



**IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST**

1 Hovey Street • Oxford, MI 48371

www.icucc.org • 248-628-1610

March 29, 2026 • 11:00 a.m.



Welcome to worship at Immanuel United Church of Christ!

God is Still Speaking,

Immanuel Open and Affirming Statement:

We welcome and affirm all people in celebrating diversity. We welcome to our faith family people of every race, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability and those who have doubts or questions.

Thank You for taking the time to turn off your cell phone during the worship service.

Prelude

*Bringing in the Light of Christ

(* denotes those who are able may stand.)

Ring of the Bell

Welcome

Choir Anthem "Hosanna to the King"

Children's Message

***Call to Worship**

One: Give thanks to God who is truly good.

Many: Hosanna in the highest!

One: Praise Christ, whose love abounds with grace.

Many: Hosanna in the highest!

One: Welcome the Spirit with songs of praise.

Invocation

Christ of both celebration and sorrow, be with us in our time of worship today and in the week ahead. Help us embrace the fullness of your story, both the triumph and the tragedy. Strengthen us to proclaim blessing and hope, no matter the circumstances, that we may be children of your promise, both now and forevermore. Amen

***Hymn: "All Glory, Laud & Honor"**

Words of Assurance

Rejoice and be glad, for God's steadfast love endures forever!

The Congregation Prays

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Congregational Response: "Lord hear our prayers." (Response after each Prayer request)

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Jeff Erno

Immanuel Choir

Pastor Liz Wilson

Marsha Chapman, Liturgist

Jeff Erno

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Jeff Erno

Janet Caporale, Liturgist

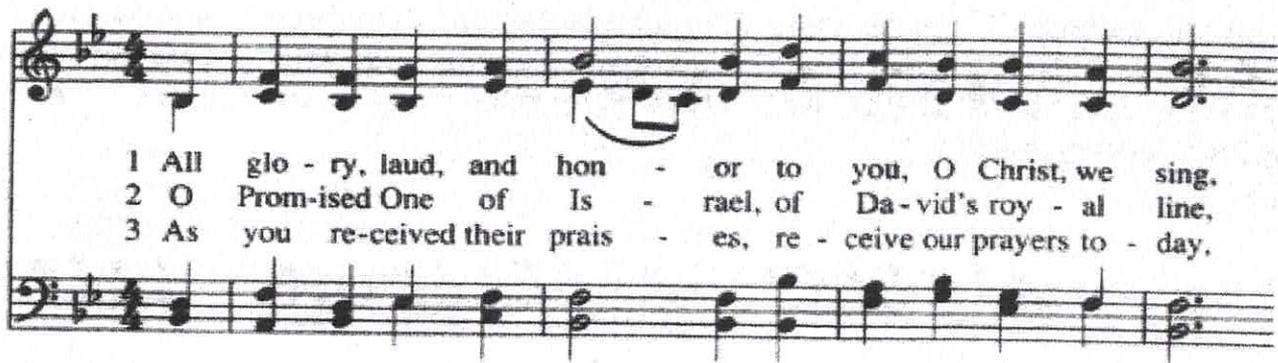
Jeff Erno

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

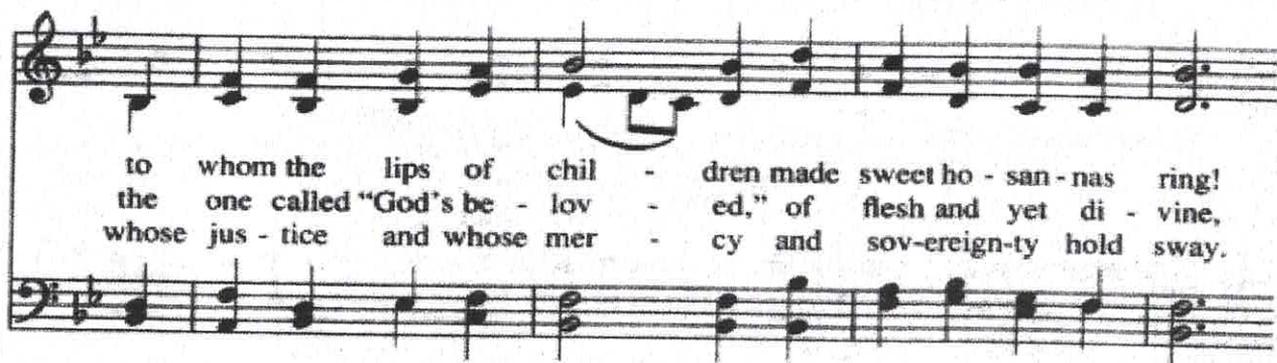
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Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.

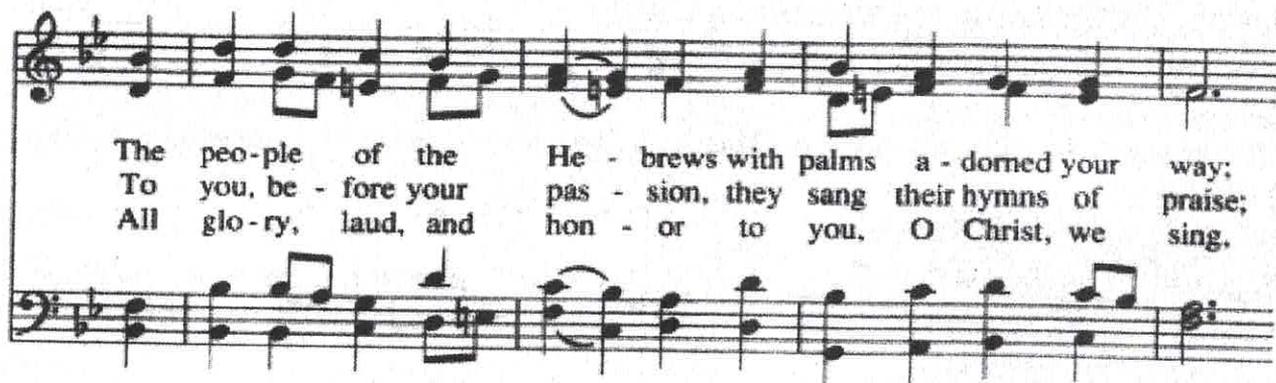
Matt. 21:8-9



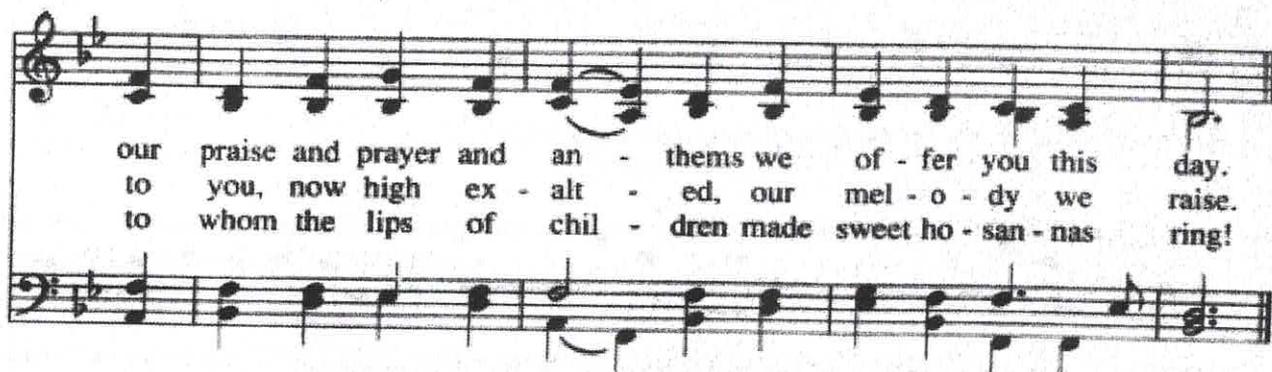
1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da - vid's roy - al line,
3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.



The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing.



our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Brought to France by Charlemagne, Theodulph became bishop of Orléans but was later imprisoned by Charlemagne's successor. According to legend, he was released when the king, Louis the Pious, heard him sing this hymn from prison.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
(VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
Melchior Teschner, 1615
For another setting, see 217

The Lord's Prayer: (use words most comfortable for you) Marsha Chapman, Liturgist
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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Psalm 118:19-29 Marsha Chapman, Liturgist
Matthew 21:1-11 Pages 565 & 566 Old Testament
Page 23 New Testament

Sermon: "Hosanna to the King" Jeff Erno
*Hymn: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Insert

Stewardship Message
Announcements
(Be sure to read about up-coming events in the back of the bulletin.)

Offering:
Offertory

*Doxology: (The tune is found on page 356 of your red hymnal.)
PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW...
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW...
PRAISE GOD, ABOVE, YOU HEAVENLY HOST...
CREATOR, CHRIST AND HOLY GHOST...AMEN.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self Jeff Erno
We give you thanks, Christ Jesus, for your goodness and your grace. Blessing the gifts and lives we offer to you, that they may bring goodness and grace to your world. In gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen

*Hymn: "On A Hill Far Away" Page 5
*The Light of Christ goes into the world

*Benediction: Jeff Erno
One: With songs in our heart,
Many: We move toward the cross
One: May God bless us
Many: With strength for the journey ahead.
One: Go with God
Many: Knowing Christ is on the journey with us.
ALL: AMEN

Please wait to exit unit after the recessional.

Grace for fellowship hour Jeff Erno

*Postlude

*We scatter to serve******

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"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.

Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Jennette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen
katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784

On a Hill Far Away

(The Old Rugged Cross)

Heb. 12:2; James 1:12

George Bernard, 1913; alt.

1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross, the
 2 Oh, that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world, has a
 3 In that old rug - ged cross, which bore Love so di - vine, a
 4 To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true, its

em - blem of suf - fering and shame; And I love that old cross where the
 won - drous at - trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left the
 won - drous beau - ty I see. For up - on that old cross Je - sus
 shame and re - proach glad - ly bear. When God calls me some - day to my

dear - est and best for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 glo - ry of heaven to bear it to cold Cal - va - ry.
 suf - fered and died to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
 home far a - way, there God's glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

Refrain

So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my
 cross, the old rug - ged cross.

tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged
 cross, the

cross, and ex - change it some - day for a crown.
 old rug - ged cross.

Tune: THE OLD RUGGED CROSS. In.
 George Bernard, 1913

After serving as an officer in the Salvation Army, George Bernard was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church. In the midst of his travels through the Midwest conducting revival services, he was inspired to write this hymn.

Join together for refreshments in Fellowship

In Worship and Service Today

Sermon: Jeff Erno

Liturgist: Marsha Chapman & Janet Caporale

Children's Message: Pastor Liz Wilson

Choir Director: Ken Martin

Accompanist: Ann McKinley

Our Tech team: Tammy & Ken Martin

Floral Arrangements: A gift created by Amy Wilson

Ministers: All the Immanuel Church faith community

Sunday School: Amy Wilson, Liz Wilson, Susanne Waldrep

Church Officers & Staff

Moderator: Ken Martin

Vice Moderator: TBA

Treasurer: Art Nagasaki

Council Secretary: Susanne Waldrep

Clerk: Susanne Waldrep

Church Secretary: Sue Molczyk

Building & Grounds Team Leader: TBA

Calendar at a Glance

Weekly Events

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Sunday Book Study

5:30 p.m. Community Meal every Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Wednesday Free Meals

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Choir practice

6:00 p.m. Thursday Prayer Meeting

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 2

Maunday Thursday

Saturday, April 4

9 a.m.-noon Spring Clean-up

Saturday, April 5

Easter Sunday

Monday, April 6

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

- Please be sure to visit Immanuel's website at www.icucc.org
- Please join us for Sunday Service via Virtual Worship. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordimmanuelucc> You do not have to join facebook, it will ask if you want to join. If not click no and it will still get you to the service.
- **Treasurer's Note:** Our offerings for **March 15 was \$1,324 and March 22 was \$545.** We need to **collect \$1,675** each week to fund our approved budget. **Remember to honor your pledge commitments and tithes, especially when you miss any Sundays!** Art Nagasaki, Treasurer
- REMINDER to **bring in old socks & flexible plastic Kroger packaging for recycling.** Call Peggy with questions.
- Please continue to collect and donate your pop can tabs. There's a container in Fellowship Hall. Pop can tabs help support the Ronald McDonald Houses where parents can stay when their child is hospitalized. Tammy will be sending our donation later in May to the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor.
- Please be sure to check the green mailboxes for mail addressed to you. Also, check the yellow wire shelf next to the drinking fountain for anything belonging you. It all wants to go home.
- Knitters, crocheters and crafters: If you need yarn for projects, we have a wide variety of colors and types in our craft room downstairs. Just let Tammy or Ken know

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of March:

Birthdays

March 5: Tyler Sellers

March 11: Alex Hanft

Anniversaries

March 10: Roxanne & Mike Todd

March 21: Margi & Ed Sellers

Palm Sunday

Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

Not the best dinnertime conversation to initiate but leave it to Jesus to bring it up just as everyone is enjoying a meal. We are there as well, at the table gathered for what will become known as The Last Supper. It is a night to wash feet, break bread and drink from the common cup. It is also the time for Judas, one of Jesus' 12 followers, to excuse himself from the festivities to sell Jesus out to the chief priests for 30 pieces of silver.

We already know what comes next as the Holy Week drama unfolds. Jesus is arrested, tried and crucified. We also know that Judas, so overcome with shame and guilt, will kill himself.

What we don't know is that there is more to Judas' story. Often seen as the scapegoat in the story of salvation, Judas' real failing goes deeper than greed.

The ultimate betrayal was that Judas failed to believe in the depths of God's love for him — a love that forgives the deepest of betrayals. Rather than remember the grace Jesus spoke of, Judas allowed his guilt to consume him.

When I think of Judas' betrayal as one not trusting God's redemptive love, I begin hearing Jesus' dinner conversation differently. When he declares one of us will betray him, I squirm in my seat as others protest "Surely not I, Rabbi?" I know that many times I have run from God all because I couldn't trust the extent of love waiting to absolve me of my guilt and give me a new lease on life.

My friends, don't be like Judas — or me. Run to the loving arms of God, unafraid of the confessions that will come from your lips. Run, confess, repent — let it all out. Not only can God handle it, God will forgive.

Forgiving God, as much as we would like to say that we would not betray You, we know better. We are human and we are flawed. In this life, we will stray from Your ways. When we do, give us the courage to return to You, seeking the forgiveness You will not withhold from us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)

