

Palm parade

“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”

~ Martin Luther

A branch of leaves can be just that, ordinary leaves. We do love to pan the soggy landscapes surrounding us for the first sight of chartreuse brimming from the brown. There's a grateful sense and proof that winter is dissolving and we will emerge out of our frigid climate to a nearby spring. Although we appreciate the season's transformations, we've learned to take this greenery at face value.

Palm branches are more. Palm branches waved and layered upon a pathway was a custom uniquely set apart for the extraordinary. It's an unusual occurrence when the world pauses to cry out there has been something outside of the ordinary unfolding. Palm Sunday holds more glory than we might recognize.

A palm represented and marked a human or humanity gaining goodness and worth from communing through God, it signified spirit living over flesh and was reserved for people, some of them martyrs. Leafy palm images were artfully embossed upon sacred buildings and their wavy arm-like branches honored dignitaries and victors. However, this particular day signifies a Palm Sunday parade and the significance of Jesus' ministry.

Frederick Buechner captures the excitement of this procession, entitled “The Things That Make For Peace.”

“We call it Palm Sunday because maybe they were palm branches that were thrown into the road in front of him as he approached the city ... a kind of poor man's red-carpet treatment, a kind of homemade ticker-tape parade ... Some of the people who were there were so carried away by what was happening that they took the clothes off their backs and spread them out on the road

in front of him along with the branches, so that the clip-clop, clip-clop of the hooves of the colt he was riding was muffled by shirts, shawls, cloaks spread out there in the dust as maybe even you and I would have spread ours out too if we'd been there. It was a moment with such hope and passion in it. That's what the palms are all about.

“ ‘Blessed be the King who comes in the name of the Lord,’ the cry goes up. There is dust in the air with the sun turning it gold. Around a bend in the road, there suddenly is Jerusalem. He draws back on the reins. Crying disfigures his face.” Jesus shares his heart's center that we have missed the point, “Because we don't know who it is who comes to visit us. Because we do not know what he comes to give. The things that make for peace, that is what he comes to give.”

Jesus' hope for peace is similar to an earlier time when the disciples ask, “ ‘Lord, when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King answers them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ ”

The signifying point of any Palm Sunday parade is that this is the day we pause to recall that a rare and holy God-man lived for and amongst us, and through Him a movement thrust human history forward, emboldening us to become transformed in ways that are dynamically bold and sometimes humbly gentle. In Jesus, we might “just carried away.” Buechner concludes, this is what the palms, singing and praying are all about. “That the by grace of God the impossible will happen.”

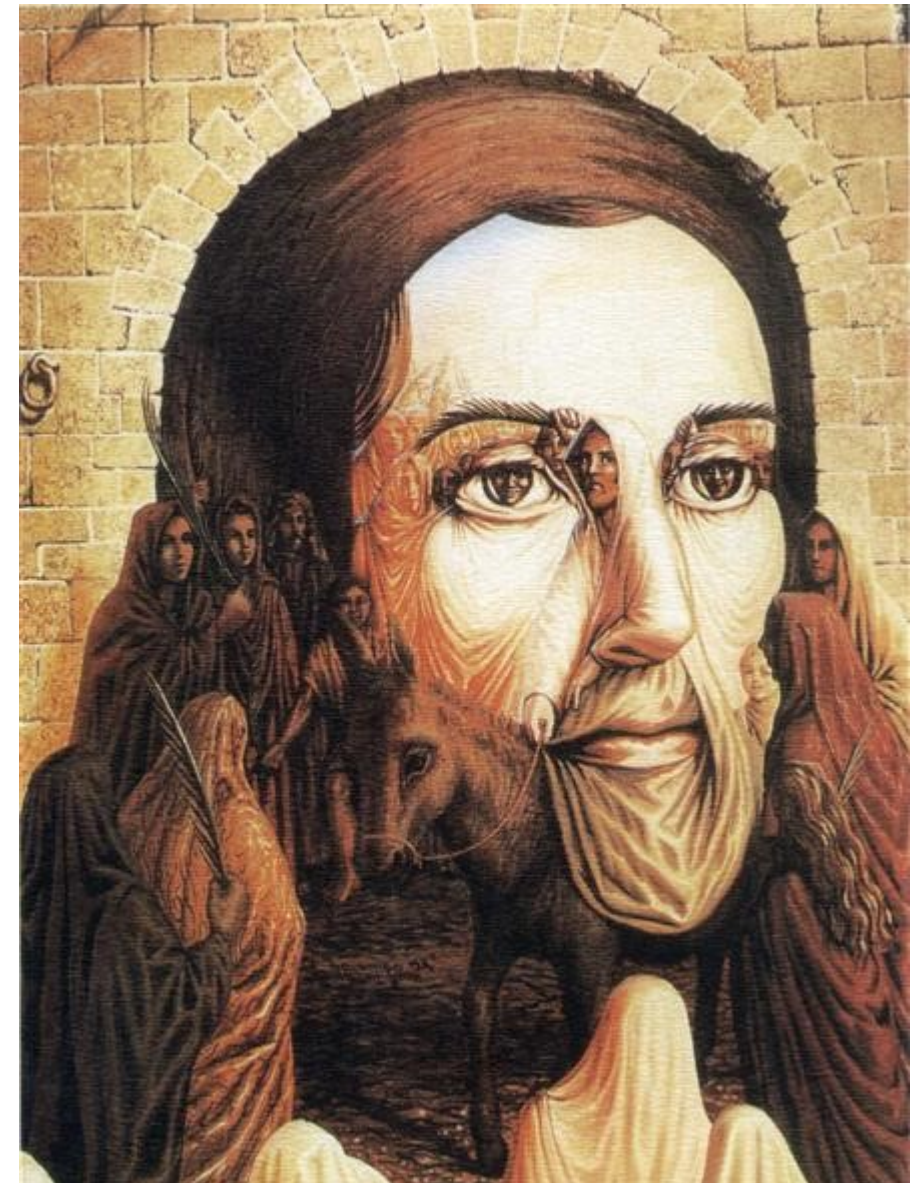
~ Julie Jacot

The welcome of a flower

With spring near, WBLUMC anticipates those first glimmers of green. The large welcome urns outside our doorways are available to be sponsored. You may choose to honor a person, a group or a heartfelt memorial for individual pots or all of them. Donations may be placed in the offering or given to the church office by designating Adopt-a-Pot. Please find a form on the bulletin board near the office.

Our appreciation, the BeFriends Ministry

Prayer at WBLUMC: One way our church helps nourish and support the hungers of life is through prayer. If you have a special need or celebration that could use extra care, we invite you to partake in one of these prayer avenues. If your spirit has the need to support others through prayer, we invite you to join in one of the teams. **The Prayer Team:** If you would like to request a prayer from this team, please write it on a prayer request card or contact Julie Jacot at 651-777-3728 or ljacot@q.com. **The Email Prayer Chain** accepts requests by contacting a pastor or leader Ronda Nelson, rondalauva2@msn.com. **The Phone Prayer Chain** is organized through the UMW. Call Eva Shipley if you would like to request a prayer at 651-429-3570.



9am Worship, March 25, 2018

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

Palm/Passion Sunday



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

1851 BIRCH STREET, WBL, MN 55110 | 651-429-9026 | WBLUMC.ORG

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“What should young people do with their lives today? Many things, obviously. But the most daring thing is to create stable communities in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured.”

~ Kurt Vonnegut, *Palm Sunday: An Autobiographical Collage*

WELCOME

ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."

This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

ANTHEM

“The First Song of Isaiah”
Children’s Choir, Cherub Choir & Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
After the children's message, children and youth through 8th grade are invited to leave for Sunday school.

MORNING 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.

SCRIPTURE	Matthew 25:31-40	Reader: Obinnaya Oji
<p>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’</p>		

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ “

RESPONSE TO THE WORD
Leader: For the word of God in Scripture,
 for the word of God among us,
 for the word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Braving the Wilderness: Holding Hands With Strangers
Pastor Brooke Heerwald Steiner

After the message, high school students are invited to leave for first pick of refreshments and meet in the High School Program Room to unpack today's sermon.

+HYMN	“A Place at the Table”	(see insert)
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CONNECTION CARDS

Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards. After the prayer of dedication, you can place them in the offering plates as they are passed to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING "Ride On, King Jesus"
Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” No. 301

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" arr. by Michael Burkhardt

This week's altar flowers are provided by Judy and Roger Cheatham in anticipation of Easter and the coming spring.

Palm Sunday, March 25

8:15-11am—Pancake Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
9-10am—Worship; Sunday school and nursery
10am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room
10:10am—Cherub Choir rehearsal, room 205
10:45-11:30am—Worship; nursery

Monday, March 26

10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206
3:30-5pm—Bell Trio rehearsal, sanctuary
7-8:15pm—Book Club, library

Tuesday, March 27

6pm—Yoga class, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 28

Reminder: No children’s or youth activities tonight.
9am-1pm—PEO women’s group, room 200
6-8pm—Alleluia Ringers, sanctuary
7-9pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, March 29

7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library
9am-3pm—The Gathering, room 200
10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107
5:30pm—Maundy Thursday supper, Fellowship Hall
6:30pm—Maundy Thursday worship

Friday, March 30

Reminder: The church office is closed on Fridays.
6:30pm—Good Friday worship

Saturday, March 31

7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 107
10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women’s Group
(outside group), rooms 107/206
2pm—Harlem Globetrotters game, Target Center
3-5pm—Music rehearsal, sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 1

8:30-9:30am—Worship & nursery; fellowship after
9:45-10:45am—Worship & nursery; fellowship after
11-11:45am—Contemporary worship; nursery open

About today’s palms

This year’s palm fronds came from EcoPalms, which helps support the harvesting communities and the families that harvest and select the fronds. WBLUMC’s purchase helps prtect the environment by protecting the rainforest in which the palms grow.

Welcome to

WHITE BEAR LAKE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.
Our vision is to provide nourishment
for the hungers of life.

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday:	9am to 12pm
Monday-Thursday	9am to 3pm
Friday-Saturday	CLOSED

SUNDAY BULLETIN/WEEKLY E-BLAST

Have a church-related event you’d like to appear in the Sunday bulletin or the weekly e-blast? Please email all pertinent information, including contact information, to office@wblumc.org no later than **1pm Tuesday** for the bulletin and **1pm Wednesday** for the e-blast. All information is subject to staff approval. Thank you!

To receive the weekly email update — sent every Thursday — call the office at 651-429-9026 or email your request to office@wblumc.org.

Visit **wblumc.org** for sermon podcasts, PDFs of the 9am bulletins, the church calendar and programming info.

STAFF

Bill Eaves, Senior Pastor
bill.eaves@wblumc.org,
763-355-7825 mobile

Brooke Heerwald Steiner, Associate Pastor

John McBride, Associate Pastor

Joan Hartman, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Linnea Uhler, Director of Youth Ministries

Peteria Cochran Routt, Director of Traditional Music

John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music
Matthew Goinz, Chancel Choir Director

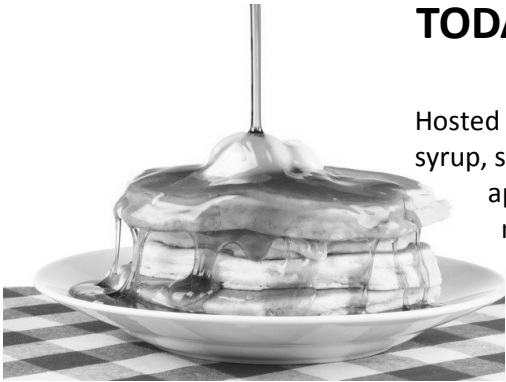
Patricia Kytola, Director of Operations

Lauri Hopple, Administrative Assistant

Lori Hughes, Website & Social Media

Carol Houghtby, Treasurer

Harry Jones, Financial Secretary
Ron Houde, Housekeeper



TODAY! Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

8:15-11am Sunday, March 25, in Fellowship Hall

Hosted by United Methodist Women, join us for pancakes with syrup, sausages, fruit, coffee and juice. Freewill donations are appreciated, with proceeds going to UMW-supported mission projects that serve women, youth and children, including Emma Norton Services, White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf, Solid Ground, Simpson Shelter, and more. Hope you can join us!



THIS WEEK!

March 29: Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm *with a supper of soup and breadsticks at 5:30pm*

March 30: Good Friday worship, 6:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 1: Traditional worship at 8:30am and 9:45am; contemporary worship at 11am. Coffee & treats after the early services in Fellowship Hall. *Nursery will be open for all three services, ages 0-3 years. Older children will receive Easter goody bags and stay with their families for worship.*

New this year! On Easter Sunday only, parking will be available on Pine Street.

March book club

Join us at 7pm this **Monday, March 26** to discuss *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Text-book Got Wrong* by James Loewen. Meet in the library.

April's book will be *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* by Christopher Moore.

Meeting will be April 23.

Kids/youth reminder

There are no children's groups (Friends or Children's Choir) or youth activities during Holy Week this **Wednesday, March 28**. The Wednesday night schedule is always available on the church website: wblumc.org/ministries/kids/

BeFrienders request

Because of budget concerns, BeFriender Ministry may be limited in its ability to send out the "Time to Grieve" pamphlets to church members who have lost family members. If you have received these pamphlets and are no longer using them, we would appreciate your sharing them by returning them to the BeFriender box in the office or to Roberta Schmidt or Barb Hinz. Thank you.

MISSION DAY 2018

Saturday, April 28 | 9:30am-noon

Make a difference! This year's day of mission projects, sponsored by United Methodist Women, will all be at the church. Our Easter Sunday offering will help fund this day of service. Thank you for your generosity!

This year's timetable

9:30am – Light breakfast

10am – Opening by Brooke in the sanctuary

10:15am-noon – Break out into groups (sewing groups may go longer)

This year's projects

- Putting together UMCOR health kits for world disasters (United Methodist Committee on Relief)
- Making sandwiches for homeless
- Baby kits for Solid Ground shelter
- Bread-making class
- Sewing items for confidence kits for Haitian girls
- Making fleece blankets

Up All Night meeting

Our social justice action group will meet again to continue working on how to approach legislators about votes on guns and gun laws. Next meetings will be April 5 and May 3, 11:30am-1pm at Caribou Coffee near Cup & Cone.

May choral presentation

The Chancel Choir will present "Lux Aeterna" by Morten Lauridsen at 9am worship on **Sunday, May 13**. If you'd like to sing with the choir, contact Matt Goinz at matthew.goinz@wblumc.org.

Rehearsals start Wednesday, April 11, 7-8:15pm.

How to participate

Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex beginning April 8, or you can contact Marcia Lantto at malantto@hotmail.com.

Other ways to help

A list of items needed for these projects will be available on the welcome table. You may place items in the bins located on north wall of Fellowship Hall beginning April 8.

Special Easter offering

All donations placed in the Giving Envelopes on Easter will go toward this all-church event!

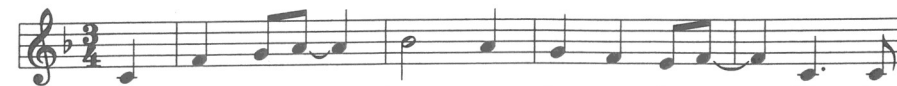


Loons of White Bear Lake

Please enjoy our new hallway art display, installed recently by Mary Ellen Calderwood. Photographs by Birchwood resident Ellen Maas feature the Minnesota state bird, the Common Loon. All of Ellen's photos were taken on White Bear Lake. Enjoy!

A Place at the Table

3149



1. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble, a -
5. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - ery-one born, clean wa - ter and bread, — a shel - ter, a
vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, — with wis - dom and
voice to be heard, a part in the song, — the hands of a
bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give, — in an - ger, in
live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be, — to work, to speak



space, a safe place for grow - ing, for ev - ery-one born, a
grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for wom - an and man, a
child in hands that are wrin - kled, for young and for old, the
hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy, for just and un - just, a
out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for ev - ery-one born, the

Refrain



star o - ver - head. —
sys - tem that's fair. —
right to be - long. — And God will de - light — when
new way to live. —
right to be free. —



we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy, — yes, God will de -



light — when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, —



jus - tice and joy! —

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray
MUSIC: Lori True

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PLACE AT THE TABLE
11 10.11 10 with Refrain