:00 p.m. Good Friday Service – Sanctuary

#### Saturday

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

#### Sunday (April 20) Easter Sunday

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Fellowship Hall

### The Flowering of the Cross

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As we approach the end of Lent, a time of sober reflection and meditation, we anticipate the joy of Palm Sunday, the contemplation of Maundy Thursday, the sadness of Good Friday and the glory of Easter morning. Through the beauty of palms and flowers we will celebrate and honor our Risen Lord. We will commemorate the transition from the meditation of Jesus' death on Good Friday to the glorious celebration of His resurrection on Easter Morning by the **Flowering of the Cross**. As a barren cross becomes one of floral beauty, we will be reminded of the transforming power of Christ's resurrection.

Worshippers will have an opportunity to mark this transition by placing a flower on a barren cross and observing as it gradually changes from bleak to glorious. Some flowers will be on hand but **members are encouraged to bring their own floral offerings to contribute to this transformation.**

### We Need AGSS Leaders Immediately in the following areas

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- Sandhills Moore Coalition for Human Care
- Northern Moore Family Resource Center
- Prancing Horse Center
- Partners for Children and Families
- Family Promise
- Babysitting for kids of volunteers
- Boys & Girls Club
- AGSS volunteer data management

Please contact Andy Potter directly to become a leader at (910) 528-1549 or [akpotter428@earthlink.net](mailto:akpotter428@earthlink.net)

## Support our CPC Youth & Brookside Outreach with Dinner!

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One Sunday evening each month, CPC welcomes staff from Camp Monroe to host a joint youth group for CPC youth and middle and high school youth from the Brookside community. In addition to activities, fellowship, and small group study, the group enjoys a dinner prepared and served by small teams of CPC members and friends. Would you like to be a part of this ministry as a dinner chef or dinner host? Meal teams prepare and serve a delicious meal to our joint youth group and are needed for the following dates:

**Sunday, April 27th (4:30 - 7:00 p.m.)**

**Sunday, May 18th (4:30 - 7:00 p.m.)**

If you're interested in serving on a dinner team on one of these dates, please contact Meg! MVail@communitypres.com

## Driver's Needed!

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On Tuesday's after school at 3:00 p.m. our Brookside Tutoring Program is in need of drivers willing to pick up students after school at:

**Crain's Creek Middle School  
4631 Union Church Road  
Carthage, NC 28327**

And bring them to the church for tutoring and then return them home to:

**Brookside Apartments  
432 Shaw Avenue  
Southern Pines, NC 28387**

If interested please call Marsae Stone: (910) 585-0827 or Email: marsaestone@gmail.com

## Snacks for Brookside Students

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### Sign ups needed for April

Tuesdays after school usually 6 students from the Brookside Residential community come to CPC for tutoring and need a little energy after a full day of school, before settling in for more work. If you wish to help, call or email below to get on a date of your choice. It would be confirmed by email and you could bring your selections to the church refrigerator before one o'clock on the Tuesday. Labeled boxes are in the fridge and on the counter. To help, please email Pat McFadyen at pmcfadyen@embarqmail.com.

**Suggestions:** Small sandwiches of ham/cheddar or turkey, Chicken nuggets, Chick-Fil-A chicken strips, Activa strawberry yogurt, grapes, cementines, strawberries, cantaloupe, kiwi, mangoes, papaya, bananas, chips, seaweed teriyaki, sesame, sea salt.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SNACKS ALL FALL AND WINTER! OUR CONGREGATION HAS BEEN SO GENEROUS AND CREATIVE!!**





# **A Great Saturday of Service**

Community Presbyterian Church

## Saturday, April 26th, 2025

Join the CPC church family as we make God's love known through a day of intentional mission outreach in our community! We will go out into the community to serve with a variety of mission partners around Moore County. We gather at CPC for a blessing and depart in teams to serve that day.

### Sign up with a team today!

Online: [www.communitypres.com](http://www.communitypres.com) -or- there are registration forms in the office.

You may contact Andy Potter at  
(910) 528-1549 or  
[akpotter428@earthlink.net](mailto:akpotter428@earthlink.net)



## Easter Floral Fund

*"I am making all things new." Revelation 21:5*

Easter is a time to celebrate our new life in Christ – our Redeeming Savior. Like the flower bulb that lies dormant through the dark days of Winter then bursts forth with color in the Spring – Christ endured his passion, death on a cross and burial, only to rise again in glory on the third day.

To help set the stage for the renewed hope and healing the Easter celebration brings, churches traditionally decorate the worship space with lilies and greenery from God's abundant garden of creation. If you would like to be part of this transformation, consider a donation to our floral fund. Please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate or in the office no later than April 14, 2025. Memo: Easter Floral on your check. If you have any questions contact worship chair, Cathy Hilton, at [ckhilton49@gmail.com](mailto:ckhilton49@gmail.com)



Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the floral fund to beautify Community Presbyterian Church during Holy Week.

Please acknowledge my gift in the bulletin as follows:

Given to the Glory of God by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

## – Community Presbyterian Staff –

**Rod Stone**

*Pastor – Head of Staff*

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**Terri Sinclair**

*Director of Music Emeritus*

**Matthew Best**

*Facility Manager*

## – Contact Information –

**Church Office:** (910) 295-6848

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Friday – Closed

**If you need a Pastor after hours, the following can be reached:**

**Rod Stone, Pastor:** (910) 585-0828

**Meghan Vail, Associate Pastor:** (732) 804-4907

**Mailing Address:** Community Presbyterian Church • P.O. Box 1449 • Pinehurst, NC 28370

**Location:** 125 Everette Road • Pinehurst, NC 28374

[www.communitypres.com](http://www.communitypres.com)



**COMMUNITY**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*— Loving God, Serving Others —*