

**First United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation**  
**Palm and Passion Sunday**  
**March 28, 2021**

\*There will be ASL interpretation available for today's worship. If you would like to utilize interpretation, please use the "pin" function in Zoom for the video of Patty Sheehan\*

**Prelude** *Epilogue on 'St. Theodulph'* Healey Willan (1880-1968)

**Testimony and Welcome** Gina Washburn

**Announcements and Lighting of the Candle**

**Gathering Music** *Healer of Our Every Ill* Marty Haugen

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,  
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, including a 2/4 time signature change and a final 4/4 measure with a double bar line.

**Call to Confession**

One: We have approached confession each week in Lent in such a way that we lay bare the brokenness in order to begin the process of healing. Along the way we have acknowledged our need to restore our own Holy Vessels while attending to our role in the healing of the community and the world. The work of healing will continue as we integrate all we have learned with all that we will do moving forward. For now, we remember how hard it is to move from thinking to doing. Let us pray in song:

**Sung Call to Confession**

**Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.  
Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.  
Facing our lives, we need your love so much.  
Here in this community, heal us by your touch.**

**Prayer of Confession**

**We have opened ourselves to healing and sometimes it is easier to pray nice prayers than to do the hard work of putting into action what needs to happen.  
Help us remember the sacred nature of the holy vessels that we are,**

fragile and susceptible to shattering and yet capable of transformation.  
Help us to see ourselves as you see us.  
Help us to believe in our ability to change and heal as you believe in us.

Help us, Healer.  
Show us our strength.  
Forgive our inaction.  
Move us to move one step at a time toward greater care.  
In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

### Silent Prayer

### Sung Response

God of the loving heart, we praise your name.  
Dance through our lives and loves; anoint with Spirit flame.  
Your light illumines each familiar face.  
Here in this community, meet us with your grace.

### Words of Assurance

Know this: You are never alone in the struggle.  
No. Matter. What.  
Jesus is on the journey with us.  
Life's parade is not passing you by.  
You are part of this Body of Christ, a community seeking healing.  
For you, for me, for all.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture

Mark 11:1-11

Annie Demas

### Opening Hymn

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Ellacombe

**"Hosanna, loud hosanna," the little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,  
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.**

**"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song is ours.  
We hail our great Redeemer and sing with all our powers.  
Hosanna, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice!  
Hosanna! In your presence forever we'll rejoice!**

## A Time with Children

**God's word is for all God's children;  
Come gather, come gather.  
You're never too old for stories;  
Come listen, come listen.**

## Sung Call to Prayer

**One:** Out of the depths I cry to you, o God;  
**All:** **God, hear my voice.**

## Pastoral Prayer

*You are invited to share prayers with the congregation using the chat function.*

## Response

**One:** Out of the depths I cry to you, o God;  
**All:** **God, hear my voice.**

## Prayer of Jesus

*You are invited to unmute yourselves and speak the words most meaningful to you, or follow with the version here:*

**Our God, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Offertory

*Lamb of God*

David Cherwien (1957-)

## Prayer of Thanks

**Dear God, through the gifts of our lives and our hearts, we express our longing to follow wherever you go. Thank you for leading us along the way. Amen.**

## Hymn

*Rejected and Despised*  
(see page 4)

Cardinal

## The Reading of the Passion Narrative

Matthew 26:14–27:66

Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

## Hymn of Sending

*This Dreadful Cross*  
(see page 5)

Aus Tiefer Not

***The services of Holy Week are traditionally seen as one continuous service. A benediction will be offered only after we have heard the Good News of resurrection on Easter Day.***

## Postlude

*Ah, Holy Jesus*

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!  
If you would like to stay on Zoom to briefly check in, please remain in the meeting.

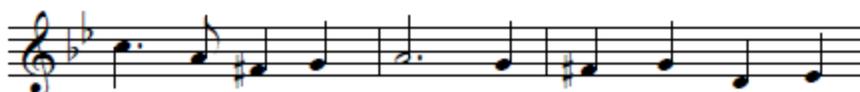
## REJECTED AND DESPISED

Mary Louise Bringle

CARDINAL  
William P. Rowan



1. Re - ject - ed and de - spised by men and  
2. In all the vic - tims of our age, the  
3. For - give us, Lord, as you for - gave with



wom - en of our race, he bears trans - gres - sion's  
bat - tered and the bruised, Christ lives a - gain, a -  
your ex - pir - ing breath the ones whose guilt - y



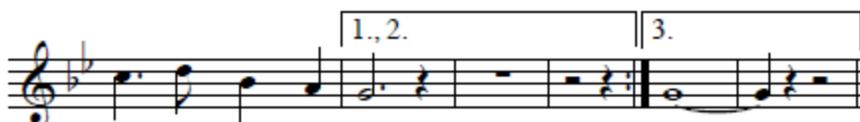
wound - ing weight and an - guish mars his face. This  
like with them by hu - man sin a - bused: a -  
hands, like ours, re - quired a guilt - less death. O



Man of Sor - rows, born to loss, ac - quaint - ed with our  
scend - ing on a cross to die, de - scend - ing in - to  
mys - t'ry of such cost - ly love, O depth of grace re -



grief: this Christ of God now cru - ci - fied a -  
hell, in tor - ment, suf - f'ring, scorn and pain, we  
vealed: in scourge - marked flesh, we find our Christ, and



ston - ish - es be - lief.  
meet our God as well.  
by his stripes are healed.

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## THIS DREADFUL CROSS

Adam M. L. Tice

AUS TIEFER NOT  
Attr. Martin Luther, 1483-1546

1. This dread - ful cross of rough-hewn wood; this  
2. This scent of fresh - ly bro - ken bread; this

ring of ham - mers nail - ing; this bar - ren  
sight of wine now flow - ing; this sound, as

hill where scoff - ers stood; this strick - en moth - er  
Je - sus' words are said; this sto - ry, ev - er

wail - ing; this veil of dark - ness as he  
grow - ing; this taste of u - ni - fy - ing

died; this Suf - f'ring Ser - vant, cru - ci - fied;  
grace; this flesh, re - formed in God's em - brace;

this bro - ken hu - man bod - y.  
this ris - ing, ho - ly bod - y.

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### News to Note

#### If you are new to First UCC, welcome!

Have you just begun joining us for online worship? Please consider filling out this [“virtual visitor card”](#) so that we might reach out and connect with you about this community. Questions? Please contact Pastor Wendy or Pastor Lauren.

### **Upcoming Lenten Worship Dates**

- Maundy Thursday, April 1, Zoom worship at 6:30 p.m. Join via this [Zoom link](#), password: 1stUCC
- Good Friday, April 2, Podcast will premiere on Thursday 04/01/21 [on this page](#)
- Easter, April 4, Zoom worship at 10:30 a.m

### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Last Sunday we received offerings for the One Great Hour of Sharing special collection. Many of you already have given electronically or via check to this special offering--thank you! You can still contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing. All money collected will be passed along through the MN Conference UCC.

### **ISAIAH**

Here are some actions you can take this week: Contact your U.S. Senators, [Amy Klobuchar](#) and [Tina Smith](#), and express your support for the For the People Act and thank them for their efforts to pass it. This legislation, which the House passed (HR 1), contains widely popular federal voting protections and reforms. In order to pass in the U.S. Senate, it almost certainly requires at least an exemption within the filibuster rule for legislation related to voting. Both senators have courageously endorsed doing this.

Mark your calendar for a Sat., April 17, 10 am-12 pm, local ISAIAH [Zoom session](#) to strategize about the state budget and legislation serving the needs of all by sessions' end.

Questions about legislation or voicing your views? Email [isaiah@firstucc.org](mailto:isaiah@firstucc.org).

### **Mental Health First Aid Training - April 17**

Through the support of First UCC's Care Ministry Team and the Healthy Community Initiative, Mental Health First Aid Training will be available as a virtual course on Saturday, April 17 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Prior to the course, participants will be asked to complete an online session of about 2 hours. This internationally recognized program is open to First UCC members as well as community members.

To register for the class, click [this form \(forms.gle/c5nhatupJm4oYz9VA\)](https://forms.gle/c5nhatupJm4oYz9VA) . If you have questions, please contact Kathy Sandberg at [ksandberg15@outlook.com](mailto:ksandberg15@outlook.com) or 507-210-2219. There is no charge for the class.

### **Sunday April 18: Guest Preacher and Author Rev. Dr. Jim Antal**

In keeping with our passion for the care and keeping of God's creation, we will be joined on April 18 by guest preacher and author Rev. Dr. Jim Antal. Jim's book [Climate Church, Climate World](#) is available in the church office for a discounted price of \$20 (checks made to First UCC). You can schedule pick-up of a book with Green Bouzard at [church@firstucc.org](mailto:church@firstucc.org)

Jim will be present following worship for a Q&A discussion on the climate crisis, climate justice, and the book. Further discussion of the book will be scheduled beyond this event for those who are interested.

### **Giving to the Church**

In this time of pandemic, we are worshiping online and connecting in small groups virtually. We still need your gifts! You may give electronically by visiting our website and clicking the ["Donate Online Now!"](#) button, under the Giving tab. You may also visit our website and complete the [electronic giving authorization form](#) and mailing it to the church % "The Treasurer." Gifts may be mailed to First UCC, 300 Union Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministries!

### **Care Ministry Team**

A note from the UCC Care Ministry Team: WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! Please know that the Care Ministry Team wants to know if you have any needs that can be met by us or members of our congregation. We serve as the extra eyes and ears of the church, so please speak with any member of our Care Team if you or someone you know is in need of extra support--anything from meals, rides, deliveries of essential needs (groceries, meds, etc.), or weekly check-ins. We can connect you with congregational support. You can also continue to check in with the pastors. Our team is: Barbara Crouter (507-645-6592); Linda Larson (612-709-6795); Elizabeth O'Sullivan (507-321-1221); Bill Poehlmann (507-645-5422); Katharine Powers (651-492-5488); Kathy Sandberg (507-210-2219); Jan Shoger (507-645-5236); Kellee Tussing (952-210-4028); Gina Washburn (507-210-8270); Bonnie and Larry Fowler (507-645-6930).

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### **First United Church of Christ Leadership and Staff**

Ministers—all the people  
Moderator—Sam Steinberg  
Interim Senior Minister—Wendy Vander Hart  
Minister for Congregational Life—Lauren Baske Davis  
Director of Music—Chris Brunelle  
Organist—Theo Wee  
Sexton—Mark Fischer  
Spirit Voices Director/Arts Coordinator—Bob Gregory-Bjorklund  
Director of Communications & Operations—Green Bouzard  
Tech Steward—Ben Gottfried