

# 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](http://www.churchofthepalms.net)



Sunday, September 8, 2019

10:00 am

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Guests are a special blessing!** Please sign our Guest Book, located in the back of the sanctuary where a visitor packet is waiting for you! If you would like to receive our newsletters and weekly emails, include your email address. We are blessed by your presence.



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.

***After worship, join us for refreshments and conversation in the Friendship Center.***

**To enhance your worship experience...**

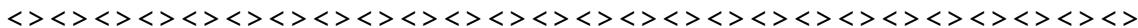
- Kindly silence your cell phone in the sanctuary
- There are no assigned seats – sit where you feel most comfortable
- Back cushions are available in the back pew or ask an usher
- A hearing loop encircles the sanctuary for those with hearing aids`
- If you do not wish to keep your bulletin, please 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** are welcomed. Please use the *Connect Cards* in the pew rack and place it on the offering plate or call the Church Office.

**If you are interested in more information or becoming a member,** please complete the information on a *Connect Card* and place it on the offering plate or contact the Church Office to speak with the Pastor.

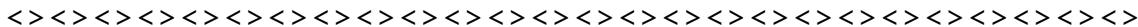


**PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING’S SERVICE**

The Reverend Karen Morris, Guest Pastor

Dr. Kirsten Hellman, Music Director

Barbara Sinclair, Liturgist



# SERVICE OF THE WORD

*\*please stand in body or spirit*

## Welcome and Life of the Church

### Prelude

*Prelude in D Major*

*J.K.F. Fischer (c.1665-c.1738)*

### Call to Worship

One: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

**All: Even before we speak, God knows us completely.**

One: The Holy One knows us and sustains us, even in our moments of confusion and doubt.

**All: Who can count the thoughts of God? They are more than all the sands of the desert.**

One: Like clay in the hand of the potter, we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

**All: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.**

### \*Gathering Hymn #277

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

### \*Call to confession:

Our sins are not to be hidden from God. Rather, we bring them into the Light and lay them on the Table, trusting in the One who shaped us for goodness and will transform our brokenness into wholeness. Please join me as we pray, saying,

### \*Prayer of confession:

**Searching God, we are so attached to our possessions, we have trouble sharing them. We are so connected to our pleasures that we cannot feel the pain of those around us. We are so stuck on ourselves, we cannot sense our souls slipping away into the shadows.**

**Most merciful God: loosen us from the grip of the world, so we may feel your healing touch. Sever us from our sin, so your Spirit might bind us to you. Reshape us, redeem us, renew us, so we may take up our crosses and follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

## **\*Words of assurance**

**One:** The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. This is the Good News - we are God's new creation.

**All:** **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are reshaped, renewed, forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **\*Passing of the Peace of Christ**

**One:** Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** **The peace of Christ be also with you.**

## **Children's Conversation**

### **Prayer of Preparation**

**All:** **Holy Shaper of hearts and minds, as Jeremiah came to know you in the work of the potter's hands, teach us your ways in the reading of your word. Lead us into a deeper understanding of your ways, that we may know and do your will. Amen.**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

**Sermon**                      *The Potter and The Clay*

### **Pastoral Prayer**

**\*Prayer of Jesus** (*trespasses*)

*Our Father...*

**\*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.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**     *“Adagio for Glass Harmonica”*   Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**\*Hymn #547**                     *Amazing Grace*

**\*Sending and Blessing**

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

**Postlude**     *Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 157*     Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)



# THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



**Office Hours** this week are Tuesday – Friday, 9AM-1PM. If you need pastoral care, please call the church.

**Hurricane Dorian** Donate cash to disaster relief efforts. It is the best thing you can do and will have the biggest impact. There is an option to donate to Bahamas/Hurricane Dorian relief on the UCC Florida Conference website . You can also send personal checks payable to Florida Conference UCC to our offices at 9300 University Blvd., Orlando, FL 32817. Make sure you put a note in the check's memo field that the donation is for Bahamas or Dorian relief efforts.

*Women's  
Fellowship*

**Women's Fellowship** meeting is Tuesday at 11am, at The Palm Diner.



Our next **Breakfast Church** will be next Sunday, at 10am, featuring The *Gospels Pearls*, a local gospel choir from New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist church in Boynton Beach. The theme is Psalms 23. **Breakfast Church** is a relaxed, interactive worship service that invites faith sharing, introduces different musical styles, and includes a light continental breakfast.



**Super Sunday** is rescheduled next Sunday, September 15, at 11:15am for all Mission Teams.



**Food Donations** are needed for CROS Ministries. Pantry item needed this week is Canned Fruit. 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](http://crosministries.org).



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

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

[www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)