

April 13, 2025



Palm Sunday

The purpose of Groce United Methodist Church is to build the family of God through praising God, bringing others to Christ, teaching the faith, strengthening the fellowship, and sending forth in service.

Groce United Methodist Church
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Jill Rhinehart—Pastor
Becky Wilburn—Music Director/Organist
Debbie Ross—Handbell Director
Gayle Decker—Administrator/Treasurer
Veronica Bagwell—Secretary
Tammy Peek—Custodian

Palm Sunday Worship Celebration

April 13, 2025

*** Where indicated, stand if you are able.**

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
Arr. Varnier

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jill Rhinehart

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jennifer Prince

Leader: Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

People: Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!

Leader: We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

People: Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!

Leader: We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

People: Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!

Leader: The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save.

People: Open the gates of salvation, that we may come worship God whose steadfast love never fails!

Leader: Let us pray. God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair to hope again. As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd, help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake. As the story unfolds, open us to both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. AMEN.

*OPENING HYMN 278

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jill Rhinehart

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

ANTHEM
Chancel Choir

"Great Is the Lord"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER Jennifer Prince
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.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Unfailing Love"
Laurel Elstrom Karlsson

SCRIPTURE Luke 19: 28—40
(NRSV New Testament pg. 83)

MESSAGE Palm Sunday

RECEIVING GOD'S GIFTS *Ushers will come forward*

OFFERTORY "Meditation on How Great Thou Art"
Arr. Carter

*DOXOLOGY

*CLOSING HYMN *TFWS 2069* "All Hail Jesus"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

POSTLUDE "Lift High the Cross"
Arr. Carter

*Our worship service has ended.
Now, our service through worship begins.*

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Announcements

The first four pews on both sides are fragrance-free.

Sunday's Ushers—Thank you to our Ushers! **Pam Rogalski, John Smith, Ed & Nancy Saxman, Betty Jones (steward)**. Thank you to our Nursery Volunteer! **Terri Kilmer**

Meeting Reminders:

- **Miriam Circle**—will meet this **Tuesday, April 15, at 3pm** in Asbury Lobby.
- **Sarah Circle**—will meet this **Wednesday, April 16, at 10am** in Asbury Lobby.
- **Labyrinth**—will meet this **Friday, April 18, at 1:30pm & 7pm** in Asbury Hall.

Blessing Box Sunday - This Sunday is the third Sunday of the month, marking our Blessing Box Sunday once again! We sincerely thank each of you for your generous donations. Some helpful suggestions: toothbrushes, travel-size toothpaste, bottled water, ramen noodles, pop-top soup, canned meat, granola bars. As always, we heartily thank all of you for your time and donations toward this outreach mission!

Easter Lilies—The Altar Guild and Flower Girls invite the congregation to help decorate our Altar this Easter with Easter Lilies. If you have a loved one you would like to honor or remember this season, please fill out a **Lily form** (located at the back of the Sanctuary) and submit your **\$10** to the office *no later than April 16.*

Office Closed—The church office will be closed on **Monday, April 21**, in observation of the Easter Monday holiday.

Newsletter - If you or your group would like to advertise an upcoming event in next month's newsletter, please email your group/event name and brief description to Veronica Bagwell *no later than April 23.* [**veronicab@groceumc.org**](mailto:veronicab@groceumc.org)

Haw Creek Potluck—The Haw Creek Community Association is hosting a community wide potluck dinner on **Sunday, April 27, from 6—8pm** in Asbury Hall. Bring your favorite dish and join in on good company and fellowship!

National Day of Prayer—This year on **May 1** our Sanctuary will be open for quiet prayer time from **10am—4pm** in recognition of National Day of Prayer. We hope you'll take this opportunity to pray for our world and loved ones.

Welcome Table Desserts—The weekly Welcome Table is in need of two volunteers a week to make desserts for their meal. If you are interested, please see the signup sheet located on the bulletin board outside the front office. **Two volunteers are still needed for April 17.**

Coffee Fellowship - Join us for a light breakfast and joyful conversation from **10—10:15am** in Asbury Hall every Sunday after Sunday school. We'll see you there!

Welcome Table - Come on out every **Thursday from 5 to 6:30pm** for a free meal and loving atmosphere as we feed our community with open hearts and helping hands!

Pickleball - Come and learn the fastest growing sport in the country! Join the Groce Pickleball Players on **Wednesdays at 6pm** in Asbury Hall or contact **Jerry Kirschner** for more information: **(828) 777-8971**

Website! - Come visit our newly updated website with features such as a picture gallery, an interactive calendar, Ministry news and more! Go to [**www.groceumc.org**](http://www.groceumc.org) or scan the QR Code:

