



**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT SHRUB OAK**

**March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers on the altar are given by Barbara and Curt Conklin, that we may remember God's gift of peace, and the price Jesus paid for it. The palms have been lovingly donated by Grace Reynolds.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: The way has been prepared.

**P: For the crowds, it is the way of celebration.**

L: For Jesus it is the way of completion

**P: Amid shouts and waving palm branches, he comes into the Holy City.**

L: Open your hearts this day to receive the Savior.

**P: We open wide our hearts and spirits to receive Jesus the Christ.  
AMEN.**

**PRAISE SHARING**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

O Lord God, whose Son followed your will, both as Servant and Savior, and now rules in the hearts of those who accept him as King: Open our hearts to his rule, that we may rejoice in the blessings of his kingdom and share with those who honor him with their lives. In His name, we pray. AMEN.

**OPENING HYMN:** (with palm parade) "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" – UMH #278

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Patient God, we confess that we love a parade. We are very happy to see banners waving and hear people shouting their praises. Our hearts thrill to the spectacle. But we fail to see the sadness on the face of the Savior; our shouts block out His sorrow. He comes to us as King, and we expect that royal treatment will follow. We do not and cannot believe that in a few days we will be among those who will turn our backs and run from his presence. How fickle we are, O Lord. Yet you continually forgive us and call us to turn our lives around--to see the needs of others,



to reach out in trust and faith, to be willing to witness to your good news of saving love. Heal our hearts and give us courage for the days ahead; for we ask this in Jesus' name, AMEN.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Hear the Good News: Though you have fallen short, God reaches out to you in loving forgiveness. God is with you, celebrating this day and walking all the way to the cross with you. For the time of salvation is near. AMEN.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 (NIV)

Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV)

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENTS**

**HYMN OF PREPARATION:** "He Has Made Me Glad" (2x) - FWS #2270

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 21:1-11 (NIV)

**SERMON:** On the Road to Completion

1. Following Jesus All The Way
2. Honor Him
3. Save Us We Pray

**RESPONSE HYMN:** "Via Dolorosa" (video)

**OFFERTORY:** Special Music Selection

## **DOXOLOGY**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN:** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" – UMH #280

### **BENEDICTION:**

Lord, just as we have entered Jerusalem with you, be with us in all the Jerusalem's we will be facing. Guide our steps. Encourage our hearts. Give us abundant faith to follow you. AMEN.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4826/worship-connection-april-5-2020-option-1>

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Psalm 118:1-2,19-29** (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

<sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter.

<sup>21</sup> I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

<sup>23</sup> the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup> The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.

<sup>25</sup> LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success!

<sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you.

<sup>27</sup> The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

<sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

<sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

### **Philippians 2:9-11**(NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## GOSPEL READING

### Matthew 21:1- 11 (NIV)

21 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

<sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me.

<sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

<sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> “Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them.

<sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on.

<sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

<sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

<sup>11</sup> The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

## UMCSO WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Zoom links are included in Mailchimp. Please contact us with your email (umcso.ny@gmail.com) or call 914-245-4682 if you would like to receive Mailchimp emails.

**WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 7:00 pm, (ZOOM) Next: April 20<sup>th</sup>

**MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesday 10:00 am (In Person)

**PRAYER GROUP:** Thursday, 11:00 am (Chapel)

**SMALL GROUP 1:** Thursday, 1:00 pm (ZOOM)

**EVENING BIBLE STUDY:** Thursdays, 7:30 pm with Pastor Sandy (ZOOM). (See link below).

**SMALL GROUP 2:** Friday, 10:00 am (phone 1-267-807-9495; 656355452#)

**MEN'S GROUP:** Saturday 8:00 am (ZOOM)

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** 9:30 am in the GP room (In person)

**TRUSTEE'S MEETING:** First Monday of every month. Next: Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

**SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG:** Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am (Zoom)

**Pastor Sandy Mantz invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

Topic: Bible Study

Date/Time: Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2610447551?pwd=MXVIUGgvOFRrS3RZNVB2a0pIRi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,2610447551#,,,,\*246240# US

+16465588656,,2610447551#,,,,\*246240# US (New York)



**REMINDER:** This Sunday, Palm Sunday, is the **last chance** to get your Easter flower orders in.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026:** Classes have begun and will take place every Sunday following worship upstairs in the High School classroom (Rm #21) unless otherwise specified.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Service at 7pm with Communion.

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
**Prayer Vigil** from 12-3 pm for quiet reflection and prayer.  
**Tenebrae Service** at 7 pm.

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5<sup>th</sup>:**  
Sunrise Service at 7 am. Traditional Service at 10:30 am followed by the annual Easter Egg Hunt! Don't forget to bring a bag or basket! (bring a friend!)

**BOWLING FELLOWSHIP:** "The UMCSO Holy Rollers," meets on Sundays at JV Lanes from 2-5 pm (1:45 if you want some practice time). Just show up or contact Wesley Battle Sr. (914-837-4835) for more information. All are welcome!

**PLEASE BE AWARE:** The April Chimes will be sent out the Monday after Easter, April 6<sup>th</sup>, so that we can focus on the Holy Week ahead and the ultimate celebration of Easter day.

## *Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026*



On Easter Sunday we will again adorn our Sanctuary to honor the Lord. If you have family members, loved ones or friends you'd like to honor or memorialize, please order below and return this form with accompanying payment to the office or put in the collection plate. The cost of each plant is listed below. Please make checks payable to UMCSO and note "Easter Flowers" in the memo section.

**Orders must be received by March 30, 2026**

Please indicate your choices below by **noting quantity** beside each:

**Lilies (\$14.75 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**      **6" Hydrangea (\$22 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Tulips (\$8.75 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**      **8" Hydrangea (\$27 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Daffodils (\$8.75 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**      **Hyacinths (\$8.75 ea.) # \_\_\_\_\_**

Please print Name/Phone # of  
Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) to be  
Memorialized: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) to be  
Honored: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions please contact the Church office at  
914-245-4682

## Holy Week Schedule 2026



### **Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>:**

Traditional Service 10:30 am

Palm Parade

### **Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

7:00 pm Service

Holy Communion

### **Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

Prayer Vigil Hours 12:00pm – 3:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Service – 7:00 pm

### **Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>:**

Sunrise Service: 7:00 am

Traditional Service: 10:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt Following Service

(Don't forget your basket or bag, and a friend)

**The Maundy Thursday and Good Friday evening services will be live  
streamed and can be viewed on our website:**

**[UMCSO.com](http://UMCSO.com) and Select the Live Stream Worship Tab**

## **REACH US ON FACEBOOK**

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

<https://www.facebook.com/Blessedassurancetoday>

There is a link to the Church's website  
Pastor Sandy will post inspirational verses regularly



### **This Week's Birthdays:**

Brielle Bucher	3/30
Ken Mannino	3/30
Glenna Outhouse	3/30
Michael Antonucci III	3/31
Maxine Haigh	3/31
Christopher Chung	4/1
Colleen Gutowski	4/2
Karl Schoonmaker	4/3
Bill Ryder	4/4
John Spina	4/4

### **No Anniversaries This Week**