

The First Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
Canton Center, Connecticut

April 5, 2009

10:00 AM

PALM SUNDAY

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

-Burkhardt

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: **(responsively)**

Blessed are those who delight in worship.

Blessed are the ones who come in God's name.

Give thanks to God, all who assemble here.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let all who follow Christ sing God's praise.

Because of God's help, we are not disgraced.

Open the gates of righteousness that we might enter.

The works of God are marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that our God has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna! Let every knee bend before Jesus!

Let every tongue welcome Christ's reign! Hosanna!

HYMN 192 (*Chalice*)

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*Congregation please remain seated
for the children's processional.*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in **unison**) followed by

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors):

This is your day, holy God. Every day belongs to you.

**We would empty ourselves before you so there will be room
for your entrance into our minds and hearts. Our times are
in your hands. This precious gift of life is ours, in trust, from
you. We give thanks, for your steadfast love endures forever.**

**That love, expressed in the life of Jesus, dared to challenge
those centers of power that lived by other standards. We
come to declare that love today. Reign among us, we pray.
In Jesus' name and also saying, Our Father...**

*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* # 35)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

***The church school children will exit to the
Parish Hall following the Children's Message.***

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

Address to the New Members

*Reading and Owning the Covenant of the Church
(inside front *Chalice* hymnal cover)

*Pledge of the Church to the New Members:

**We welcome you with joy as partners in the common
life of this church. We promise you our fellowship and
prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church
of Jesus Christ. God grant that together we may
continue to grow in wisdom and in love as servants in
the service of our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

(Members in the pews may be seated.)

The Right Hand of Fellowship

HYMN 433 **verse 1 only, seated** (*Chalice*) "Blest Be the Tie..."

OFFERTORY: "Procession of Praise"

-Sherman

Cherry Brook Chimes and organ

*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* # 46)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (in **unison**)

**What you have done for us is marvelous in our eyes,
gracious God. Our gifts can never match your goodness
toward us. Your saving grace, your healing light, your
personal sacrifice are so far beyond our imagining! We can
only offer ourselves, all we have and all we are, in response to
the coming of Christ Jesus. Hosanna in the highest!
Receive, O God, our humble service. Amen.**

*HYMN 207 (*Chalice*)

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN 210 (*Chalice*) "Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended"

READINGS AND ANTHEMS FOR HOLY WEEK

Reading: Mark 11:1-11

Anthem: "The Palms"

-Gabriel Fauré

Jerry Alonzy, soloist, and Senior Choir

Reading: Mark 14:1-9
Anthem: "Domine Fili Unigenite" from *Gloria* -Vivaldi
(Honor and Glory and Blessing to Christ)
Senior Choir

Reading: Mark 14:10-26
Anthem: "The March to Calvary" from *Olivet to Calvary* -Maunder
Senior Choir

Reading: Mark 14:27-50
Anthem: "See How He Walks" from *Victory* -Lani Smith
Senior Choir

Reading: Mark 14:53-72
Anthem: "O Lord Most Holy" -Cesar Franck
Bill Thomas, soloist; Senior Choir Ladies and Junior Choir

Reading: Mark 15:1-26
Anthem: "Liberate Me" (Lord I Pray) from *Requiem* -Gabriel Fauré
Jim Todd, soloist, and Senior Choir

PRAYER

*HYMN 191 (*Chalice*) "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: "Amen" -Mendelssohn

*POSTLUDE: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" -arr. Linker

(*All who are able, please stand)

The Rev. Susan M. Prichard	Interim Minister
Sarah W. LeGeyt	Director of Christian Education & Youth
Mary Lou Keefe	Organist; Director of Music
Betsy Ash	Junior Choir Director
Geri Bunnell and Curt Johnson	Duty Deacons
Dave Heyer	Duty Trustee
Bill and Carolyn Champion	Greeters
Beth and Marta Lingenheld	Ushers

THE FLOWERS today are given by the Potter Family in memory of their parents and grandparents.

Please see bulletin insert for announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS – PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2009

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME those who are visitors to this church and to this morning's worship service. Please sign the guest book in the vestibule. Or, fill in a Friendship Card found in the pews. Also found with the Friendship Cards are Pew Envelopes. Please feel free to use them for any donation.

NURSERY CARE is available in the lower level of the Parish House for infants through 2 years old.

LARGE PRINT COPIES of today's bulletin are available on the ushers' tables in the back of the church. Large print editions of the Chalice Hymnal are also available for use during worship.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE PALM SUNDAY POTLUCK AND EASTER EGG HUNT (for children under 10) today after worship. .

TALENT SHOW/LUNCHEON TICKETS go on sale today in the Parish Hall after worship for the May 3rd event. **COOKS ARE NEEDED** for the Talent Show Luncheon. Please sign up where the tickets are sold.

CHERUB CHOIR: Today, 11:15 – 11:25 AM; **JUNIOR CHOIR:** Today, 11:25 – 11:35 AM in the Music Room.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Today, following potluck.

MISSION COLLECTION for April is **toiletries** for men / women.

HONOR COURT is hosted by our church in Hartford Monday evening.

COMING UP

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (Morning Session): Tuesday, 10:30 AM.

DIACONATE: Tuesday, 7:00 PM.

PRIME TIMERS meet on Wednesday, April 8, at Noon in the Parish Hall for lunch and a program. The program will be presented by Rev. Sue Prichard on "Traveling Through Israel." Please bring a lunch; dessert and coffee will be provided.

BELL CHOIR: *Wednesday*, 7:00 PM.

continued

Announcements, Palm Sunday, April 5, 2009, continued

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 9, Worship at 7:30 PM. At this service we remember that last night Jesus shared with his disciples and partake of the sacrament of our Lord's Supper. Following communion we observe the service of Tenebrae, the gradual extinguishing of the light, recalling the events of Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion, and looking ahead in hope to the dawning of Easter Day.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE: Trinity Episcopal Church (55 River Road, Collinsville) invites all to a sunrise service on Easter Day, April 12, at 6 AM in Trinity's Memorial Garden. Worship will be followed refreshments in Trinity's Parish Hall.

EASTER SUNDAY Worship Services at Canton Center, April 12, 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM, with child care at 9:00 AM. Church School classes do not meet.