



Our mission:
to nurture disciples of Jesus Christ
who join boldly with the Spirit's work
in the world.

A Service for the Lord's Day
Palm/Passion Sunday

April 2, 2023

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

The congregation is invited to take part in the procession of the palms as Massanutten Ringers play. Please join us in the Gathering Area!

Prelude *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* -Keller
Massanutten Ringers

Pouring of the Water

Greeting

Call to Worship *Cheryl Henderson, Jean Kilby,*
Nick Swartz, Kath Wissinger

*Hymn *Who Is This?* -Wissinger

The choir will sing the first verse & chorus.
The congregation will join when the text is bold.

Who is this from Galilee?
Hosanna!! Blessed is He!
Coming to Jerusalem,
Mighty Savior, Humble Lamb.

God so loved the world that He
Gave his only precious son,
Heir of David, Hail to thee!
Hosanna! Our King has come.

**Who is this from Galilee?
Hosanna!! Blessed is He!
Throw palms down to pave his way.
Our Messiah here today!**

**Knowing anguish lies ahead.
Kissed, betrayed and thrice denied,
Crown of thorns upon his head,
Calmly on a donkey rides.**

**Who is this from Galilee?
Hosanna!! Blessed is He!
Joyful crowds wave palms in praise
"Save us!" their entreaties raise.**

**But if voices cease to shout
As the Pharisees demand,
Even stones would all cry out,
"Blessed is the Son of Man." (repeat)**

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

God, forgive us for the times when we do not trust your word and do not follow where you lead. We long to be the ones who can go into the village ahead of you. Forgive us when we play it safe.

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

God, forgive us for forgetting that you are always coming toward us. You are drawing near, like a king on a donkey. Help us find you in our midst.

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Creator God, forgive us for the moments when we choose greed over generosity, or when we choose our self-image over our loyalty to you. Give us the courage to be unabashed in our faith. Give us the strength to throw our coats on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

**Son of David, give us the conviction to shout your name from the rooftop.
Give us the wisdom to sing, “Hosanna!”**

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”
The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

**With hope in our hearts we pray to you, Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth
in Galilee. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Family of faith, there will be days when we withhold our praise. There will be days when we dare not follow. There will be days when we ignore God’s call, when we choose comfort over courage, and ourselves over others. But even on those days, even on our worst days, we belong to God. Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Nothing can separate us from God’s love. We are loved, forgiven, and sent
out to serve. Hosanna! Amen.**

*Response

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (v. 3)

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**“Hosanna in the highest!”
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer;
the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice.**

We Gather Around God’s Word

Time with the Children

Hannah Altman

Message

From Mary’s Perspective

-J. Kilby

Jody Humphreys and Nancy Wayland

Throughout the message, we will hear verses from hymn #200:

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd.

The congregation will join the choir singing the final verse, as directed:

**Instead of palms, a winding sheet
will have to be unrolled,
a carpet much more fit to greet
the king a cross will hold.**

We Respond to God’s Word

*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in a God who walks headfirst into the world’s suffering,
who lights a candle in the darkest night**

who pulls back the curtain so we can see the stars.

**We believe in a God who does not shy away from the truth,
who is bold in seeking justice,**

and humble in taking power.

**We believe in a God who sees our hurt and wraps love around it,
cocooning us in hope,**

tethering us to one another.

**We believe in a God who is always carrying us
from the pain of the world**

into the hope of a new day.

That is where God is headed.

That is where we follow.

May it be so.

Amen.

Anthem

What Wondrous Love is This

-arr. Mansfield

As the choir sings, and we reflect on God’s wondrous love, we are invited to respond to this love through an offering from our lives. Gifts may be left in the offering plate following the service, or on our website: www.massanuttenchurch.org or by mail.

We Look Toward the Passion

Prayer of Preparation (*unison*)

Merciful God, in your love for all humanity, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus, to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility. Now, turn our attention toward this Holy Week ahead, even as we keep our eye on the day of resurrection, Amen.

The Tables are overturned (Luke 19:45-46)

The Anointing at Bethany (Matthew 26:6-13)

The Betrayal is Planned (Luke 22:1-6)

The Passover Meal is shared (Luke 22:14-23)

The Prayer in Gethsemane (Luke 22:39-46)

*Stay with me; remain here with me;
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.
(Repeat several times)*

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

We Depart to Follow Jesus

Benediction

Benediction Response

Pie Jesu
Massanutten Ringers

Webber/Wagner

**Massanutten Presbyterian Church
Session and Staff**

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Melissa Caldwell	Ka Guinn	Jan Arnold
Matt Hamblen	John Kaltenborn	Ben Craig
Janet Morris	Bill Kilby	Bill Frazier
Doug Smith	Ron Matthews	Chris Hamilton
Skip Wissinger	Janina Peachey	Julia Sensabaugh

Clerk: Jody Humphreys; **Moderators:** Ann Pettit and Keith Phillips

Ann Pettit and Keith Phillips, Co-Pastors

(apettit@massanuttenchurch.org; kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org)

Bob Jerome, Director of Music (bjerome@massanuttenchurch.org)

Carol Lown, Organist (clown@massanuttenchurch.org)

Hannah Altman, Children and Youth Program Director (haltman@massanuttenchurch.org)

Karen Leecy, Office Manager (kleecy@massanuttenchurch.org)

Danielle Cunningham, Digital Media Communications Coordinator
(dcunningham@massanuttenchurch.org)


Katie Rodgers, Nursery Caregiver; Greg Trobaugh, Treasurer (gtrobaugh@comcast.net)

Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes, Custodians

50 Indian Trail Road * Penn Laird Virginia 22846 * 540-434-6194

Life at Massanutten

- Next Sunday we will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus with song, prayers, fellowship and the Word proclaimed. We will also have opportunity to celebrate through an offering from our lives. **Along with our regular giving, we will be receiving The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.** Gifts to this support the PC(USA) in its response to disasters throughout the world. You may make your gift online or by cash or check. Please note OGHS on your check or offering envelope.
- **Adult Education opportunities** beginning April 16th at 9:00 am each Sunday include:
 - Faithful Conversations: The Apostles' Creed. A six-week study that explores the meaning of the phrases of this familiar and ancient creed. What we learn can deepen our devotion, and give a vision for Christian living and action in the church and the world.
 - Covenant Class: Study of James. A six-week study on the Book of James exploring how both Paul and James approach the importance of "works" in relation to faith and salvation. At the heart of this short letter is an absolute conviction that love of one's neighbor fulfills the Law.
- **RAM: Remote Area Medical Clinic needs.** RAM will be held at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds May 5-7. MPC is collecting food for the providers that come to our area while they are working. The following is needed: *Juice Boxes, Energy Bars and Breakfast Bars.* Please leave your contribution marked for RAM in the Narthex.
- The **Shenandoah Valley Choral Society**, under the direction of Curtis Nolley, will present its spring concert on Fri., Apr. 14th, 7:30pm, and Sun., Apr. 16th, 3:00 pm, at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Tickets are available at the door or online at singshenandoah.org. Admission \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students.
- Thank you for your gifts to the PW's **FLOCKS OF CHICKS** mission project. Stop by the table in the narthex to learn more. Gifts will be received through April 9th.
- **Safety Message:** Lights and Locks—Leave a room as you found it. Turn off the lights and lock the door.



**Bold Faith + Extravagant Generosity
= Changing Lives**

On January 1, 2021, the balance on our mortgage was \$1,071,111. As of March 22, 2023, our balance was \$218,584 - a decrease of **\$852,527** since January 2021.

Since the Debt Elimination Campaign began in September 2021, \$732,181 has been paid on the mortgage as a result of budgeted mortgage payments, additional giving to reduce debt through the year, and gifts made toward campaign commitments. **To God be the Glory!**

This Week At MPC

Sunday, April 2—Palm Sunday

9:00am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Faith Village
High School Breakfast
Parent Fellowship
10:00am Coffee Fellowship (GA)
10:30am Worship
No Godly Play
11:30am Sanctuary in use until 3pm
5:00pm Fun with Handbells
6:00pm Youth Dinner & Fellowship

Monday, April 3

7:00pm Massanutten Ringers
Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 4

7:15pm Treble Choir (CR)

Wednesday, April 5

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 6

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 7 *Church Office Closed*

7:00pm Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 8 *Church Office Closed*

Sunday, April 9—Easter

9:00am Easter Breakfast
9:45am Easter Egg Hunt
10:30am Worship
No Godly Play
No Evening Youth Activities

Monday, April 11 *Church Office Closed*

Holy Week at MPC

Thursday, April 6—Maundy Thursday: we will remember Jesus' Last Supper in our 7:00 pm worship service.

Friday, April 7—Good Friday: we will prayerfully reflect on the Passion of our Lord in our 7:00 pm worship service.

Easter Sunday at MPC

Sunday, April 9— Upon arrival: you are invited to add flowers to the cross.

9:00 am—Our youth families invite us to breakfast in the fellowship hall.

9:45 am—Our youth invite children birth—5th grade to a fun egg hunt on the lawn.

10:30 am—The Lord is Risen! We will worship God and celebrate.

Serving April 2

Door Monitor: Dick Leecy & Marc Davis

Greeters: Jon and Mary Ann Alger

Ushers and Water Pourers:
Frank & Jean Gearing

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Diann Reed

Faith Village: Jennifer Coffelt & Jeannie Sutherland

No Godly Play

HS Breakfast: Diann & Robin Reed

MS Youth: Sarah Rimer

HS Youth: Gus Scheidt

Serving April 9

Door Monitor: Frank Gearing & Marc Davis

Greeters: Tom and Gina Holden

Ushers and Water Pourers:
Sally Brown & Julia Sensabaugh

Nursery: Katie Rodgers

No Faith Village

No Godly Play

No HS Breakfast

No Evening Youth Activities

Children and Youth

Sunday, April 2

9:30am Faith Village
Parent Fellowship
HS Breakfast
10:30am Worship
5:00pm Fun with Handbells
6:00pm Youth Dinner & Fellowship

Sunday, April 9

9:00am Easter Breakfast
9:45am Easter Egg Hunt on the Lawn
10:30am Worship

There will be no evening programming for youth tonight.

Seeking to nurture and empower our children and youth to live and serve in the world as loving disciples of Jesus Christ.