



First Congregational Church of Long Beach
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

APRIL 13, 2025 • 10 A.M.
PALM & PASSION SUNDAY

Our Mission:

to be a visible and prophetic presence in the church and in the world,
to steadfastly proclaim the radically inclusive love of God,
to be open to, and celebrate differences; to honor thinking for oneself,
to faithfully work for the inclusion of, and justice for all people, regardless of
age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, race or national
origin, or any particular element of a person's total humanity, and for all of
God's creation.

***Please join in where words are shown in bold type.
Please stand if you are able for items with an asterisk*.***

*Centering ourselves with the sound of the chime
and the Land Acknowledgement*

Prelude "All Glory, Laud and Honor" (St. Theodulph) Dr. Marc Dickey
Dale Wood

***Call to Celebration** The Rev. Hoeger and The Rev. Petra Malleis-Sternberg
from Psalm 118

One: Open the doors of this holy place, so that we may enter and give thanks
to God, for this is the day that God has made.

Many: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

One: God has opened the doors of grace and justice, and all creation is
invited to join in praise, for this is the day that God has made.

Many: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Blessed is the One who comes in God's name to deliver us and renew
our hope, for this is the day that God has made.

Many: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

***Processional Hymn** Pave the Way with Branches
See Page 8

Invocation

Rev. Malleis-Sternberg

Introit

Celebration Fanfare
Bob Burroughs

Jubellance

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Hoeger

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Hoeger

Welcome Song

The children are invited to come forward during this song.

O, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, Fling the
church doors o-pen wide. May there be room e-nough for
ev-'ry-one in - side. For in God there is a
wel-come, In God we all be - long. May that
wel - come be our song.

Time with the Children

Tracy Halter-Balin and Rev. Malleis-Sternberg

Anthem

Sing Out a Joyful Song in Praise
Dale Wood

Sanctuary Choir
Bells

The children are dismissed to their Sunday School classes.

Scripture

Luke 19: 28-40
New Revised Standard Version

Rev. Katy Hyman

After Jesus 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, Jesus 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. As he was now 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,

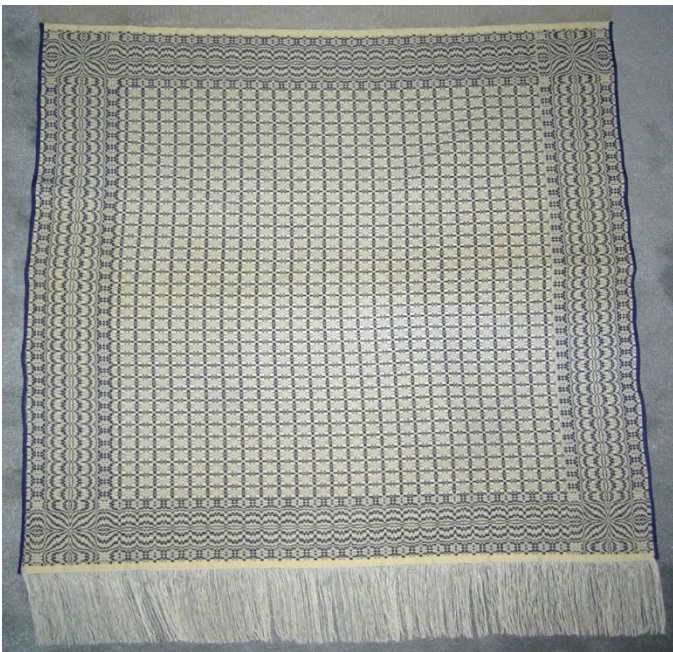
'Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

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.'

Contemporary Artwork

Rev. Hyman

1870's Hand Woven Overshot Coverlet
From the Looms of Pic Dendy



In "Luke 19:35," I used artistic liberties to substitute my Hand Woven copy of the 1870 Overshot Coverlet to replace the word cloaks that was originally placed upon the colt before Jesus was set on it.

Overshot coverlet handwoven blankets have a history rooted in Northern European weaving and gained popularity in the United States during the mid-1700s, especially in New England and later in the American South.

When I first started doing loom weaving projects, I was really taken in by Overshot Weavings because these designs to me looked alive with movement, and I wanted

a real challenge to try in my young weaving life.

This project is entitled “Lee’s Surrender” and I have included here the original Weaving Threading and Treading Draft.

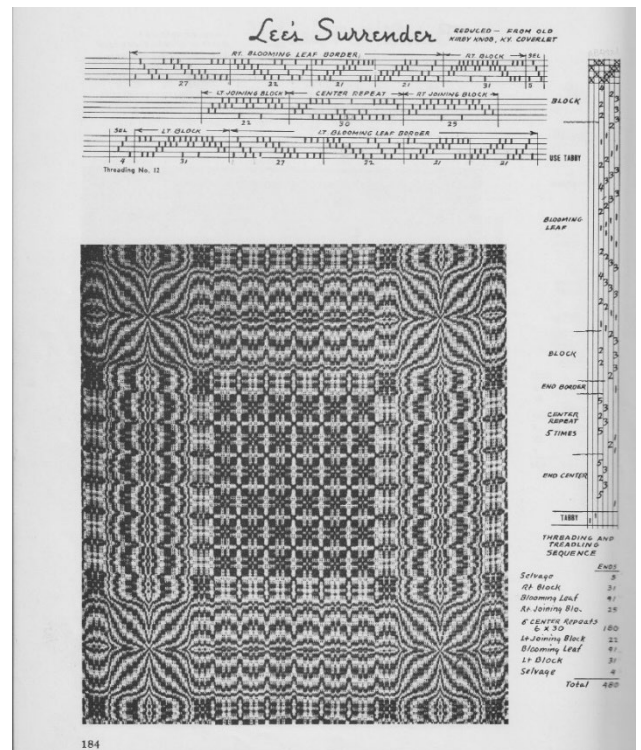
The overshot weave is a twill derivative that is made up of a repetitive sequence of the 1 and 2, 2 and 3, 3 and 4, and 4 and 1 twill blocks. In the twill, each block contains only two threads; in the overshot, each block has been extended to at least four or six threads; meaning the weft overshoots (lays over) four or six warp threads to create a pattern and includes a plain weave tabby thread to lock the overshot design pattern in place. My coverlet’s “Pattern Radiates Maple Leaves” in each of the four corners; just to name a few of the pattern designs, without getting into too much technical details, within the weaving pattern’s thread placement in the Loom’s Frames and Heddle Threading.

This weaving design is taken from “A Handweaver’s Pattern Book”, by Marguerite Porter Davison, 1887 – 1953. Ms. Davison is considered one of the leading authorities on hand weaving in this country.

The finished size of my Hand Woven 1870’s Coverlet is 35” X 40” with 5” of Fringe. The yarn used for the Warp and Tabby threads is 20/2 2 ply medium S twist White Mercerized yarn and the Weft yarn is “Black” Wool 2 ply soft, 2/8 yarn S twist.

I used a 15 Dent to the inch Reed – that was 36” wide threaded 15 X 2 per dent for a total of 1080 threads ends in the Warp.

Clarence J Dendy Jr



Special Music Benedictus, from the Kleine Orgelmesse Megan O'Toole, soprano
Franz Joseph Haydn
Dr. Marc Dickey, organ

Sermon Cloaks, Branches, and Stones Rev. Malleis-Sternberg

Hymn, No. 485 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go
See Page 9

Prayers of the People Rev. Hoeger
Our Common Prayer

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the people of the earth!
With the bread we need today, feed us.
For the hurts we inflict on one another, forgive us.
In the time of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For your reign is in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever.
Amen.**

Offering

Invitation to Give

Rev. Hyman

Offertory

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”
African American spiritual
set by Dale Wood

Dr. Dickey

*Scan for our secure online donation site or go to
firstchurchlb.org/donate
Or mail a check to First Congregational Church,
241 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802*



*Doxology: Old Hundredth (Hymn No. 7)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God with all the hosts above;
Praise God in wonder, joy and love.**

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Hoeger

***Recessional Hymn #216** All Glory, Laud and Honor
See Page 10

***Benediction**

Rev. Malleis-Sternberg

Postlude

Vexilla Regis (The Royal Banners Forward Go)
6th century chant
set by Richard Purvis

Dr. Dickey

One License: 706147-A (in support of our livestream)

The sanctuary flowers this morning are provided by Steve Crow in gratitude to all who contribute to our vital education programs from Sunday school through adult education, focused series, and special forums.

On Palm Sunday, Christians around the world wave palms in worship, and we are joining this year the growing movement of congregations that use Eco-Palms. These palms are sustainably grown and harvested in Guatemala and Mexico. All of the harvesting communities either have or are in the process of obtaining an outside sustainable certification from SmartWood, a division of Rainforest Alliance. The forests in which these palms reside are being protected from agriculture and logging because of the palms' residence. And, over 25% of the cost goes directly back to the communities where they are harvested.

Parish Concerns

Please remember in your prayers: Bill Peck on the passing of his mother Mary Amelia Perry Roberge, Megan Holycross, Don Donan, Kathleen ODaniels, Ayomide Akinngbe, Beau Chandler, Kathy Wallace-Phelps, Wayne Hester, Joanne Paine, Aida Porteneuve, Marion Hinze, Ben Rockwell, Dale Whitney.

To submit joys and concerns for inclusion in the bulletin and the newsletter and to subscribe to the newsletter, contact the office: office@firstchurchlb.org.

Birthdays This Week – Happy Birthday!

15 Vicki Young	17 Roger Reid
16 Femi Akinngbe, Ellen Kameya, Adrinna Martinez	19 Claude Berry
	20 Deb Buller, Jeff Ford

This Week at First Church

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday

8:45 AM Adult Education

9:00 AM All Seasons Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

9:30 AM Charming Chimes Rehearsal – Bell Room

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

10:00 AM Service of Celebration – Sanctuary & [Youtube.com/1stchurch](https://www.youtube.com/1stchurch)

Sunday School – Vaughn 4, Klar 1, Sacred Space & High School Room

11:15 AM Beloved Bells Rehearsal – Bell Room

1:30 PM UCO Drop-In Center – Patterson Hall

Monday, April 14

10:00 AM Archives Group - Ramsay Dining Room

Tuesday, April 15

10:00 AM Senior Coffee & Conversation – Koinonia

7:00 PM Personnel Committee – Zoom

Wednesday, April 16

7:00 PM UCO Board Meeting – Zoom

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday

4:00 PM DAYS Safe Passage – Klar 2 & 3

5:30 PM DAYS Leaders LB – Klar 2 & 3

6:00 PM Bellissimo Rehearsal – Bell Room

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service and Communion

8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday

1:30 PM DAYS Grocery Program

Saturday, April 19 – Holy Saturday

9:30 AM Golf Group – Off-site at a local golf course

10:00 AM Easter Decorating – Sanctuary
UCO Food Drive – Maple Way Alley

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday

8:45 AM Adult Education

9:00 AM Easter Breakfast

9:30 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

10:00 AM Service of Celebration – Sanctuary & Youtube.com/1stchurch
Sunday School – Vaughn 4, Klar 1, Sacred Space & High School Room

11:15 AM Egg Hunt and Reception – Patterson Hall and Courtyard

11:30 AM Women's Group – Pownall Room & Zoom

1:30 PM UCO Drop-In Center – Patterson Hall

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH LONG BEACH

You are invited to join in community this Holy Week and Easter.

Palm Sunday, April 13

10:00 am **Celebration and Palm
Procession**

Maundy Thursday, April 17

7:00 pm **Worship and Communion**
with Bells and Choir

Easter Sunday, April 20

9:00am **Easter Breakfast,**
Patterson Hall

10:00am **Easter Celebration Service,**
Sanctuary

11:15 am **Easter Reception, Egg Hunt**
Courtyard and Koinonia

SHEDDING &
CULTIVATING



Pave the Way with Justice



1. Je - sus is com - ing... Pave the way with just - ice.*
 2. Hope for the down - trod... Pave the way with just - ice.
 3. Land for the land - less... Pave the way with just - ice.
 4. Debts are for - giv - en... Pave the way with just - ice.
 -lease for the cap - tives. Pave the way with just - ice. Re -
 suf - fer - ing ser - vant... Pave the way with just - ice. The



Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na.
 Hope for the down - trod. Ho - san - na.
 Land for the land - less. Ho - san - na.
 Debts are for - giv - en. Ho - san - na. 5. Re-
 -lease for the cap - tives. Ho - san - na. 6. The
 suf - fer - ing ser - vant. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na. Je - sus is com - ing, Ho - sa - na to the



Prince of Peace. Ho - san - na. Je - sus is com - ing, Ho -



- sa - na to the Prince of Peace.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

485

George Matheson, 1882; alt.

Rom. 8:38-39; John 8:12

1 O Love that will not let me go,
 2 O Light that fol - lows all my way,
 3 O Joy that seeks me through my pain,
 4 O Cross that rais - es up my head,

I rest my wea - ry soul in you;
 to you I yield my flick - ering flame;
 to you I can - not close my heart;
 from you I dare not seek to flee;

I give you back the life I owe, that
 Re - new my spir - it's fee - ble ray, that
 I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and
 Life's glo - ries with - er and are dead, but

in your o - cean depths its flow may swell with ar - dor true.
 from your bril - liant sun - lit day it may new bright - ness claim.
 know the prom - ise is not vain that you will ne'er de - part.
 from the ground there blos - soms red, life that shall end - less be.

Although he was nearly blind, George Matheson studied for the Church of Scotland ministry, assisted by his sisters, who learned Latin, Greek, and Hebrew to help him. Matheson wrote this hymn in five minutes on June 6, 1882, at his parsonage.

Tune: ST. MARGARET 8.8.8.8.6.
 Albert L. Peace, 1885

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

216

Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.

Matt. 21:8-9

1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
 2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da-vid's roy - al line,
 3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
 whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.

The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,

our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

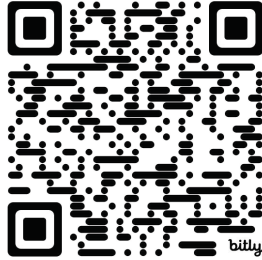
Brought to France by Charlemagne, Theodulph became
 bishop of Orléans but was later imprisoned by Charlemagne's
 successor. According to legend, he was released when the
 king, Louis the Pious, heard him sing this hymn from prison.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
 (VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
 Melchior Teschner, 1615
 For another setting, see 217

Easter Flowers

To contribute toward the flowers that will adorn the sanctuary on Easter Day please do one of the following:

1. Visit the QR code below to fill out the form and pay online



2. Fill out the form below and place both the form and payment in the offering plate or return to the church office

The dedications will be in the bulletin on Sunday, April 20th.

Deadline: Sunday, April 13

Please print clearly!

Name _____

Phone number _____

Number of flowers _____ x \$10 per plant = \$ _____ enclosed

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In celebration of: _____



First Congregational Church of Long Beach
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Doug Emslie, Vice Moderator

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Rev. Petra Malleis-Sternberg, Senior
Minister

pmsternberg@firstchurchlb.org

Rev. Wally Hoeger, Associate Minister

whoeger@firstchurchlb.org

MUSIC STAFF

Curtis Heard, Director of Music

Tracy Halter-Balin, Associate Director of
Music

Dr. Marc Dickey, Organist

Megan O'Toole, Soprano Soloist

Lisa Bode Heard, Alto Soloist

Charlie Carlos, Tenor Soloist

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Homero Salgado, **Justin Strawther**,

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Rev. Katy Hyman, Director of Pediatric
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Rev. Laverne R. Joseph, Former President
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