To Contact Us:

Church Office: 978-939-8821

Church website: [www.baldwinvillecongochurch.org](http://www.baldwinvillecongochurch.org/)

 Minister: Rev. Richard A. Jones -413-283- 4440

 E-mail Revraj@aol.com

 Organist: Michelle Salvanelli

 Vidiographer: Jeff Salvanelli

 Church WiFi password: Memorial 1874

Deacon of the Month: Joanne Francis

Reader Today Nowell Francis

 ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION TODAY

We take communion by intinction. We invite all who would share in Christ’s grace to come forward and take bread and dip it in the communion cup and eat with the blessing of God.

Today: Confirmation after church

Next Sunday: 6:30 AM -Sunrise service, 68 Norcross Hill

 7:10 Easter Breakfast -downstairs

Sunday April 16: Deacons after church

Wed. April 19, 6:30 -Ames More Guild

 Meditation Thought

“The resurrection is in part about the sheer toughness and persistence of God’s love. When we have done our worst, God remains God -- and remains committed to being our God. God was God even while God in human flesh was dying in anguish on the cross; God is God now in the new life of Jesus raised from death.” - Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, from his book Tokens of Trust

MEMORIAL CONGREGATIONAL

 CHURCH U.C.C.

 Baldwinville

***An Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ***

 April 2, 2023 10:00 AM

 Palm Sunday

***No Matter Who You Are, No Matter Where You Are on Life’s***

***Journey, You Are Welcome Here!***

PRELUDE:

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus comes to the city as he came long ago, some are

 cheering, some are plotting, some ready to sneer with

 distain. Come, make ready your place.

**ALL: We come, seeking to follow faithfully. We want to**

 **embrace the grace he offers and to join the kingdom of**

 **his calling.**

One: Come then, sing your Hosanna’s, and pray for the

 strength to walk the journey through.

**ALL:**  **We lift up our voices and gather our palms as we ask**

 **God’s guidance for the unknown path ahead.**

\*OPENING HYMN:  *Ride On Ride On* Black Hymnal # 215

OPENING PRAYER: (unison) **Gracious God we come together remembering how Jesus came to that ancient city amidst shouts of praise. We would not mouth empty words or live with feeble faith. Instead, O God, grant us a truer sense of your mystery and wonder and help us to find a deeper commitment to follow Christ on the road of life we travel. Stir us, Lord, to be moved to truer service and more joyous lives as we let his love and forgiveness fill our hearts. Help us to leave behind all that is negative and destructive and to build a world more ready to receive him. Amen**

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you!

Many: And also with you!

\*AMEN (Sung twice): Red Hymnal #317

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD:

As you bring your offering let us sing together:

 **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

 **Praise God, all creatures here below;**

 **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

 **Praise God above, you heavenly host;**

 **Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

 **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

 **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*DEDICATION**: O God of journeys ancient and new we come to you seeking to be a faithful pilgrim people. We bring these offerings to your service with thanksgiving and hope. Transform our faltering faith that we may be steadfast in purpose and ever in praise. Amen**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE:**  Matthew 21: 1 -11

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE:** Matthew: **27:** 1-2 & 27 -40

**SERMON MEDITATION***: What a Week?*

**\*COMMUNION HYMN:**   *Beneath the Cross the of Jesus*

 Black hymnal # 190

**SHARING OUR PRAYERS, OUR JOYS, OUR HOPES --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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**-Response (sung)**

***Hear our Prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer O Lord.***

***Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace*.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Everyone, of all ages, who seeks God’s presence is welcome at this table!.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION -Minister

**DECLARATION**:

Minister: And so, remembering what Christ has done for us, we

 come to this table in thanksgiving and commitment, affirming

 the ancient creed of our faith:

**ALL:**(Sung) **Christ has died. Christ has Risen. Christ will**

 **come again.**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

\*HYMN: *All Glory Laud and Honor Black* hymnal # 216

\*SENDING FORTH:

One: May God bless and strengthen you for the living of your

 lives.

**ALL: We trust in God’s Holy Presence to renew us and to**

 **stand with us through all of life’s journey. Thanks be to**

 **God!**

POSTLUDE: