



# The First Congregational Church

Chappaqua, New York

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church



*"Listening for God's Quiet Call and Trusting in God's Promise"*

April 13, 2025 • 10:00 am

*Palm Sunday*



## All are Welcome Here!

This is not just a slogan. At FCC, we truly believe that all are welcome. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome to join us here. Whether your faith feels strong or you are in the process of searching and questioning, you are welcome to join us here. If you are otherly-abled, neuro divergent, straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, non-binary, transgendered or questioning, you are welcome to join us here.

Whether you have been a regular at church or have never been to church, you are welcome to join us either in person or virtually. We openly welcome people of all backgrounds, ages, and perspectives to join us.

We welcome you to journey with us on your faith path and recognize that one person's path will be different than someone else's. As a Christian church, we encourage you to have a relationship with Jesus. You may believe in Jesus as your Savior, your role-model, or the good shepherd guiding you through life. But, whatever your beliefs, we welcome you to join us as we come together virtually and in person to worship together on Sunday mornings. If you are in the Sanctuary with us, we encourage you to fill out the Visitor card and/or Prayer Request card and give it to an Usher as you depart. If you are joining us virtually and have a Prayer Request or would like us to be in touch with you, please feel free to email the church office. If you'd like to be added to our email list to receive our weekly news, *Thursday's Word*, and other news about FCC, please send your email address to [office@fcc-chappaqua.org](mailto:office@fcc-chappaqua.org).

### Yes, we have children in worship with us!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Reflecting that spirit, children are always welcome in worship. We strongly believe their participation in all aspects of worship helps them to develop their faith. Children are invited to participate in communion or to receive a blessing during communion, as their parent desires. We have Sunday School for children and youth (typically September through June), and all children are welcome to attend if their parents so choose.

#### Our Mission Statement

*"With open hands and open hearts, we care for each other and the wider world through prayer, connections and compassion. We are compelled by our faith to follow in the path of Jesus Christ, by both listening to and spreading God's love to all people."*

#### Our Vision Statement

*"In living our faith and guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, we seek to be known as an open and safe place of peaceful reflection and tolerant dialogue. We also seek to lead our community as a voice of hope to foster individual and social compassion."*

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[office@fcc-chappaqua.org](mailto:office@fcc-chappaqua.org) • [fcc-chappaqua.org](http://fcc-chappaqua.org)

The FCC offices are Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-3:30 pm

**If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Jonathan Riedel at 718-781-8159**

First Congregational Church  
Sunday, April 13, 2025 • 10:00 am  
Palm Sunday

Prelude

*Jubilation*

-PAYNE

Welcome

Centering Music

*Bless Us With Your Grace*

-ROBELLARD

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "In our words and in our deeds bless us with Your grace." The second staff, starting with a measure rest labeled '6', contains the melody for the second line: "Bless us with Your grace. Bless us with Your grace." The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Call to Worship (*responsively*):

Leader: Come, let us enter the gates with Jesus

**All: Listening for God's quiet call, trusting God's promise.**

Leader: We gather waving palms and hopeful hearts

**All: To follow the one who gently calls us beyond comfort, into faithfulness.**

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in humility

**All: Blessed is the One who fulfills God's promise of peace.**

Leader: Hosanna in the highest!

**All: Hosanna! Let us listen, trust, and worship God together.**

Hymn No. 192

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

-ST. THEODULPH

All glory, laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
You are a child of Israel, Great David's greater son;  
you ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, blessed one!

The company of angels are praising you on high,  
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.  
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.

Unison Invocation and Lord's Prayer *(using debts)*:

**Gracious God, as we gather on this Palm Sunday, open our ears to your quiet call and strengthen our hearts to trust your faithful promise. As we wave palms and celebrate the arrival of your Son, fill us anew with your Holy Spirit. Guide our worship, renew our faith, and send us forth as disciples ready to listen, trust, and follow wherever you may lead. We pray in the name of Jesus, who entered Jerusalem in humility and peace. *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 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 and ever. Amen.***

Youth Message

Jonathan Riedel

Invitation to Confession:

One: When we gather together, we do so to strengthen our faith and our community. When we gather together to confess our shortcomings, we do so knowing that God's grace is infinite, and that we need only confess with our hearts and God will forgive. Therefore, let us come with open hearts and minds to confess our sins and to seek forgiveness from the one who loves us more than we can ever comprehend.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

**Holy and compassionate God, we confess that amidst our comfort and security, we have often failed to hear your quiet call. Our hearts are sometimes distracted by our own desires, drowning out your gentle whisper. We have hesitated to step forward, afraid of uncertainty, reluctant to trust your promises fully. Forgive our timidity, O Lord. Clear away the clutter of our pride and comfort. Help us hear your voice anew, and grant us courage to follow wherever you may lead. Amen.**

A Moment for Silence and Personal Prayer

Words of Assurance *(responsively)*:

Leader: Hear this good news: Christ knows our struggles, forgives our doubts, and calls us again, gently and faithfully, into renewed discipleship. God's promise is unwavering; God's love unfailing. Rejoice and trust:

**All: In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven and freed to live anew. Amen.**

Passing of Christ's Peace *(responsively)*:

One: With thanks, let us greet each other and pass our tidings of love and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

Anthem

*Jerusalem*

-ADAM

## Scriptures

*Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

*The Gospel of Luke 19:28-40*

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Hymn

### *Thy Word*

-THY WORD

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Sermon

*"Listening for God's Quiet Call and Trusting in God's Promise"*

Yvette Wynn

*Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;  
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:  
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,  
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,  
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;  
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,  
all in the lovelight of Jesus's face.

Into the city I'd follow the children's band,  
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;  
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing  
loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

Prayers of Our People

The Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

*The Palms*

-FAURE

Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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.

Unison Prayer of Consecration:

**Loving God, through the resurrection you express a forgiveness grand and generous. You affirm the value of life in a manner both gracious and bold. As recipients of your forgiveness, we offer ourselves and all of the gifts we bring. Use them, we pray, to care for those in need and to inspire in us a renewal of your Spirit. Life-giving God, accept our gratitude and our gifts. Amen.**

Ride on, Ride on in majesty!

As all the crowds hosanna cry; through waving branches  
Slowly ride, O Savior, to be crucified.

Ride on, Ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die; O Christ, your triumph  
now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, Ride on in majesty!

The angel armies of the sky look down with sad and  
wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, Ride on in majesty!

Your last and fiercest foe defy; bow your meek head to  
Mortal pain, then take, o God, your power and reign.

Benediction

Go forth into the world listening attentively for God's quiet call, trusting fully in God's faithful promises. May you carry the peace of Christ, the courage of the Spirit, and the steadfast love of our Creator, now and always. Amen.

Postlude

***Lift Up Your Heads***

-Guilmant

We thank all who have participated in our morning worship service and in the auxiliary functions.

- Nancy Roche is our Host Deacon
  - Sue Hacker is our Liturgist
- Kathie & Bill Swenson are our Ushers

**Please join us for Palm Sunday activities and Brunch in the Centennial Hall.**



**Thank you to Yvette Wynn for leading worship today!**

Yvette will be back to preside over Easter worship next week, April 20



FCC Offices and Play Care will be Closed  
Monday - Friday, April 14 –18  
for the school break.

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### Yvette Wynn's Bio:

Yvette-Michelle Wynn's ministry in the United Church of Christ is multi-faceted, and deeply rooted in faith and service. She grew up in Corona Congregational Church in Queens, now calls Community Church of the Pelhams home while also holding an associate membership at Holy Covenant UCC in Charlotte, NC.

Yvette has served in many roles in the UCC. She is currently President of the Metropolitan Association and serves on the United Church Funds board. She is a former treasurer of the New York Conference and served as chair of the United Church of Christ Board (UCCB). She has held many roles in her local church including moderator and treasurer. Yvette has been privileged to learn from extraordinary church leaders on many interesting church initiatives, one of which was leading racial equity work in the UCC National Setting with then Associate General Minister, Rev Traci Blackmon.

Yvette is a lay person. She completed theological training with the New York School of Ministry (NYSOM), a ministry of the New York Conference. She completed 12 months of supervised ministry with First Congregational Church of Chappaqua and 3 months with the FCC Youth Ministry. Outside of the UCC, Yvette is active in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, serves on several non-profit boards and works professionally in a senior role at a global wealth management firm.



## Calendar



### THIS Sunday, April 13

*Palm Sunday*

*Emergency Shelter Partnership*

**10:00 am Worship - Yvette Wynn preaching**  
(S/YouTube)

**11:15 am Palm Sunday Workshop &  
BRUNCH (CH)**

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Monday, April 14

**FCC Offices Closed**

**Play Care Closed**

Tuesday, April 15

**FCC Offices Closed**

**Play Care Closed**

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Wednesday, April 16

**FCC Offices Closed**

**Play Care Closed**

Thursday, April 17

*Maundy Thursday*

*Easter Lily delivery*

**FCC Offices Closed**

**Play Care Closed**

**11:45 am Congregational Zoom Check-in**

**7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service (S)**

7:30 pm AA (CH)

**7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal (CR)**

Friday, April 18

**FCC Offices Closed**

**Play Care Closed**

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Saturday, April 19

7:30 pm Mt. Kisco AA (MR)

### NEXT Sunday, April 20

*Easter*

**10:00 am Worship -**

**Yvette Wynn preaching (S/YouTube)**

**11:15 am Sunday Fellowship (CH)**

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Key: Centennial Hall (CH); Choir Room (CR); Classroom (CL);  
Kitchen (K); Library (L); Memorial Room, (MR); Play Care (PC);  
Sanctuary (S)

