

FAITH WALKS THE ROAD WHERE PALMS ONCE LAY



# PALM SUNDAY

NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 13, 2025 | 9 & 11AM

An Open and Affirming Congregation

A WISE for Mental Health Congregation

Mission: To love God and all our neighbors as God loves us.





# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP, PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

Rev. Katherine Mulhern, Liturgist

## PRELUDE

*The Holy City*  
Dr. Cayce Benton, soloist

Adolphe Adams

## RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**All: We shout Hosanna to the Lord Jesus!**

**Leader: Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**

**All: If we were silent, even the stones would shout out!**

**Leader: Let us worship God!**

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #265

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

ST. THEODULPH

## INVOCATION

**All: Year after year, we join the parade. Hear us, O God, as we shout our praise and thanksgiving for all your wonderful works. Jesus leads the way, not with chariot and horse, but on the back of a colt. We follow with hope and anticipation, grateful for the courage and love that leads us into this Holy Week. We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Blessed is He Who Comes*  
Children and Youth Choir • Sanctuary Choir

Becki Slagle Mayo

## TIME FOR CHILDREN (9 AM)

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Christian Education

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (9 AM)

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams and Roger Terry, Co-chair of Board of Deacons

**Congregational Response: We, the members of Naples United Church of Christ, welcome you with joy into our communion and fellowship. We pledge to you our support, our help and our prayers, that you may evermore increase in the knowledge and love of God. We promise, with God's help, to walk with you in Christian love, to aid you as we can, and to bind ourselves together in the common task of building here upon this earth the realm of God.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Ride On, King Jesus*  
Tori Hyman, soloist

Arr. Hall Johnson

## PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

## MUSICAL RESPONSE



## SCRIPTURE

Luke 19: 28-42

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." As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes."

## SERMON

*A Higher Politics*

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

## OFFERTORY

*Hosanna to the King*  
Sanctuary Choir

Dan Forrest

## \*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## \*CLOSING HYMN #267

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

ELLACOMBE

## \*BENEDICTION

## +POSTLUDE

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, organ

J. Wayne Kerr



If you would like a word of prayer or quiet conversation, stop by the parlor for a visit with today's Stephen Minister.  
The parlor is to the right as you are leaving the sanctuary.

**HOLY WEEK**  
CONTINUES WITH

4.17 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** | 7 PM  
4.20 **EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES**

- **SUNRISE SERVICE** | 7 AM
- **WORSHIP** | 9 & 11 AM  
(Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15 AM)

 **NAPLES UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
NAPLESUCC.ORG

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister  
Rev. Katherine Mulhern, Liturgist  
Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Christian Education  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music  
Dr. Alexandra Carlson, pianist  
Sanctuary Choir  
Children and Youth Choir

Dr. Cayce Benton and Tori Hyman, soloists

Drew Townsend, Production Specialist — Producer  
Yuliana Mercado Production Specialist — Audio  
Jacob Falco, Production Specialist — Video

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Judy Baer

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Janet Nacu

STEPHEN MINISTER: (9 AM) Nancy Harper | (11 AM) Bob Marini

PORTICO GREETERS (9 AM): Michele Carney and Nancy Harper

PORTICO GREETERS (11 AM): Bob Marini and Deb Marini

USHERS (9 AM): Roger Terry (Head Usher), Kathryn Bettis, Jim Borden, Bob Brown, Christine Buol, Bill Durell, Bill Rumpf, Hank Temple and Sandy Terry

USHERS (11 AM): Judy Siderio (Head Usher), Bob Brown, Kathleen Devitt, Bruce Flessner, Jill Golle, Karen Gregg, Jane Lane, Sandy Pfeffenberger and Joe Siderio

THE GATHERING PLACE: Chelsea Godwin, Receptionist & Membership Coordinator | Ray Gangl, Custodian

Throughout 2025, the ministry of our pianist Dr. Alexandra Carlson has been graciously underwritten by Ronnie Bellone and Jennifer Rainey.

This Sunday's Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God.

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## Due Today: Easter Offering Dedication Forms

All are invited to donate in memory of or in honor of a friend or loved one. Our Easter Offering will be used to support the Board of Mission and Outreach Refugee Fund. A portion of the money will be used to decorate the chancel for Easter Sunday. If you wish to support this offering, please complete a form found in the Narthex and **submit it to reception no later than today. All dedications and donors will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.**



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## Welcoming the Stranger with Love (Matthew 25:35)



In the spirit of Easter, we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this lovely family of four who arrived in the U.S. in early 2025, just before federal support for refugees was suspended. The father is actively seeking employment, and once school begins in the fall, the mother also plans to work. Their five-year-old daughter will be enrolled in school, and they hope to find daycare for their 15-month-old daughter. They are eager to build a life here in Southwest Florida and need our love and support to help them get on their feet.

In the weeks leading up to Easter, you may give an offering during the Wednesday Lenten services or send a check to the church office. Please be sure to write "Refugee Fund" in the memo line.

## WE ARE CALLED TO BE AN INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

### Children & Youth Ministry

**SUNDAYS** —We are so happy to have families with young children in our midst! Regular Sunday morning activities for children 4 years and older take place during the school year. Children are encouraged to come forward for the *Time with Children*, then go to Sunday school with Ms. Jeannie. Coloring activities and worship resources are available on the family table in the Narthex. Please reach out to the church office if you have any questions or would like more information about upcoming events.



**NURSERY CARE IN NELSON HALL** — Nursery care for infants through 4 years old is available each Sunday morning beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Nelson Hall, room 203 (the building across the Gathering Place). Please sign in with our nursery staff. Our former space located next to the sanctuary is still available to you as a Wiggle Room. Feel free to utilize that space if you wish to stay with your child.

## SPLASH! Children & Youth

WEDNESDAYS, 3:30 PM - 5 PM, N-203

SPLASH! and Children & Youth Choir meets every Wednesday with faith-filled activities, music, games, and snacks. Rehearsals with Dr. Becky run from 4:15–5:00 p.m. in Beverly Hall. Drop in anytime between 3:30–5:00 p.m., and Seagate Elementary pick-up is available!



## Upcoming in Children's Ministry

Today, our children and youth will sing in worship, and Sunday School at 9 a.m. will feature special Holy Week activities. (Confirmation will meet!)

On **Easter Sunday, April 20**, nursery care will be available for PreK-5 and under, with extra help from Elena Fernandez, Christina Liu, and Victoria Schoepfer. There will be no Sunday School, as all children and youth are invited to worship. **The Easter Egg Hunt begins at 10:15 a.m.**—bring a basket or use one of ours! No Confirmation class on Easter, as students will attend worship. We look forward to celebrating this sacred season with you!

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## Caregiver's Support Group: Celebrating 9 Years of Support!

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2:00 PM, N-101

The Caregiver's Support Group meets every other Friday year-round to support those caring for loved ones. Join us on Friday, April 18 at 2 p.m. in Nelson Hall, room 101, as **we proudly celebrate our 9th year of helping caregivers** with a little party. Whether you're a caregiver, a past or future one, or seeking resources, all are welcome. Church membership is not required, and discussions remain private. Bring a friend who may benefit! For more info, contact Joan Millon at [joanmillon6@gmail.com](mailto:joanmillon6@gmail.com).

Join us again on Friday, May 2 as **Kelly Rose, Director of Life, Home & Health in Bonita Springs**, will **speak to us about their medical and non-medical health home care services**.

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## Mission Opportunity in Guatemala

**NUCC is organizing a mission trip to Guatemala from October 12-19 with spots for eight people.** Priority goes to first-time travelers, with past participants included if space allows. Join us in building stoves and supporting Guatemalan children and families through education and service. Interested? Email Susan Pezzullo at [suspezzullo@gmail.com](mailto:suspezzullo@gmail.com). Don't miss this meaningful opportunity!





# NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

## Upcoming Events

### Prospective Member Luncheon

May 4

A time to learn, ask questions and meet with the senior minister. Occurs immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service only, in Nelson Hall, room 104.

### Joining Sunday Opportunity

May 11

You may join either publicly or privately. Public joining at the 11:00 a.m. service.

For additional information, contact Membership Coordinator, Chelsea, at [chelsea@naplesucc.org](mailto:chelsea@naplesucc.org)

## 30 Good Minutes

TODAY, 10:15 AM, N-207

Kathy Book and Molly Baker, **Stephen Ministry leaders**, will share how Stephen Ministry at NUCC functions in partnership with our ministers to provide faithful care and support to members of our congregation. If you are planning to attend the 11 a.m. worship service, come early at 10:15 a.m. to hear the presentation!



## Next Sunday

**Easter Sunday, April 20**

Sunrise Service at Clam Pass

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams | 7 AM

*It Starts In the Dark*

Sanctuary Worship

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams | 9 & 11 AM

*The Gardener*

John 20: 1-18

Sanctuary Choir

Dr. Jeannie Darnell & Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloists  
brass, strings, piano, percussion, and timpani

# UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

Visit [www.NaplesUCC.org](http://www.NaplesUCC.org) to view our full calendar.

## TODAY



### Joining Sunday

9:00 AM • April 13 📍 Portico



### 30 Good Minutes

10:15 AM • April 13 📍 N-207



### Confirmation Class

11:00 AM • April 13 📍 N-201

## MONDAY



### Mahjong

1:00 PM • April 14 📍 N-101

## TUESDAY



### Prayer Shawl Ministry: New Time!

1:00 PM • April 15 📍 Parlor

## WEDNESDAY



### Men's New Chapters

10:30 AM • April 16 📍 N-101



### Lenten Wednesday Worship

12:00 PM • April 16 📍 Sanctuary



### Children's Wednesday Program: SPLASH

3:30 PM • April 16 📍 N-203

4:15 PM • Children & Youth Choir



### Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:00 PM • April 16 📍 BH & Sanctuary

## THURSDAY



### Women Engage!

1:00 PM • April 17 📍 N-104/Zoom



### Justice Committee Meeting

3:30 PM • April 17 📍 N-104/Zoom



### Maundy Thursday Worship Service

7:00 PM • April 17 📍 Sanctuary

## FRIDAY



### Caregiver's Support Group

2:00 PM • April 18 📍 N-101

## SATURDAY



### Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM • April 19 📍 BH & Sanctuary

## Women Engage!

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1:00 PM, N-104

Join us for an important conversation about reducing worry led by Linda Russell on Wednesday, April 17 at 1 p.m. in Nelson Hall, Room N-104. Together, **we'll explore ways to understand and manage anxiety in a supportive, thoughtful environment.**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1:00 PM, PARLOR

**We are now meeting at 1:00 p.m.** on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Parlor. No matter your skill level, all are invited to make memories and help us preserve this universal and embracing ministry. To find out more, contact Janet Goodhart at (610) 420-7196. Thank you to all our knitters!

## Seasonal in Naples? Become an Associate Member

***Make Naples UCC your spiritual home away from home!***

If you're here in Naples for the season but also belong to a church "up north," we invite you to become an associate member of Naples UCC! This special membership allows you to stay connected and engaged in both faith communities. As an associate member, you'll have the same voting and participation privileges as any other member of our church family.

***Join us! Sign up today in the Gathering Place*** and deepen your connection with our warm and welcoming congregation. We'd love to welcome you home!

## PRAYER LIST

Burke Anderson

Lilibet Bana

Barbara and Milton Bergwall

Thom Carley

Jim Carney

Thomas Coates

David Collard

Jack Downs

Richard Gilbert

Rosalind Gnat

Fred and Doty Gridley

Mary Grieb

Colleen Henning Hensel

Susan Hilton

Julian Humphrey

Pam Irwin

Margaret Jack

Bill Jenkins

David Johnson

Irma Johnson

Marguerite Jung

Carolyn Kois

Stew Lambert

Mike and Beth Lebo

Lily Lesley

Gay Lindquist

Garry Lormestoire

Dudley Lyons

Arlene Martin

Kevin McCarthy

Cathy and Dan McGuire

Kirk McInerney

Gordon Mounts

Gerry Nonken

N.R. Friend of Ginny Rich & Family

Dominique O'Connell

Doris Raymond

Chase Smith

Jan Stowell

Nenita Suarez

Barbara Swidler

Ri and Mike Tarnpoll

Delores Tiede

Joanie Toren

Ellen Vail

Alice Victoria Verela

JoAnn Wandrey

Marcia Waugh

Mickey and Mo Winograd

Atila Zolcsak

To add or remove a name, contact Darren Paquette by email at [darrenp@naplesucc.org](mailto:darrenp@naplesucc.org).

Names stay on the list for four weeks. To keep your loved one's name on the list longer, please contact Darren Paquette.



# NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

A Traditional Church  
for Progressive People

Naples United Church of Christ strives to show that actions speak louder than words. Our Core Values are: Open and Affirming, Mission-Driven, Powerful Worship, Continuing Generosity, Caring Ministry, Hospitable Fellowship.

We are an **Open and Affirming Congregation**, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, including persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status, and faith background. Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are proud to be one of more than 4,500+ congregations in the United Church of Christ community.

We are glad you are here! You can dress comfortably and in a manner that makes you feel at ease. Whether it's casual attire or dressed-up, we're happy to welcome you just as you are. Please know that we livestream our Sunday morning worship services and subsequently post video recordings on our website and on the internet, including social media, for later viewing. By attending a service, you acknowledge and consent to appearing in these broadcastings, recordings and postings.

## STAFF

### Clergy Team

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister  
markw@naplesucc.org

Darren Paquette, Executive Assistant  
to the Clergy Team  
darrenp@naplesucc.org

### Music Team

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf,  
Director of Music  
becky@naplesucc.org

Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist  
alexandrac@naplesucc.org

### Administrative Team

Tony Falco, Director of Technology  
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Raymond Gangl, Custodian  
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Brad Van Houten, Executive Director  
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### Program Team

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of  
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jeanne@naplesucc.org

Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

Jill Golle, Director of Community Life  
& Programs  
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Susan Melick, Events Coordinator

### The Bargain Box Thrift Store

Sandy Goldstein, Manager  
sandy@naplesucc.org

### Pastor Relations Team

Senior Minister:  
MWpastorsupport@naplesucc.org

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