

Pilgrim Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
Harwich Port, Massachusetts



Even the Stones Cry Out

by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 19:28-40

Sunday, April 13, 2025

***We come together to grow in faith
and joyfully share God's love with all.***

Welcome to our Worship Service

An asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to stand as you are able.

Prelude “Processional on All Glory, Laud & Honor”
 featuring the Pilgrim Church Bell Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

We acknowledge one another with a nod, wave, or “peace be with you”.

Chimes

***Call to Worship**

One: It is holy to gather.

All: It is a holy to sing.

One: It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

All: It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

One: It is holy to shout, “Hosanna!”

All: It is holy to remember.

One: It is holy to gather.

All: It is holy to sing.

One: Here and now, let us do all these things.

Lighting the Christ Candles and Peace Candle

***Hymn** “All Glory, Laud and Honor” #216

Opening Prayer

All: Holy God, sometimes life feels like a parade rushing by us as we stand on the sidelines and try not to miss it! There are

hundreds of things that catch our eye, but the thing we fear missing the most is you. So, slow down the speed on this parade. Paint the colors of this world a little brighter. And dance through the words in our scripture passage until it is almost impossible for us to miss you there.

God we are here.

We are trying to pay attention.

Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Sung Prayer Response “I Need You Every Hour” (refrain only) #517

Call to Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: The word ‘hosanna’ is often sung with joy and glee on this day. We process in, we wave palm branches, and it feels like a celebration. But the truth is, the word ‘hosanna’ actually means “save us.” The people along that parade route so many years ago were crying out to Jesus for help, because they knew – this world is not as it should be. There is still too much hurt here. They were crying, “Save us!” In the prayer of confession, we have our own hosanna moment, because we cry out to God, admitting the ways in which we have fallen short, and we ask for God’s saving hand. So, friends – let us pray together, for there is still too much hurt here.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God of parades and hosannas,

All: we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression,

One: to speak up for love and speak hope to fear,

All: but so often we are silent.

One: We worry that we'll say the wrong thing,

All: so we don't say anything at all.

One: We worry that we'll offend,

All: so we keep our convictions to ourselves.

One: We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard,

All: so we stay silent.

One: And meanwhile, the parade marches on.

All: Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!"

Time of Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Friends, even when we are silent, even when we are scared, even when we miss the moment, even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing – we belong to God. There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that!

So, rest in this good news:

All: We are forgiven. We are known.

We belong to God, every day and always.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

A Time for Children of All Ages

Bell Choir Anthem "Intonations of Praise" arr.: Joel Raney

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 118:1-2,10-29 (Old Testament page 565)

Luke 19:28-40 (New Testament page 82)

Sermon “Even the Stones Shout Out” Rev. Amie Stuart Giguere

Affirmation of Faith

Paraphrased from and inspired by Luke 19:28-40.

One: Go to the village ahead of you, and you will find a colt tied there. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, “The Lord needs it.”

All: **We believe in a God of surprises.**
We believe in a God with a sense of humor.
We believe that there are things we may never understand,
but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.

One: They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

All: **We believe in giving what we have.**
We believe that actions of generosity change us.
We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.

One: The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully praising God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen.

All: **We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker.**
We believe in a God of good news.
We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.

One: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

All: **We believe there will be forces that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous.**

We do not believe those voices will have the last word.

One: “I tell you,” Jesus replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

All: **We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way.
We believe.**

Help our unbelief.

***Hymn** “My Song Is Love Unknown” #222

Call to Offering

Offertory “Approaching the Gates” arr.: Lloyd Larson

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

All: **Triumphant God, as we celebrate the arrival of Jesus with shouts of “Hosanna,” we offer these gifts in honor of his entry into Jerusalem, where he came not in power, but in humility and peace. May our offerings today reflect the same willingness to serve, as we seek to share the love and the hope of Christ in the world. We hope that the church’s ministry flowing from these financial gifts echoes the joy and salvation that Jesus brought to all creation. Amen.**

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Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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 glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn** "Chorus of our Faith" (insert)

***Benediction**

As you leave this place,
May you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and
may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved and Love itself – go in
peace, full to the brim. Amen.

Postlude Prelude & Fugue in D" G. F. Handel

Written prayers adapted from words by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed
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Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 17, 2025

a service of Tenebrae with Communion at 7pm

This service will also be livestreamed at www.pcchp.org.

Easter Egg Hunt Donations

The Children's Program Advisory Team is asking for your support for the Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Sunday, April 20 at 11:15am

Donations of plastic eggs, candy that fits in the eggs (no nuts), stickers, and tiny toys are greatly appreciated.

Donations will be collected in Monbleau Hall through April 13th.

Save the Date!

Messy Church

Wednesday, May 7, 5pm-7pm

"Choosing to Bee Kind with Our Words"

Registration is open: www.pcchp.org

Pilgrim Congregational Church

533 Route 28, P.O. Box 247, Harwich Port, MA 02646

(508) 432-1668 • office@pcchp.org • www.pcchp.org

For an appointment, please contact Rev. Amie – revamie@pcchp.org

To receive our weekly church email, please contact the office.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Minister: Rev. Amie Stuart Giguere

Music Director: Dr. Matthew Scinto

Lay Worship Leader: Becky Sullivan

Fellowship Hour Hosts: Bill and Robin Crowell

The flowers that adorn the altar today are given by Phyllis Cushlanis: "In loving remembrance of my son, Ron. Gone too soon. Mom"

The steeple will be lit on April 14 in loving memory of Bruce Wellnitz, from his family.

This Week at Pilgrim Church:

Tuesday, April 15	10am Izzy's Team 2pm Afterschool Gym 5pm Choir
Wednesday, April 16	1pm Book Club 3pm Joyful Prayer Group
Thursday, April 17	No Study Group 11am Coffee and Conversation No Bell Choir 7pm Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, April 18	No Stitch Group

Deacons' Meeting: 2nd Tuesday at 10am

Trustees' Meeting: 2nd Thursday at 3:30pm

Church Council Meeting: 3rd Thursday at 2:30pm

Missions and Outreach Meeting: 3rd Sunday at 8:30am

Vision Team Meeting: 2nd Wed. at 5pm and 4th Sun. at 11:30am



Easter Sunday Donations

The Diaconate has voted again that Easter Flowers will be replaced by a donation to the Council of Churches Hands of Hope Food Pantry.

Please fill out the form below with your printed name and the name of the person you would like to honor with this donation to be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin by

Monday, April 14, 2025

Your Name: _____

Your Dedication:

Please put your order form and check made payable to Pilgrim Church in the office mail tray or mail it to:
Pilgrim Church, P.O. Box 247, Harwich Port, MA 02646
Please write "Easter Donation" on the memo line of your check.

Pilgrim Congregational Church

533 Route 28, Harwich Port, MA ~ (508) 432-1668



CELEBRATE
EASTER

Sunday, April 20, 2025

5:30am: Sunrise Service at Winstead Inn and Beach Resort
(4 Braddock Ln., Harwich Port)

10am: Celebration of the Resurrection in our Sanctuary
with a Community Easter Egg Hunt on our front lawn to follow

The 10am service will be live-streamed on our website www.pcchp.org.