

# APTOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 29, 2026 ~ 10 AM Worship

Palm Sunday

*Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of ALL PERSONS, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination's motto, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"*

**Today is the final opportunity to order Easter flowers.** This year we will be ordering orchids to beautify our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Suggested donation is \$10 each and you can take your orchid home after Easter worship. Sign up in honor or memory of a loved one. We will include this list in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

**The Tide is in!** Copies of our April newsletter are available today. The latest edition is always available at [aptosumc.org](http://aptosumc.org).

**All are invited to our Good Friday Worship Service.** Please join us on April 3 at 12 PM Noon in our Sanctuary. This service will not be livestreamed.

### Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Cailan Darling

Our **Usher:** Peggy Kaysen

Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins, Roger Swenson

Our **Coffee Volunteers:** Jane and Steve Green

Special thanks to the **Choir** (*Dick Wood, Bill Fennell, Helene Milner, Jillian Holmberg, Ruth Landmann, Peggy Kaysen, Lee MacDonell, Aubrey Dettman, Pastor Gabe, Laurel Blaney*) for sharing their talents with us today!

### This Week:

Tuesday, 3/31: Alive Now 10 AM, Upper Room Group 7 PM

Wednesday, 4/1: Village Santa Cruz 1 PM

Friday, 4/3: Scott Group 10 AM, **Good Friday Service 12 PM**

### Coming Up:

Sunday, 4/5: **Easter Sunday Worship 10 AM**

*Please bring a cut flower from home to help fill our flowering Easter cross.*

*All are invited to a special coffee hour after worship.*

Monday, 4/6: PACT 10 AM

Wednesday, 4/8: Finance 5:15 PM

**Online giving is available.** Go to [aptosumc.org](http://aptosumc.org) and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or scan this code using your smartphone.



**You are invited to join our Prayer Team.** The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To join the Prayer Team or submit a prayer request, contact the church office.



**Gabe House, Pastor**  
**Daniel Goldsmith, Music Director**

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## *Order of Worship*

### *Gathering Music*

#### *Call To Worship*

Lenten travelers, the journey to the cross begins with a procession into Jerusalem, a demonstration of Jesus' saving power.

**We come to praise Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

The crowds line the path and shout "Hosanna! Save us!" as Jesus rides in, not on a mighty war horse, but on the backs of a donkey and a colt.

**We come to call on Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

The city murmurs, wondering who this person is who demonstrates power through humility, strength without tyranny.

**We come to witness Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

Lenten travelers, will you come on the journey to Jerusalem, following a Messiah who saves us to live after the pattern of the kin-dom of God, not the kingdoms of this world?

**We come to follow Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

### *Prelude*

#### *Opening Prayer*

**Humble God, you have shown us the way to enter all the Jerusalems of this world. You showed us not to enter our lives with fear, but with humility and courage. As we worship this day, we draw upon your example of Jesus on that humble donkey, and we raise our palm branches in rejoicing! We raise our voices, shouting along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!" Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem. Amen.**

### *Announcements*

#### *Opening Hymn #278*

**"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"**

### *Children's Time*

#### *Prayer for Illumination*

**Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

*Scripture* Matthew 21:1-11

*Sermon* "Marching Orders" Pastor Gabe

*Hymn #2109* "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

### *Prayers of the People*

#### *Confession and Pardon*

**O God, we sing and praise you, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise you too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets for our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us, and we turn against you, too busy to seek you, too selfish to obey you. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship you again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### *Passing of the Peace*

*Special Music* "Agnus Dei" Choir  
arr. Jim Stanton

### *Offering*

*Doxology #64 (v1)* "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

### *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

*Closing Hymn #279* "Filled with Excitement"

### *Benediction*

### *Postlude*

## Matthew 21:1-11 NRSVue

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> "Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."