

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

Niles, OH 44446

www.firstchristianniles.org

Rev. Christopher Stark, Minister

10:45 A.M.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

MARCH 25, 2018

WE BEGIN OUR TIME TOGETHER

NEWS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign and pass the attendance pad across in your row, recognizing and greeting members and guests. Include children/family elsewhere in the building.)

EASTER BASKET PRESENTATION for HOMES FOR KIDS

WE MEET OUR LORD TOGETHER AND OFFER OUR PRAISE

* CENTERING (Responsively)

Leader: Blessed are those who delight in worship. Blessed are the ones who come in God's name.

People: Give thanks to God, all who assemble here. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let all who follow Christ sing God's praise. Because of God's help, we are not disgraced.

People: Open the gates of righteousness that we might enter. The works of God are marvelous in our eyes.

Leader: This is the day that our God has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: Hosanna! Let every knee bend before Jesus! Let every tongue welcome Christ's reign! Hosanna!

*PRAISE SONG 'All Glory, Laud, and Honor' CH p. 192

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

This is your day, holy God. Every day belongs to you. We would empty ourselves before you so there will be room for your entrance into our minds and hearts. Our times are in your hands. This precious gift of life is ours, in trust, from you. We give thanks, for your steadfast love endures forever. That love, expressed in the life of Jesus, dared to challenge those centers of power that lived by other standards. We come to declare that love today. Reign among us, we pray. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WE PRAY TOGETHER

PRAYER CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHOIR SELECTION 'Let the Stones Shout'

(Grades Kindergarten through Grade 4 to go to Junior Worship. Please gather at the back of the sanctuary.)

SCRIPTURE Matthew 21: 1-11 NT p. 23

MESSAGE 'In the Middle of it, ME!'

WE SHARE THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP 'An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare' v.1-3 CH p. 385

Elders Serving: Becky Carpenter and Marlene Garcar

COMING TO THE TABLE

(Please come forward from the center aisle and dip the bread into the cup. Those unable to come forward please stay seated and a deacon will bring the bread and cup to you.)

OFFERTORY MOMENT

OFFERING OUR GIFTS (Deacons will pass trays)

DOXOLOGY CH p. 47

PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS

WE DEPART TO SERVE

THE INVITATION

(All who will accept Christ as Lord of their lives and those who desire to transfer membership are invited to come forward at this time.)

HYMN OF INVITATION 'I Would Be True' CH p. 608

LITANY OF BLESSING

Leader: "Truly this man Jesus was God's Son."

People: As disciples of Jesus, truly we are God's children.

Leader: Go into this week with the knowledge that resurrection will come, even when it seems there is no tomorrow.

People: May we be blessed and be a blessing,

Leader: Go with the courage to stand with those in need.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

CLOSING SONG 'Tis the Gift to be Simple' CH p. 568

* Please stand if able

2018 EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING, which supports the General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will be received today through Easter Sunday. Special offering envelopes are included in today's bulletin.

CHILD CARE for **AGES 2 TO 4** is now available for the entire worship service. They will be brought forward for the Children's Moment. Please be sure to sign your child in and out.

THE ELDERS MAKE MONTHLY CALLS taking communion to members who are unable to make it to church. Please let an elder or the church office know of anyone to be added to our list.

PRAYER VIGIL **March 31, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.** There are a few time slots that still need to be filled. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the parlor. Sign up today!

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE **March 29, 7:30 p.m.**

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE **March 30, 7:30 p.m.**

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE **April 1, 10 a.m.**

AN EASTER EGG HUNT, sponsored by the Christian Education Committee, will be held Easter morning for young people through Grade 5. Everyone, including teachers, should meet in the Board Room at **9:15 a.m.**

EASTER LILLY ORDERS are due **TODAY**.

MISSIONS EASTER CANDY SALE today

ATTENTION CAMPERS!! **CAMP REGISTRATIONS with HEALTH FORMS** are posted on the bulletin board by the main office. If applicant has fulfilled the attendance requirement adopted by the First Christian Church board, **early bird registration fee of \$240**, along with camp **registration** and **health form**, are due to the church office by **Mon., April 23**.

A YOUNGSTOWN RESCUE MISSION DINNER will be served this Tues., March 27 from 5-7 p.m. by FCC volunteers. When providing desserts for these dinners, have items to the church **by 11 a.m.** using buzzer and door closest to the library parking lot.

BIBLE STUDY March 27, 7 p.m., parlor

52ND ANNUAL NILES INTERFAITH BANQUET will be held at Ciminero's Banquet Centre on Sunday, April 8. Social hour will begin at 4 p.m. Buffet dinner is at 5 p.m. See Georgeanne Walters for tickets or the church office. Cost is \$20 each. Guest speaker will be Father Korda from St. Stephen Church. Please bring canned goods for Niles Community Services.

BUDGET RECEIPTS LAST WEEK WERE:

\$2,632.00

CALENDAR

Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Church School
	10:45 p.m.	Palm Sunday Worship Service
Tues.	5-7 p.m.	Youngstown Rescue Mission dinner served
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study - parlor
Wed.	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri.	7:30 p.m.	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sat.	8 a.m.-6 p.m.	Prayer Vigil – Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Committee – decorating sanctuary
Sun.	9:15 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Worship Service