



**South  
Mecklenburg  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**A Service of Worship  
Palm/Passion Sunday**

**April 10, 2022, 10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Live Streamed**

**WE GATHER**

**PRELUDE**

*The Palms*  
Kyle Gavagan, trumpet

Jean-Baptiste Faure

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Dr. Matthew S. Brown

**INTROIT**

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

Jacques Berthier

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Xander Case

**One:** Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Many:** **Hosanna! Rejoice, for the Lord is in our midst.**

**One:** He comes with joy and hope.

**Many:** **He comes to set us free from fear.**

**One:** Hosanna!

**All:** **Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven!**

**\*HYMN**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

No. 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;  
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.  
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.  
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Dr. Whitney Salter Bayer

Lord Jesus, we are a fickle people, quick to turn away. We are quick to flock to you when all is well, but we are prone to scatter when there is opposition or criticism. Too often we have kept silent before you, afraid to proclaim your praise. It is easy to join the crowd as you ride triumphantly into Jerusalem— singing our joys and expectations, dancing our hopes and dreams. It is far more difficult to stand by you as the crowd cries for your crucifixion. Forgive our weakness when we turn away. Strengthen us for the journey ahead as we relive your suffering and death, that we might stay beside you to the end. Give us the courage to shout our hosannas, not only today, but each and every day. (*silence*)

One: Trusting your mercy, we lift these prayers to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.  
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Dr. Bayer

*Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

### CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT

Rebecca Guzman

1. Do you know the story of Palm Sunday? Check out this [video](#) for an animated version.
2. You can fold your palm into a cross. If you are worshiping in person, scan the QR code to see instructions. You will need to take one of the leaves off your palm and tear it so that it is long and skinny! You can also just use a long piece of paper. If you are worshiping online, click [here](#).
3. Have a palm parade! Make sure to shout, "Hosanna!" and lay some coats down.
4. Traci Smith gives parents tips for talking about [Holy Week at home](#).
5. Journal, considering the following:
  - a. What does it mean to call Jesus your king?
  - b. If you had been one of the disciples asked to go get the colt, do you think you would have done it without knowing why? Why or why not?
  - c. How do you praise Jesus?



*Children four years old through third grade may recess to the back of the sanctuary for Children's Worship.  
The children will return to join their families following the Sermon.*

### ANTHEM

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*  
Chancel Choir; Kyle Gavagan, trumpet

arr. Evelyn R. Larter

*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.*

*From Olivet they followed in an exultant crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.*

*"Hosanna in the highest," that ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
and in His blissful presence eternally rejoice. Amen!*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Brown

### READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." ...Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to

you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

**READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Luke 19: 28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Climbing Toward Zion

Dr. Brown

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Confession of 1967, 9.09

*(unison)*

Dr. Bayer

**God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of a debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Dr. Bayer

*... (unison)* "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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

*Palm Sunday speaks of Christ's willingness to walk toward the hate he would face in Jerusalem, armed only with love. Use this time to consider how Christ's courage may equip you to confront an angry world with love.*

**OFFERTORY**

*Behold, the Lamb of God*  
Chancel Choir; Ann Carney, piano

Craig Courtney

*As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministry of SMPC by giving online at [www.smpchome.org/give](http://www.smpchome.org/give) or texting SMPC to 73256.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Claire Latzke

Faithful God, your Son Jesus reveals what it means to be a servant leader who trusts you fully. His commitment to you cost him his life. Yet through his amazing sacrifice, you bring healing, hope, and peace. During this week, help us to reflect your great love in Christ. Let our words and actions point to your grace. We present our tithes and offerings through the Prince of Peace. Amen.

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

No. 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Brown

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*sing three times*)

No. 544

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.  
 Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

POSTLUDE

*Passion Chorale*

harm. J. S. Bach

## WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

### Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor  
Dr. Whitney Salter Bayer, Associate Pastor  
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music & Organist  
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation  
Ann Carney, pianist  
Kyle Gavagan, trumpeter  
Chancel Choir

**A/V Team:** Kari Case, Xander Case

**Elder/Deacon of the Day:** Kathy Graham

**Ushers:** Don Ayers, Judy Jones, Linda Nagle Hanson, Brett and Linda Thompson, Gwen Volker

**Welcome Team:** Donna Podgorny and Bob Williamson

Welcome to South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church! If you are joining us in person or online, are a first-time visitor, a long-term member, or anything in between, we are glad that you are worshipping with us and we want to stay connected with you. If you don't receive our weekly email, sent out on Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org). This email contains information about upcoming worship services and church activities. Also, check us out on Facebook and Instagram: [www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian); @southmeckpres.

**Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church?** Our Session will gather to welcome new members on Sunday, April 24 at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org) or 980-265-2839.

## CONGREGATIONAL NOTES (as of April 7, 2022)

### Remember in Prayer

- Kenny and Jennifer Vaught and family, as Kenny's father, Clyde Vaught, entered the Church triumphant on March 31.
- Kyle Royster, as he recovers from surgery.
- Barbara Goodman, as she recovers from surgery.
- All those affected by the conflict in Ukraine.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti.
- Our church, our community, our country, and the world as we face this world-wide pandemic.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request: [prayer@SMPChome.org](mailto:prayer@SMPChome.org).

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Post Office Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271*

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



# SMPC Weekly

South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, April 10, 2022**

**Welcome! What a blessing that we're worshipping together today!**

After worship, we hope you'll join us for coffee (served inside at Coffee Grounds) and lemonade and cookies (served outside in the circle). These are wonderful opportunities to catch up with old friends and meet someone new!

**Let us know you're here!**

Registry pads are located on your pew. Please sign in and pass to your neighbor. If you would like more information about SMPC or have prayer concerns, please complete a Welcome Card located in the pew rack.

## TODAY

### Palm Processional

Children are invited to the Parlor prior to worship to participate in the Palm Processional during the first hymn.

***Join us for cake and punch to celebrate  
DR. WHITNEY SALTER BAYER  
following the 10:10 a.m. service, in Coffee Grounds***

We are proud to celebrate Dr. Bayer's graduation from Union Presbyterian Seminary with her Doctor of Ministry degree. Our congregation supported Dr. Bayer's three-year journey, and we were able to play an integral part during her sermon series! Congratulations, Dr. Bayer!

## HOLY WEEK

### Taize Service

**Tuesday, April 12, 6:00 p.m., Chapel**

**Maundy Thursday**  
**April 14**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Walk-Through Communion  
5:30 p.m., Worship & Communion  
SANCTUARY  
(EVENING WORSHIP ALSO LIVE-STREAMED)

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
*Tenebrae Service*  
*in the Taizé style*  
April 15 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary & Live-Streaming

**EASTER**  
*Worship*  
Sunday, April 17  
8:30 a.m.  
Chapel  
10:10 a.m.  
Sanctuary  
Live streaming at 10:10 a.m. | vimeo | facebook | BUXCAST

### Bring a flower for our Easter Flower Cross

Join in this SMPC tradition! Our Flower Cross will be right outside the sanctuary, ready for Easter family photos.

## UPCOMING CLASSES & EVENTS

### Acts of the Apostles Study

McQueen Room or Zoom

Sundays, April 24-June 5, 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Mondays, April 25-June 6, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Jesus ascended into heaven...but then what? Join Rebecca Guzman in person or online to explore what happened in the book of Acts. Email [rebecca@smpchome.org](mailto:rebecca@smpchome.org) for the zoom link.

### Friday Morning Men's Group

Friday, April 15, 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Chapel Building Room 206

After a pandemic pause, our Friday Morning Men's Group is back! This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month and would love to have new folks join. Questions? Contact Curt Ireland, [irelandcurtis00@gmail.com](mailto:irelandcurtis00@gmail.com), 980-254-7776.

### Youth & Children Joint Mission Project

Hygiene Kit Assembly for Smithfield Elementary School

Sunday, April 24, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mecklenburg Hall

For 4th through 12th graders. Sign up on ChurchLife and bring a boxed lunch!

### Introduction to Group Leadership Training

Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Zoom

This class is for anyone who may be interested in starting a new group or anyone who is currently leading a group. Join Nancy and Rebecca as we discuss group facilitation, navigating ChurchLife and the church calendar, how to be invitational, and more! Sign up on ChurchLife. Questions? Contact Nancy Metzler, [Nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:Nancy@smpchome.org).



## DR. BROWN'S SABBATICAL

Dr. Matt Brown will be taking a well-deserved sabbatical from April 18 through June 30. Matt and Donna have plans to travel through several parts of the country, with stops along the way to visit family. Matt's Wednesday morning and evening bible studies will take a break in his absence. We wish the Browns a restful time away, and we already look forward to their return!