We are here to: Love God, Love Our Neighbor and Serve the World.

March 24, 2024

9:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Palm Sunday

Prelude We adore You, Jesus Christ (Adoramus te Christe) Berthier

Words of Welcome Rev. Amy Gregory

Along the Road (Mark 10:32-45)

*Call to Worship

Jesus is on the way...from Jericho to Bethany, and on to Jerusalem.

The journey is nearing its final destination: a cross, deserted.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love.

Along the way, Christ brings healing to the sick, comfort to the grieving.

He has upset our comfortable routines, disturbed our desire for an easy faith.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love.

A king unlike any other we have seen or longed for—Christ leads the way, riding a poor man's donkey,

stumbling along with the instruments of his own execution on his back, forsaken by his friends.

Truly, all the paths of the Lord are steadfast love.

Opening Hymn Hosanna, Loud Hosanna UMH #278

Prayer

This is not the road we would have chosen, O Cross-carrying God. We prefer easy paths, well-traveled, with all of the best modern-day amenities. Yet here we are on the first day of Holy Week, hesitant and uncertain, but here. Today we offer to you our best intentions, our mixed motives and our past failures to follow Jesus.

Walk with us, Holy One. Steady us with your everlasting love. As we seek your ways, may we learn to trust in your never-failing presence with us in each step we take. Amen.

Anthem 9:00 am Day To Sing Hosanna Choplin

10:30 am Lo He Comes Horman Voices of Hope & Youth Choir

Song Jesus Loves Me (Verse 1) UMH #191

Young Disciples Time

Anthem This Is the Day Berry

Song Jesus Loves Me (Verse 1) UMH #191

Meditation Near the Cross: Journeying from Palm Sunday toward Easter meditations and scripture readings by Nancy Gowler from *Wonderings*,

Writings & Scribbles, adapted, using scripture from The Message by Eugene Petersen

Jericho Mark 10:46-52

Hymn Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs. 1) UMH #301

Bethany Mark 11:1-6

Hymn Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs. 2) UMH #301

Jerusalem Mark 11:7-11

Hymn Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs. 3) UMH #301

Jerusalem Mark 11:15-19

Prayer of Confession (Stages on the Way: Worship: resources for Lent, Holy Week & Easter. © 2000 WGRG)

If we have used your house for our own purposes as if you did not mind or it did not matter,

Lord, forgive us.

If we have draped your house in tradition, rather than hallowed it by prayer,

Lord, forgive us.

If we have made your house for one nation, or part of a nation, and not for all people,

Lord, forgive us.

If we have become good at practicing our religion, but not loving our neighbor,

Lord, forgive us.

If we have become blind to your grace and dead to your love,

Lord, forgive us.

Kindle in us and in all your people the desire to make all your sanctuaries the shop windows of heaven, glimpses of the wonder and graciousness of your kingdom, rather than religious theme parks of earth. We ask this for your own name's sake. **Amen.**

Bethany Mark 11:22-26

Song Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs. 4) UMH # 301

Bethany Mark 14:3-9

Affirmation of Faith (©2004 Mucky Paws, Roddy Hamilton)

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to suspect:

to suspect that darkness can be crushed by sunrise,

that silence can break with song,

that alleluias can be shouted in graveyards,

that love chooses to live. We affirm that when God dies,

it is time to suspect this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to believe:

to believe laughter will be heard at dawn,

that tombs will be unsealed,

that grave clothes will be folded away,

that love chooses to live. We affirm that when God dies,

it is time to believe this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to trust: to trust that the conspiracy belongs to heaven,

that crosses aren't the last word, that the last word is always love, and that love chooses to live. We affirm that when God dies,

it is time to trust this is not the end.

Invitation to Generosity: Offering our Gifts, our Tithes and our Pledges

Offertory Lift High The Palms Martin

*Singing Our Praises Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #94

*Prayer of Dedication

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Song Praise to You, O God of Mercy Haugen

Pastoral Prayer

Cross-carrying God...hear our 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, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

UMH #895

*Sending Hymn Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley TFWS #2112

*Benediction Jerusalem: Mark 14:10-11

Postlude My Song Is Love Unknown Edwards

WEEKLY CALENDAD	
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Sunday, March 24/Palm Sunday	
9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Youth Choir and Voices of Hope
10:30 AM	Worship
11:45 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
Monday, March 25	
9:30 AM	Earlybirds
2:00 PM	Special K/Fireside
5:30 PM	Scouts/KH
Tuesday, March 26	
7:00 PM	Rescheduled Lenten Experience/KH
Wednesday, March 27	
8:30 AM	Fix-its
9:30 AM	Explorers
5:30 PM	Scouts/KH
6:30 PM	Saratoga Voices/Sanctuary
7:00 PM	AA/Fireside Room
7:00 PM	Table Talk/Pizzaworks
Thursday, March 28	
9:15 AM	Seekers/KH
5:00 PM	Playgroup/Classroom
6:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship/Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, March 29	
7:00 PM	Good Friday Worship/Sanctuary
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunday!
9:00 AM	Worship
10:30 AM	Worship

Please join us for Coffee Hour after the service hosted by the Grow Team

Welcome

- Welcome to worship! If you are new, please fill out a welcome card found in the pews, if you'd like to receive more information. Thank you for coming to spend part of your Sunday with us. We hope you experience a sense of God's love and grace here today.
- We will be collecting prayer cards during the offering. If you would like your prayer request forwarded to the Prayer Chain, please check the appropriate box on the card.

Announcements

- This year, our Easter Offering will be given to UMCOR. Easter Sunday and UMCOR Sunday are both in March. This year we are taking one offering-our Easter Offering—and designating it for UMCOR Sunday. For any who are moved to make a donation to the Easter Offering you may send a check to the church office, use one of the Easter offering envelopes in the pews, please mark all checks "Easter Offering" in the memo line or you may give electronically through our Vanco.
- We have final totals for the Christmas Offering. Thanks to our generous congregation, we are able to support many outreach needs.
 The final total for the Christmas Offering was \$6524.
 We will disperse the money received in the offering to RISSE, Chocacente, Schenectady Community Ministries, Guardian House Playground, Captain/Community Human Services, Schenectady Community Services Food pantry, Lifeworks Food Pantry and Rensselear Food Pantry. Thank you so much for thinking of others. You are a very kind congregation. The Outreach Commission
- The Church office will be closed Easter Monday, April 1. From April 2-April 5, office hours will be 8:00-12:00 pm.
- Bishop Hector will visit Shenendehowa UMC in the Albany District on Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00 –8:30 pm. The church is located at 971 Route 146 in Clifton Park.
- Save the Date! Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) will once again sponsor the Phil Grigbsy Memorial CROP HUNGER WALK on Sunday, May 5th with registration beginning at noon and the WALK step off that begins at 1:00 PM. Be on the watch for a bulletin board in our Church that will provide more information.



LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT BHUMC

Sermon Mini-Series based on Anne Lamott's book <u>Help, Thanks, Wow:</u> The Three Essential Prayers

March 3: Help March 10: Thanks March 17: Wow

March 24, Palm Sunday

9:00am Worship with palms to take home

10:30am Worship with palms to take home. Children and Youth choirs

March 24, Free Community Easter Egg Hunt

11:45am Rain or shine! (inside if the weather is bad) Bring a friend!

March 28, Maundy Thursday

6:00pm Worship with Holy Communion remembering The Last Supper 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 10:30am worship livestreams on YouTube: Burnt Hills UMC videos

March 29, Good Friday

7:00pm Contemplative Service remembering Jesus' last hours

March 31, Easter Sunday

Celebration of Resurrection and New Life Festive Music with Trinity Brass

9:00am Worship 10:30am Worship with Children's Message and Easter puppet visitor

Child care is available during both worship services.

Visit our new Family Room and stay awhile. Worship streamed on TV. Toys for the kiddos and coffeemaker for the adults.
Comfy couches. You are welcome!

Please join us any Sunday after both services for coffee and conversation in Knight Hall.

Our Ministry Today

Lead Pastor: Amy Gregory

Communication Coordinator: Robyn Axon

Custodian: Nick Adami

Music Ministers: Pete Van Keuren & Jill Zygo

Treasurer: Dee Lowman

(treasurer@burnthillsumc.org)
Financial Secretary: Sue Zoller
(financialsecretary@burnthillsumc.org)
Prayer Blankets: Deb Whitehead

Sunday School Superintendent: *Jodi Facteau-St. Gelais* Preschool Teachers: *Stephanie Tope & Angela Barclay*

Sound & Video: Charles Hartmann

3urnt Hills United Methodist Church

March 24, 2024



BHUMC Welcome Statement

At Burnt Hills UMC, we aspire to be a community of grace and unconditional love, where all people will find hospitality, compassion and mercy. We seek to welcome all on the journey, to grow together in faith and to go out to serve the world. We welcome people of any age, culture, race, nationality, ability, marital status, economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, as full participants in the life of our congregation.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be part of Jesus' movement of love and justice for all of God's children. All are welcome to worship, grow and serve with us.



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