



Spring Music Festival



Sunday, April 13, 2025
8:30 & 11:15AM | Sanctuary





Hosanna!

A Festival of Palms and Passion

presented on

Sunday, April 13, 2025

by

Festival Choir | Festival Orchestra

Nathan Schreer, *Conductor*

Joshua McClure, *Organist*

Rev. Dr. Bill Burch, *Senior Pastor*

† *Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

*So that the utmost glory may be given to God, it is kindly requested
that applause be held until the conclusion of the final song.*

Flowers on the altar are given in memory of
Lucy Anne Irick and Thomas Wilbur Irick III,
from Thomas Wilbur Irick and George Boyd Irick.

Walking with Christ through Palm and Passion

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the crowds rejoiced. They waved palm branches, laid their cloaks on the road, and shouted, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” It was a day of triumph, a moment of celebration. And yet, just days later, the same voices that praised Him would cry out for His crucifixion.

Palm Sunday is a day of contrasts—joy and sorrow, celebration and sacrifice. It marks the beginning of Holy Week, a journey from the streets of Jerusalem to the upper room, the garden, the cross, and ultimately, the empty tomb.

Through this service of music and scripture, we walk that road together. We sing with the crowds, we listen at the table, we kneel in the garden, and we stand at the foot of the cross. As we reflect on Christ’s journey, may our hearts be prepared for the coming days. May His sacrifice draw us into deeper worship. And may we remember that even in the shadow of the cross, God’s love and redemption shine bright.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessings,



Nathan Schreer
Director of Music



The Worship of God

ORCHESTRAL PRELUDE | Sound the Amen | *arr. Steve Parsons*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson

PROCESSIONAL ANTHEM | Processional and Hymn with Hosanna in the Highest | *Craig Courtney* K-5th Childrens Choir

Palm Sunday is a day of joy and celebration, a day when the streets of Jerusalem echoed with cries of "Hosanna." Yet, even in the midst of this triumphant entry, Jesus knew the path ahead. Courtney's setting of this Palm Sunday text pairs grandeur with reverence, reminding us that the King who enters the city in glory will soon take up His cross.

If you keep silent, these very stones will cry out, will cry out.
Blessed is He, O blessed is He who comes in the name, the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! Peace, peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

† OPENING HYMN | Hosanna, Loud Hosanna | *arr. Shelton Ridge Love*

First published in 1873, this hymn was written specifically for children, capturing the joyful innocence of those who lined the streets of Jerusalem, waving palms and singing praises to Jesus. The hymn invites us to join their song of celebration, even as we anticipate the events to come.

Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
"Ho - san - na, in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,
through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.
for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heav'n our King.
To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
O may we ev - er praise Him with heart and life and voice,
the child - ren sang their prais - es the sim - plest and the best.
and in His bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

REFLECTION | Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

Dr. Bill Burch

ANTHEM | Hosanna! A Procession of Promise | *Joseph M. Martin*

Lift up ye heads, ye mighty gates, ye everlasting doors.
To Zion comes the chosen Son, the glory of the Lord.
Fling open wide the city gates! Redemption draweth nigh.
Let ev'ry voice, in praise, rejoice and sing unto the Lord, most high.

Great David's Son, the promised One, rides through the crowded way.
The people raise their palms of praise. The King has come today.
With voices strong, they shout the song. "Hosanna" is their cry.
Let ev'ry voice, in praise, rejoice, and sing unto the Lord, most high.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

REFLECTION | Communion in the Upper Room

Dr. Burch

ANTHEM | O Sacrum Convivium | *Olivier Messiaen*

This sacred Latin text, written by St. Thomas Aquinas, reflects on the mystery of the Eucharist. Messiaen's setting captures the reverence and awe of Christ's final meal with His disciples—a moment of intimacy and love before His suffering. The anthem reminds us that in the breaking of bread, we remember His Passion and receive a foretaste of the glory to come.

O sacrum convivium!
in quo Christus sumitur:
recolitur memoria passionis ejus:
mens impletur gratia:
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.
Alleluia!

*O sacred banquet!
wherein Christ is received,
the memorial of his Passion is renewed,
the soul is filled with grace;
And a pledge of future glory is given to us.
Alleluia!*

—Saint Thomas Aquinas

REFLECTION | Jesus' Words to the Disciples

Dr. Burch



Taken from John 14, this text comes from Jesus' final words to His disciples. "If you love me, keep my commandments." Raney's setting expands on this familiar passage, offering a message of peace and promise: even as Jesus prepares to leave, He assures His followers that they will never be alone.

My peace I give you, my peace I leave with you, and I will comfort you in times of trouble. And if you love me keep my commands.

Though I may leave you, I will return for you, I'll go prepare for you a place beside me. And if you love me keep my commands.

Because I live, you too, shall live. I bring you peace that the world cannot give.

-John 14:15, 27

† CONGREGATIONAL HYMN | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling | arr. Dan Forrest

Charles Wesley's beloved hymn is a prayer for transformation. As we journey toward the cross, these words invite us to open our hearts to Christ's redeeming work: "Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be." Forrest's arrangement elevates this timeless text with a sweeping orchestration that reflects the grandeur of God's love.

Please sing when indicated on verses 1 & 3.

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heav'n to earth come down,
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast!
 3. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;

fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 Take a - way our bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,

vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERTORY | What Wondrous Love Is This | arr. Robert Sterling

REFLECTION | Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane

Dr. Burch

ANTHEM | Shadow Garden | Joseph M. Martin

In the quiet solitude of Gethsemane, the weight of the cross weighs heavily on Jesus. This anthem captures the sorrow of that moment, yet also the unwavering faith that leads Him forward. As the music carries us toward the cross, we are invited to reflect on our own struggles with surrender, trusting in the transformative power of faith even in the midst of darkness.

The garden lays in silence, while Jesus bows his head to pray.

"My soul is filled with sorrow, please Father take this cup away.

But if this cup remains, I will not cry in vain, Father let your will in this be plain."

Into the night He prayed, He knew the time was drawing nigh.

Soon will the price be paid: the Son of our Lord God on High!

Christ weeps a falling tear, knowing His time is near. Hear Him groan in anguish and in fear.

Come to the garden. Fall on your knees.

Kneel in the shadows, the shadows of Gethsemane.

And now come cries of violence. With torches high, the soldiers march.

One kiss betrays the Sacred beneath the garden's ancient arch.

Onward to Pilate's hall, to face the Roman law! In the darkness, you can hear Him call,

"Father, Father, let Thy will be done in Me! Thy will be done!"

REFLECTION | The Crucifixion

Dr. Burch

vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

ANTHEM | St. Matthew Passion | *Johann Sebastian Bach*

Chorale 19. *What is the cause of this thy tribulation*

Chorale 62. *When comes my hour of parting*

J.S. Bach's St. Matthew Passion is a profound retelling of Christ's suffering. The chorales he employs are not merely musical interludes but serve as a commentary from us, the audience, guiding our thoughts and emotions as we witness the events unfold. Through these two chorales, we are faced with the weight of our own responsibility as we recognize that it was our sin that led Jesus to the cross.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?

Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee

'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied Thee!

I crucified Thee.

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown;

How pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!

How does that visage languish, which once was bright as morn!

ANTHEM | Behold the Lamb of God | *Craig Courtney*

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is called "the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." The sorrowful music of this anthem stands in stark contrast with its celebratory text, inviting us to remember the cost of our victory—our Savior, our sinless Lamb, for me was crucified.

Behold the Lamb of God, The Lamb for sinners slain;

A perfect sacrifices for all, He dies, but lives again.

Refrain: Behold the Lamb of God, Behold His hands, His side.

The Son of God, the sinless Lamb, for me was crucified.

He lives—let Heav'n rejoice, And earth her honors bring.

To Him, the everlasting God, The great, eternal King. *Refrain*

Oh, strike your harps of gold, Ye ransomed host above.

Praise Him who bought you with His blood, and saved you by His love. *Refrain*



REFLECTION | The Hope to Come



ANTHEM | Because of Love | *J. Paul Williams & Lanny Allen*

Why did Christ come? Why did He choose the cross? The answer is love.

This anthem weaves together the story of Christ's birth, death, and resurrection, reminding us that every step of His journey was taken out of love for us.

Why would God come to us? Why would He choose a manger birth

Why would He want to give me worth? Why would God come to earth?

Refrain: Because of love, because of love, He left the peace of heav'n above.

He left His throne, His majesty, and came to earth to ransom me because of love.

Why would God choose Calvary? Why would He suffer on a tree?

Why would He die for you and me? Why would God choose Calvary?

For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son,

That whosoever believeth, believeth in Him

Should not perish, but have everlasting life.

He came to live in flesh and do His Father's will,

The sinless Son of God was slain on Calvary's hill.

But He arose from death to life triumphantly!

All this and more Christ did for me. *Refrain*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Boothe Olson

† CLOSING HYMN | Lift High the Cross | *Craig Courtney*

The cross, once a symbol of suffering and death, has become the ultimate sign of victory. This hymn, first written in 1887, calls us to lift high the cross, proclaiming Christ's love to the world. The hymn's triumphant spirit, reminding us that the story of Holy Week does not end in sorrow but in the hope of resurrection.

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,

That whoso believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life!

Refrain: **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim**

Till all the world adore His sacred name.

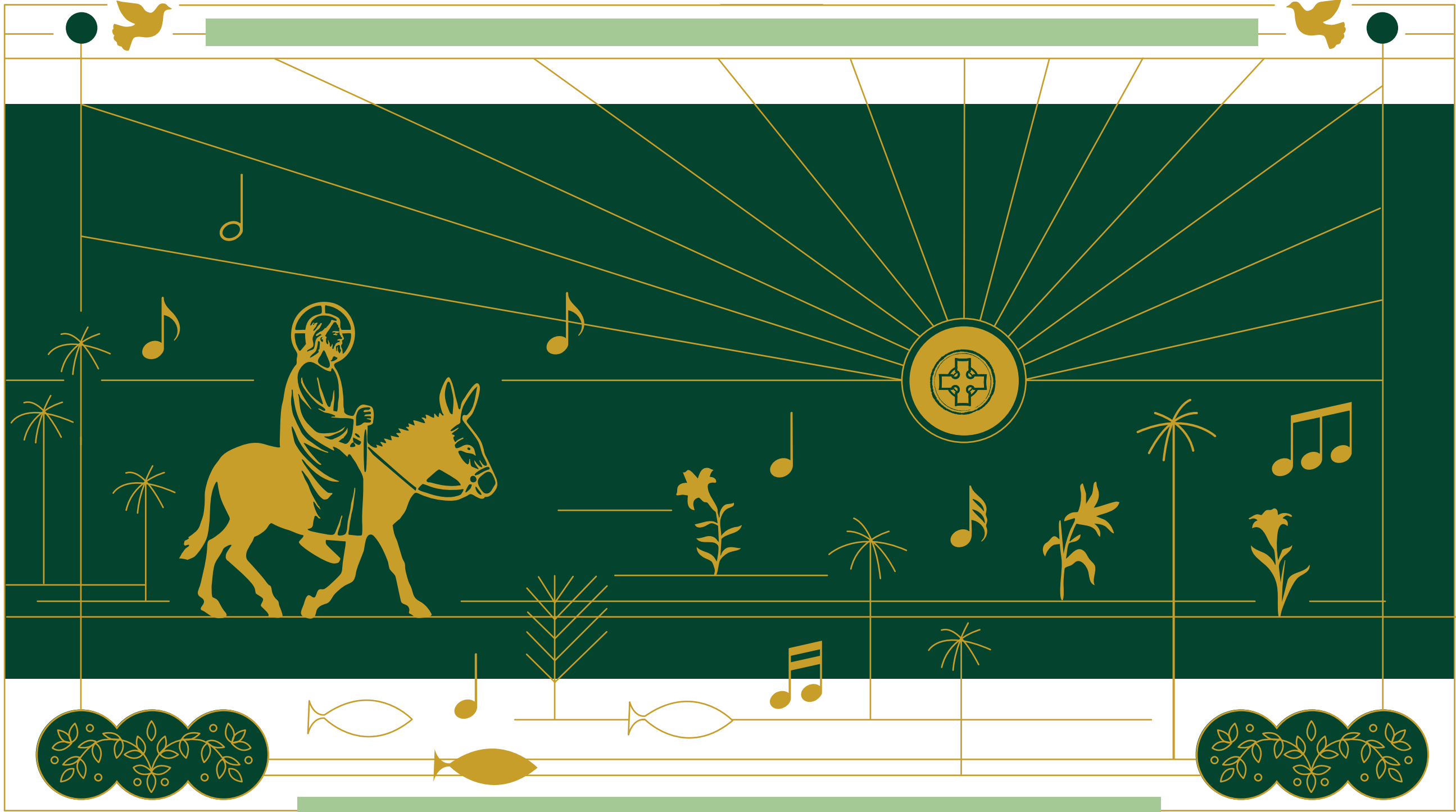
Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod

Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:

Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*





Festival Choir

Aimee Henderson
Andréa Hatcher
Ann Edwards
Austin Cripe
Bill Motley
Brad Marsh
Caroline Warren
Dave Smith
Diane Hautt
Dorothy Candler
Drema Canterbury
Ellie Ziglar
Greg Hucks
Herman Ramsey

Jackie Hendrix
James Douglas
Jim Drinkard
John Hammaker
John Newsom
Josiah Martin
Katie Goodwin
Kristen Gray
Kyle Hildebrand
Lar'Kara Betha
Leah Hannon
Marcy Meredith
Mark Snelling
Michael Vivases

Michelle Austin
Michelle Johnson
Millie Gomel
Natalie Rogers
Nicole Lewis
Paul Anderson
Paula Snelling
Susan Schreer Davis
Tiffany Uzoiji
Timothy Guffin
Valerie Hamm
Walter Gomel
Will Anderson

Holy Week at Northside

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17 | 12:00 & 6:30PM | Watson Faith & Arts Center

On Thursday of Holy Week, we will gather for a powerful service remembering Christ's final days. Join us in the Watson Faith & Arts Center for a service that blends traditional and contemporary elements as we share in a time of remembrance, reflection and Holy communion.

Easter Sunday: April 20

8:30, 9:45, & 11:15AM | Traditional | Sanctuary

9:00 & 10:30AM | Contemporary | Watson Faith & Arts Center

Join us this Easter as we worship God on this holy day and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Enjoy the fun that Easter animals bring to children and adults alike before and after services.

Instrumentalists

FLUTE

Kelly Briant

OBOE

Elizabeth Tiascone

TRUMPET

Michael Tiascone
Mark Maliniak

HORN

Bethany Driggers

TROMBONE

Wes Funderburk
Stephen Wilson

VIOLIN I

Olga Shpitko
Robert Givens
Carolyn Toll Hancock

VIOLIN II

Jessica Stinson
Alison James
Ellie Kosek

VIOLA

Robin Fay Massie
Paul Murphy

CELLO

Charae Krueger
Karen Freer

DOUBLE BASS

Chris Riggerbach

HANDBELLS

KIM SMITH
Elizabeth Brown
Natalie Rogers
Greg Hucks

ORGAN & PIANO

Joshua McClure

PERCUSSION

Lisa Morris

TIMPANI

Victor Pons

Upcoming Music Ministry Events

Children's Musical: Once Upon a Parable
Sunday, May 4 | 5:00PM | Watson Faith & Arts Center

You are invited to our Children's Choirs' annual Spring Musical Performance! This year we will be performing "Once Upon a Parable", where a group of energetic storytellers try to capture the humor and contemporary flavor of the parables—and use them to retell the story of Jesus itself. We hope you'll join us!

Music, Arts, and Drama Camp

Monday, June 2–Thursday, June 5 | 12:30–4:00PM | Northside Church

Join us this summer for our 2nd annual Music, Arts, and Drama Summer Music Camp! MAD Camp is a 4-day musical experience for all current Pre-K–4th students (rising K–5th grade.) Campers will learn various arts expressions—including singing, drama, instruments, and crafts—in a fun and engaging environment. Register online at www.NorthsideUMC.org/musiccamp.

Sing for a Sunday

September 14 & December 21 | 12:15AM | Worship

The Northside Chancel Choir invites all interested church members to join us in worship on September 14 and December 21. Here's how it works: Join us the Wednesday before for a short rehearsal 7:00–7:30PM; sing with us during the 11:15AM service on Sunday! We'll meet in the Music Suite at 10:45AM. Childcare is provided. Whether you're a seasoned singer or just want to try something new, this is a great opportunity to share your voice in worship.

2025 Festival of Carols

Sunday, December 14 | 8:30 and 11:15AM | Sanctuary

Celebrate the Advent and Christmas seasons with our annual Festival of Carols. Join the Festival Choir and orchestra for this beloved holiday tradition as we prepare G. F. Handel's Messiah Part I. Rehearsals begin Saturday, October 11. For more information contact, Nathan Schreer at NathanS@NorthsideUMC.org

Music Ministry Staff

Nathan Schreer
Director of Music

Joshua McClure
Director of Worship & Organist

Ellen LeSaicherre
Children's Music Assistant

Natalie Rogers
Children's Music Assistant

Liana Perlman
Children's Music Assistant

Tiffany Uzoiye
Administrative Assistant

Ann Edwards
Music Librarian

*We are grateful to the Northside Church Music Fund donors!
Your generous support helps us bring these festival worship services to our community.*

*Special thanks to our Facilities, Production, and Creative Services teams—
your hard work makes so much possible. We appreciate you and your service to Christ!*





 **NORTHSIDE CHURCH**
A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

