



*Word of Life Mural, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN*



*where faith happens and love abounds*

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, no matter who you love, you are welcome here.

**May 13, 2018**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**10:00 am**

*Visitors and guests, welcome to the Church of the Palms, a United Church of Christ. You are encouraged to sign our Guest Book, located in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to receive our newsletters and minister's weekly emails, please include your email address. Also, please check in on Facebook and let your family and friends know that you are at the Church of the Palms! And please join us after worship for conversation and refreshments in the Friendship Center.*

### ***To Enhance Your Worship Experience...***

- Remember to silence your cell phones in the sanctuary.
- There are not assigned seats; sit where you feel most comfortable.
- A hearing "loop" encircles the sanctuary to help those with hearing aids.
- For your comfort, back cushions for the pews available in the back pews to pick up as you enter or ask an usher.
- Special bulletins for children are available from the ushers.
- If you do not wish to keep your bulletin, please place it in the recycle box at the exit to Friendship Center.



# SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## Welcome and the Life of the Church

### Prelude

*Pastorale for Mother's Day*

Roesch

### \*Call To Worship

One: Good morning, friends and neighbors!

Of all the places you could be on a Sunday morning, why are you here?

**All: We come seeking the blessing of the Risen One in community.**

One: We come to celebrate the presence of the One  
who knows our hearts and guides our choices.

**All: We come to witness to the Risen One at work in our community.**

One: The Risen One at work in us, offering us eternal life:

**All: Opening our minds to God's justice,  
our hearts to God's mercy,  
our world to the place where God is all in all.**

One: Eternal life starting here, starting now:

**All: let us celebrate!**

### \*Gathering Hymn

*This Joy I Have*

#524

*Verse 1 will be sung first by the choir; then all verses are sung by everyone.*

1. **This joy I have, the world didn't give to me.  
This joy I have, the world didn't give to me.  
This joy I have, the world didn't give to me.  
No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.**
2. **This love I have...**
3. **This hope I have...**
4. **This faith I have...**
5. **This peace I have...**

### \*Gathering Prayer (*inspired by Psalm 1*)

One: Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

**All: Christ is with us now! Alleluia!**

One: Let us pray: You, loving God, are the ground of our being and the river of life;  
You both steady our roots and draw them to seek the living waters.

**All: You are like the sunlight enticing us taller  
and like the breeze rustling our leaves.  
You are with us through hard seasons of summer heat,  
and in the nights when winter's frost ice the landscape  
Your love warms and sustains us.  
You are everything to us.  
O let our gratitude be great,  
let our praise be plentiful,  
let our worship be wonder-full!  
Through Christ Jesus Your ever-living Son. Amen!**

**\*Gloria** (*feel free to sing the traditional words or the inclusive version below*) **#759**

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit: Three in One!**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen! Amen!**

**Anthem**

*In God's Own House*

Powell

In God's own house pronounce His praise, His grace He there reveals; to heav'n your joy  
and wonder raise, for there His glory dwells, for there His glory dwells.

Let all your sacred passions move, while you recount His deeds; but the great work of  
saving love your highest praise exceeds. All that have motion, life and breath, proclaim  
your Maker blest; Yet when my voice expires in death, my soul shall praise Him best.

In God's own house pronounce His praise; His grace He there reveals; to heav'n your joy  
and wonder raise, for there His glory dwells, for there His glory dwells.

**Children's Conversation**

**Gathering and Sending Song:**

**God loves me, God loves me, from head to toe I know it's so, God loves me.**

**Recognition of 2018 Graduates: Christopher Joseph and Angela Rohde**

**A Litany for Mother's Day**<sup>1</sup>

One: ...All who gather here are sons or daughters.

**All: We praise God for the women who gave us life.**

One: For mothers brave, strong, compassionate, full of wisdom and grace,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

One: For mothers vulnerable, worried, frustrated, and hurried,

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://fatpastor.me>

**All: We pray for peace.**

One: For relationships that are strained and no longer a source of joy,

**All: We pray for healing.**

One: For mothers who have died, who live no longer with us,  
but whose light shines on in our hearts and memories,

**All: We pray for those that mourn, and give God thanks for life eternal.**

One: For mothers who grieve, who have lost children born or unborn,

**All: We weep with those with broken hearts.**

One: For those who are struggling to raise children, who are tired and weary,

**All: We pray that we may be their village, offering real help in hard times.**

One: For those who are preparing emptier nests,

**All: We both celebrate and mourn with you,  
and hope their wings are as strong as their roots are deep.**

One: For stepmothers, navigating the pitfalls and joys of creating a new family,

**All: We pray for wisdom and patience.**

One: For Grandmothers who are doing the hard work of raising children again,

**All: We pray the caregivers have those who care for them.**

One: For those who are waiting and sometimes struggling with the biological  
process to bring new life, and for those who are waiting for adoptive  
process to be fulfilled.

**All: We wait eagerly with you, and offer you our hand to hold in the trial.**

One: For women who do not have children,  
but instead teach, lead, care for, and guide the children of others,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

One: For the mothers, sisters, daughters in our midst and around the world.

For the women who, created in the image of God, give not just life, but  
abundant life.

For women fighting, struggling, and sweating for the sake of others.

For women caring, compassionate, and crying with the heart of Christ.

For the caregivers, prophets, preachers, teachers, leaders, shepherds, healers.

For Moms, in their wide variety and many forms,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

*Silence for personal prayer or speaking joys and concerns*

**Concluding Prayer**

**Response** (*sung by all*)

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

**#505, verse 3**

**Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! Whose wings shall my petition bear  
to One whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.**

**And since I'm bid to seek God's face, believe God's word, and trust God's grace,  
I'll cast away my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!**

**Offering Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Adagio*

Dubois

**\*An Easter Doxology**

**O Jesus, risen now to bless, do You Yourself our hearts possess,  
that we may give You all our days, the willing tribute of our praise!**

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Reading of Scripture** (*read from Common English Bible*)

**First Reading**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

**NT p. 103**

**\*Alleluia** (*sung twice, first by choir and then by all*) *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*Gospel Reading**

John 17:6-19

**NT p. 97**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*We Are God's*

**We are God's.**

**We belong to The One who creates all things, in whose image all people are made.**

**We are Christ's.**

**He has loved us, healed us, called us and anointed us with his Spirit.**

**We belong to his death and resurrection and ministry.**

**We are the Spirit's.**

**We belong to the church, the Body of Christ.**

**God gives us the gifts of forgiveness, resurrection, and eternal life,**

**and the gift of participating in the healing of the world by God's grace.**

**As God's beloved, we devote ourselves to God and to God's will,**

**wholly, joyfully and with the help of Christ. Amen.**

**Sermon**

*Disciples in Body and Spirit*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Prayer of Our Savior**

**\*Hymn**

*The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

**#306**

**\*Blessing and Sending**

*You are invited to exit quietly or remain seated  
during the musical postlude, to enjoy a last moment of worship.*

**Postlude**

*Allegro in F*

Martini

<> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <>

### **PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE**

The Reverend Brad S. Lutz, Designated Pastor

Charles Mory, Liturgist

Edward Krynicki, Music Director

<> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <> <>

### **THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**NEXT SUNDAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY.** YOU ARE INVITED TO WEAR SOMETHING **RED** AND/OR FESTIVE TO CELEBRATE THIS GREAT FESTIVAL OF THE CHURCH!



**If you have a favorite hymn;  
If you're willing to tell why it's a favorite;  
If you would like to hear everyone sing it.**

We're looking for 4 people who answered yes to these questions to work with the Pastor to include your hymn and story in a Sunday service (June through September). *If you are the one, contact Pastor Brad as soon as possible.*

**VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS.** Volunteer vocalists or instrumentalists who would like to add special music to our services (June through September) are invited to contact Ed Krynicki.

**FOOD PANTRY.** Please support CROS by contributing boxed or canned food. Your donations are welcomed and appreciated. This week they are specifically asking for ***Peanut Butter.***

# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE PALMS, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



As an **Open and Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ, our goal is to extend to everyone an extravagant welcome in hopes that you will experience the abundant love of God here and be inspired to share that love with the world.

**Nursery:** We offer child care for infants and toddlers in the Education Building.

**Sunday School:** Children start the service in the sanctuary. After pastor's conversation with them, they may go to Sunday School in the Education Building if they choose. On 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays children remain for the entire service including Communion.

**Prayer Requests:** If you would like to include joys and concerns in our prayers, please write them on one of the Prayer Request forms and put it in the offering plate. You may also contact the church office (561.276.6347). All prayers are included in the Thursday Prayer Ministry gathering.

## THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF THE PALMS

### Today

**11:00 am**..... **Social Hour**  
6:00 pm ..... 11<sup>th</sup> Step AA  
7:30 pm ..... Ambassadors Church

### Daily

7:00 am ..... Breakfast Club

### Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>

6:30 pm ..... Freedom from Alcohol

### Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am ..... Current Events  
6:30 pm ..... Daily Grace

### Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm ..... Gathering AA

### Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**10:00 pm** ..... **Prayer Ministry**  
**10:30 pm** ..... **Bible Study**  
**6:00 pm** ..... **Choir Practice**  
7:00 pm ..... Westside AA  
7:30 pm ..... Naranon

### Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm ..... Bridge Club  
6:00 pm ..... DAA  
7:30 pm ..... Friday Night AA

### Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm ..... Saturday Night AA

### **Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Pentecost Sunday**

8:00 am ..... Breakfast Club  
10:00 am ..... Ambassadors Church  
**10:00 am**..... **Worship,**  
**Sunday School, and Nursery**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** are  
Tuesday through Friday, 9 am – 1 pm.

**PASTOR'S HOURS** this week are on  
Monday and Thursday. Please call first!

**Church of the Palms United Church of Christ**  
1960 N. Swinton Avenue • Delray Beach, FL 33444  
561.276.6347

[Churchofthepalms.net](http://Churchofthepalms.net)  
[info@churchofthepalms.net](mailto:info@churchofthepalms.net)