



**West Grove United Methodist Church**

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

Preaching today: Rev. Janice L. Bowers  
300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390  
[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)  
610-869-9334

# PALM SUNDAY

WELCOME THE KING



*March 24, 2024*

# 11:00 a.m. Worship

**Prelude** - Please quiet and center yourselves for worship during this time- Betsy Smith

**Words of Welcome**

Pastor Janice

**Ministry Opportunities**

Cindy Haley

**\*Call to Worship**

Richard Stuhrke

L: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**P: We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips; we will travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

L: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow, for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.

**P: We wave palm branches in anticipation; we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

L: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes: modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

**P: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

UMH No. 64 (vs 1 & 3)

**\*Passing the Peace**

Pastor Janice

**Morning Prayer** (In Unison)

Richard Stuhrke

L: God of the foolish cross, tottering down the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey,

**P: You are not the savior we expect.**

L: Your power doesn't look like the power we want our God to demonstrate.

**P: Your wisdom makes no sense to us.**

L: We are happy to join the crowd, waving branches,

**P: But not so sure we want to follow you**

L: Into the temple courts

**P: Into the upper room**

L: Into the Garden of Gethsemane

**P: To the foot of the cross.**

L: Forgive our false assumptions.

**P: Clarify our clouded vision.**

L: Let us relax into the foolishness of your love, your grace.

**P: Hosanna, hosanna.**

**All: Save us, we beseech you!**

**Moments for All Ages**

“Waving of the Palms”

Xavier Feliciano

**Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance**

Pastor Janice

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to the home of Lazarus and received hospitality like no one had seen before—generous, loving, whole-hearted, and even a little bit undignified. His disciple Judas could only see the inefficiency of the gift, not the spirit of loving-kindness with which it was offered. We, like Judas, often want to

expedite our giving without really engaging with those we are called to serve. Let us consider the depth of our relationships with those we encounter and with the One who calls us to faith, as we confess our sin in silence.

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

**We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves from reaching out to those who need your care. We take your words – that there will always be unmet needs – as a reason not to try to meet the needs we can. Forgive us and help us to change. Renew our determination to live as faithful followers, faithful disciples, faithful Christians. Help us to work with you for the well-being of your creation, that the fortunes of all your peoples may be restored. Amen.**

<b>First Scripture Lesson</b> (pg. 4)	Philippians 2:5-11	Dick Stuhrke
<b>*Gospel Lesson</b> (pg. 4)	Mark 11: 1-11	Pastor Janice
<b>Message:</b> (Introduction to the Cantata)	“Blessed is the One”	Pastor Janice
<b>Cantata:</b> (see program insert)	”A Time for Alleluia”	Chancel Choir
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Pastor Jim
Moment of Silence for those things on our hearts and not spoken.		
<b>Lord’s Prayer</b>		
<b>Invitation to the Offerings</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Offertory</b>		Betsy Smith
<b>Offertory Prayer</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”	UMH No. 278
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor Janice
<b>*Postlude</b>		Betsy Smith

**\* Stand as you are able.**

Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.

*\*Please stand as you are able* **Bold Print = Say in unison.**

## **First Scripture Lesson: Phillipians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## **Gospel Lesson: Mark 11: 1-11**

### **Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem**

<sup>11</sup> When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” <sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## OPEN ~ GROW ~ SERVE

*At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in God's name.*

Church Office: 610-869-9334

Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org) Email us at [info@westgroveumc.org](mailto:info@westgroveumc.org)

### WELCOME, ONE AND ALL!

Faith, hope and love are gifts from God. May you find them here. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. Please honor us by signing the Friendship Pad and we encourage you to join us again. For those who need them, there are hearing aids available at the sound booth. Please feel free to ask for them.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** Today is the deadline for ordering your Easter Lilies, tulips or daffodils to adorn the sanctuary during our Easter Services. Take them home after the Easter Sunday Service. Lilies are \$10.50, Tulips and Daffodils are \$6.95. Order forms are in the narthex or ask an usher. Drop your check in the offering plate marked "flowers" or drop in the office mailbox marked April.

### **EASTER SERVICES SCHEDULE:**

**Maundy Thursday:** March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7pm.

**Good Friday:**– March 29<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm. @ New London UMC

**Easter Sunrise Service:** March 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:45 am. in the parking lot of WGUMC.  
(inside in inclement weather)

**Easter Services:** March 31<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 am.

**PASTOR JIM'S NEW BIBLE STUDY:** April 1st at 6:30 pm. in the sanctuary, Pastor Jim Mundell will be launching a new bible study from the book of Hebrews. The study will delve into Jesus and his duty as High Priest after his resurrection.

**UMW COLLECTION OF FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS:** During the month of March, we will be collecting feminine hygiene products for our food pantry families. A tote will be located in the lobby for this collection. Please consider how you may help with these donations.

### **WGUMC IS ECSTATIC TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW PASTOR:**

Rev. Choi was appointed as WGUMC's new pastor and will take over the position beginning July 1st, 2024.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Round up your kids and grand kids and get ready to dive into the fun from July 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Call Xavier for all the details at 610-612-7377, or email him at [Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org), or call the church office at 610-869-9334, or email us at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org).

**UM MEN BREAKFAST:** Join us at 8:00 am. on March 23<sup>rd</sup> in the sanctuary for a men's breakfast and fellowship. For more information call Pastor Jim @ 610-806-3380.



# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## NEED PRAYER?

**Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored. Email April Spencer** at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-9334 or **Email Susan Paisley** at [sbrintonpais1@verizon.net](mailto:sbrintonpais1@verizon.net) or call 610-529-8699. Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be noted below in the bulletin Prayer List.



Renee Bergstrom  
Linda Sue Black  
(Hruz)

Dianne Bunch  
(Stuhrke)

Sandee C (Jim  
Mundell)

Beth Castaldi (K. Smith)

Courtney Castaldi (K. Smith)

Dan Castaldi (Castaldi)

Cindy (Karen Hruz Neighbor)

Joann Coates

Dante Danilshenko (Grace  
Kennedy)

Dan and Liz DePaul (Jackson)

Irma Devom (Stryjewski)

Linda Eyster (Combs)

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Joyce Flowers (Mullen)

Richard Heacock

Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)

Karen Hruz

Lynn Jackson

Michele Johnson (Spencer)

Maria Kanno (Mullen)

Debbie Kennedy (Coates)

Erica Libdell (Stryjewski)

Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)

Tom Kuch (Kuchs)

Lenny Marten (K.  
Smith)

Jim May (Mullen)

Jill and Jay, Fran  
Miller

Richard Minnick

Betty Mundell

Tim Mullen

Doug Paine (Jackson)

Vivian Paisley

Family of Dan DePaul  
(Jackson)

Don Nixon (Mullen)

Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)

Michael Raineri

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)

Steve Scheufele (Kuch's)

Roann Schneider (P. Mullen)

Levi Schrum (Carmichael)

Mark Sharrat (P. Mullen)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

David Shaver (Hruz)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

Linda Shiplet

Ian Smedley (Heist)

Reed Smith

Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)

Rosanne (Kapp-Benner)

Flora Spiegel  
(Strewjewski)

Heidi Streibel, (Edel  
Mullen)

Gail Stuhrke (Stuhrke)

Jeannie Sullivan

Josephine Tena

Maira Tena

Mary Weidman (Miller)

Jill Williams (Miller)

Hazel Winters & family  
(Joan Saller)

Kay Yates



Nathaniel Howard,  
Philippines  
(Wayne & Pam)

Brian Kubo—Washington  
(Mullen)

Chris Weidman—Idaho  
(Miller)

Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine  
Corps

Drew Zumpino—USA  
(Beauchamp)

## God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

*It is your tithes, offerings, and  
gifts that impact and change  
lives for Christ!*

## Report from March 17, 2024

**General Offering: \$15,378.95**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$120.00**

**Attendance: In-Person and You Tube**

**11:00: 66 You Tube 5**

**Food Pantry: 111 families on 03/20 &  
03/21 Food donations are appreciated.**

## **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING**

### **Sunday Morning Servants**

Live-Stream & Audio:	Michael Duvall
Sound Booth Rotating:	Reed Smith, Aiden Steltzer, Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, and Maggie Stuhrke
Officiating:	Rev. Janice Bowers & Rev. Jim Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director:	Lavenia Civitella
Moment For All Ages/Youth Director	Xavier Feliciano

	<b><u>Today: 03/24/24</u></b>	<b><u>Next Week: 03/31/24</u></b>
Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Roamers	Priscilla Barkman	Paulette Bryan
Counters:	Dave Talley & Vicki Owens	Janice Bowers & Joan Leaman
Lay Reader:	Richard Stuhrke	Susan Paisley
Ushers:	Virgil & Linda Brown	Paulette Bryan & Nancy DuVall
Greeter:	Priscilla Barkman	Dick Stuhrke

### ***Would you like to be a Sunday Morning Servant?***

***We would welcome your participation as an usher, greeter, lay reader, acolyte (children grade 3 and above), nursery attendant, Children's Worship leader, or Sunday School teacher.***

***If you have an interest in serving in any capacity on Sunday mornings, please contact April Spencer in the church office at 610-869-9334 or [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) for more information.***