



Go

and
proclaim
the
kingdom
of
God

R



Church of the Palms

United Church of Christ

Where faith happens and love abounds

1960 N. Swinton Avenue
Delray Beach, Florida 33444
561.276.6347 + www.churchofthepalms.net



Sunday, May 19, 2019, 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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



Guests are a special blessing! *Please sign our Guest Book, located in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to receive our newsletters and weekly emails, include your email address. And join us after worship for conversation and refreshments in the Friendship Center.*



 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.

To enhance your worship experience...

- Kindly silence your cell phone in the sanctuary
- Back cushions are available in the back pew or ask an usher
- A hearing loop encircles the sanctuary for those with hearing aids`
- There are no assigned seats – sit where you feel most comfortable
- If you do not wish to keep your bulletin, please place it in the recycle box as you exit to Friendship Center
- Let us know what we can do for you!

Nursery Care is available for infants and toddlers in the education building. Ask an usher for assistance. **Sunday School** classes meet in the Education Building following the Children's Conversation except on Communion Sunday.

Prayer Requests may be submitted using the Connect Cards in the pew rack and placing it on the offering plate or called into the Church Office during the week. Prayer Ministry Gatherings are on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH

**Those who wish may stand*

Welcome and Life of the Church

Prelude

Friends, We Have Met to Worship

Ritter

*(You are encouraged to use this time for prayer & meditation.
In respect for others, please refrain from unnecessary conversation.)*

Call to Worship

One: Out of a world of cut-throat competition, of winners-and-losers,
and too many left behind we come together.

Many: The world's ways are not our ways.

The world's ways are not Christ's way.

One: Out of a world of hatred, violence, individualism, and life-taking power
we gather as *Koinonia*, as God's people.

Many: God's ways are inclusive, expansive, and life-giving for all peoples.

One: Come and worship the One whose love knows no limits!
Swim and splash in the cleansing waters of divine community!
Resurrect your spirits and souls in worship of the One!

Many: Praise be to the Everlasting One!

*Gathering Hymn #6

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good

Prayer of Confession

Creator God, we have neglected our neighbors in their times of need.
We have enjoyed profits and pleasures that harm your land and pollute your waters.
We have squandered much of what you have made and called "good."
Have mercy on us. Help us change our ways and make us new,
that all may know the joy of abundant life. Amen.

Silence for personal prayer and reflection

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria #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.**

Children's Conversation

Song: **To be like Jesus, to be like Jesus! My desire to be like Jesus!**

All through life's journey from earth to glory, My desire to be like Jesus.

Prayer for Understanding

Reading of Scripture (*Common English Bible*)

First Reading Revelation 21:1-6

*Gospel *Halleluja* #236 (*Sung one time by all*)

*Gospel John 13:31-35

**Halleluja* #236 (*sung twice by all*)

Reflection on Scripture and Ministry

Pastoral Prayer and The Prayer of Jesus (*trespasses*)

Prayer Response #772 *Nothing Can Trouble*

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,

Those who seek God shall never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone, fills us.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Day by Day

Schweizer

O holy Jesus, merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,

May I know You more clearly, love You more dearly,

And follow You more nearly, day by day.

***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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION¹

*Dialogue

Pastor: God is with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder, out of silence and emptiness you created the heavens and the earth. The oceans sing your praise. The rivers chant your glory.

With your sons and daughters of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy.

*Sanctus (Tune: *Nicaea*, #277)

Holy! Holy! Holy! One God Almighty!

All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea!

Holy! Holy! Holy! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is Christ who comes to set us free!

Please be seated as the prayer continues.

Pastor: Out of Abraham and Sarah's dead end, you made promises, you granted laughter,
... Together with one voice, we celebrate the paschal mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ is with us now.

Pastor: Send your Spirit to fill us with the joy of the resurrection...
and flow from us through acts of love for our neighbors.

**All: Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder,
we give you more praise than we can utter,
as we await that great day when the feast of your love has no walls, no exceptions,
no end, when we gather with Christ, by the Spirit, and know life in you:
love that cannot die, love that enlivens our weary bones,
love that exceeds every hope and dream,
love, now and forever. Amen.**

¹ The Communion Prayer is written by Michael Coffey, www.ocotillopub.org

Sharing God's Gracious Feast

When indicated, please come forward by the center aisle for communion. After receiving the bread/wafer from the pastor, turn to your right or left where deacons will be holding the cup containing grape juice – lightly dip your wafer into the juice, consume the elements, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Anyone unable to come forward will be served in their seat after all have communed. The small stand by the pastor holds gluten free wafer and a cup for those wafers. As others come forward, this is a time for you to commune with God in prayer and reflection.

Communion Anthem

We Love You, Lord

We love you, Lord. We love you, Jesus, for your arms hold us, your mercy keeps us. We love you, Lord. We need you, Lord. We need you, Jesus, for your grace saves us, your blood redeems us. We need you, Lord. We thank you, Lord. We thank you, Jesus, for you protect us, and your hand leads us. We thank you, Lord. We praise you, Lord, we praise you, Jesus. Your presence moves us, your Spirit frees us. We praise you, Lord. We thank you, Lord. We need you, Lord. We love you, Lord.

*Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. By the power of your Holy Spirit, unite us with all whom Christ welcomes, that we may be the servant church of the servant Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Sending and Blessing

Hymn #573

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

Postlude

Fantasia on Lancashire

Smart

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

Note: Today's bulletin cover is a photo of a back-painted, foil art reproduction of the bulletin cover for Pastor Brad's ordination on May 19, 1974, at St. John UCC, Tamaqua, PA. The back-painted foil art was done by his mother, Ruth.



PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

The Reverend Brad S. Lutz, Designated Pastor

Edward Krynicki, Music Director

Lizz Sanders, Liturgist

Charles and Kathy Mory – Communion Servers

Susan Moore and Kathy Mory - Greeters



THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Office Hours this week are Tuesday - Thursday- 9AM-1PM.

Pastor Brad will be out until Sunday, June 23.

Offering Cards – are now available in the baskets in the back of the church. If you give electronically, you can place a “I give electronically” card in the offering plate to represent your donation. “Generosity” cards are available to those who cannot give or who are making a special gift of their time and/or talents. Please write what you will do this week in gratitude for your blessings on the back of the card. Pick up the cards when entering the sanctuary and place them in the offering plate during the offertory.

Mission Team Update:

- The Live Fresh Shower Truck needs two volunteers every Friday (for signing in clients, distributing clothing, towels, hygiene kits and insect repellent. If you are interested in volunteering, please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of the church.
- We have a box in the Friendship Center for donations of towels, new underwear, feminine hygiene products, socks and insect repellents for Shower Truck participants.
- Members of the Interfaith Committee for Social Services will make a presentation to the Delray Beach City Council at City Hall (100 N.W. First Avenue, Delray Beach) on May 21, 2019 at 4:00 p.m., to request approval for the Live Fresh Shower Truck program. The Committee is requesting members of the church to attend to demonstrate widespread support for the program.



Food Donations are needed for CROS Ministries. Pantry item needed this week is Canned Tuna. Please put your food items in the bins at the back of the church and in Friendship Center. To make a financial donation, go to crosministries.org.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 1pm - Office Hours

4th Thursday of every month, 10:00 - 10:25am - Prayer Ministry (Sanctuary)

Sundays, 10am following Children's Conversation is Sunday School

2nd Sunday of every month, 11:30am - 12:45pm Super Sunday Team Meetings