



THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor, Steve Autrey

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, filled with crowds, celebration, and a hopeful people longing for change. As Jesus enters Jerusalem, people line the streets, waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna, save us now!" This moment is filled with excitement and anticipation, as it seems the long-awaited king has finally arrived, promising a brighter future.

However, the way Jesus enters the city conveys a different message. Rather than showcasing military strength, his entry invites us to embrace humility and reevaluate our concepts of power and salvation. He does not arrive with force or spectacle, emphasizing the contrast between worldly strength and divine kingship. There are no soldiers, no war horses, no display of strength as the world understands it. Instead, he comes riding a donkey, an image drawn from the prophets, pointing to a different kind of kingship. On that small donkey, Jesus is making a big statement. Jesus is not just fulfilling scripture; he is revealing something about the nature of God's kingdom.

At the same time, Jerusalem would also have witnessed the presence of Roman authority during Passover, a reminder of the power that ruled through control, fear, and domination. In contrast, Jesus enters in a way that seems almost understated, even vulnerable, highlighting how true power may look different from worldly displays. And yet, in that contrast, something is exposed. What if true power does not look like we expect? What if God's way of bringing salvation is not through force, but through something quieter, deeper, and ultimately more transformative?

Palm Sunday invites us into that tension.

It is easy to join the crowd in celebration when hope feels close at hand. It is harder to recognize that Jesus may not meet our expectations in the ways we imagine. The same voices that cry "Hosanna" will soon face the reality that this king's path leads not to immediate triumph, but to the cross.

This Sunday, we'll reflect on [Matthew 21:1-11](#) and what it means to follow a king who comes to us differently than we expect, one who challenges our assumptions about power, invites us to trust a different way, and leads us into the unfolding story of Holy Week. This reflection helps us understand Jesus' kingship and God's kingdom more deeply, inspiring us to see beyond worldly notions of power.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve

Ongoing Conversations Podcast

Pastors Steve Autrey and Paul Thompson discuss Holy Week and Easter preparations while exploring the significance of Palm Sunday, contrasting Jesus' humble entry into Jerusalem on a donkey with the Roman Governor Pilate's military procession.





WORSHIP

join us in praising our Lord



Next week is Holy Week. In order to prepare our hearts for the miracle this season brings, below is our upcoming Holy Week worship schedule:



This Sunday, March 29th

Our Palm Sunday celebration will be a combined service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary. During this time, there will be a special Palm Sunday entrance that all kids are invited to be a part of during the Responsive Hymn, "Hosanna" Hymn Medley. Parents, to invite your child to participate, you can click [here](#) to watch a fun explanation of why we wave our palm branches!



Thursday, April 2nd

Maundy Thursday is a beautiful, yet somber time of worship commemorating The Last Supper, signaling the beginning of the events that lead up to Jesus' being crucified. This year during Lent, we have partnered with Salem UMC for the Lenten services. Since DUMC hosted Ash Wednesday, we are inviting the DUMC family to attend Salem's dramatization of 'The Living Last Supper' at 7:00pm.



Easter Sunday is next Sunday, April 5th. Denver offers three different services, all with different styles and atmospheres. Each provides opportunity to honor and recognize God's act of unimaginable love through the sacrifice of His only Son. Our Easter Worship schedule is as follows:



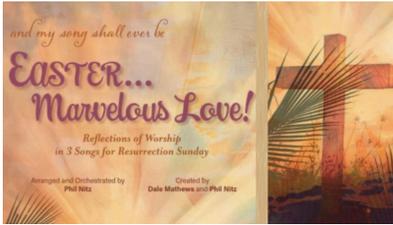
Acoustic Sunrise

This intimate setting offers an outdoor time of celebration as the sun rises on the greatest miracle in history: Jesus' overcoming the grave! This service happens at 7:00am in front of the big, white Graveyard Cross.



Contemporary PRAISEntation

Our Harbor Worship Praise Team will present this year's PRAISEntation during the Contemporary Service hour in the FLC. This will be a time of invitation into congregational worship in an informal setting as the Praise Team offers worship/celebration of Jesus' defeat over the death! *This service happens at 9:00am in the FLC.*



Traditional Choir Cantata

This year, Denver's Chancel Choir will present their Easter Cantata entitled,, "Easter...Marvelous Love!" during the Traditional Service hour on Easter Sunday. Described as Magnificent and Marvelous...two emotively descriptive words one might use to describe the depth, importance, and value of our Savior's love for us. This musical presentation is a reflection of worship that offers three songs for

Resurrection Sunday! *This service happens at 11:00am in the Sanctuary.*

Please make note of all Holy Week/Easter services and plan to come together to celebrate Jesus defeating death!

March 22, 2026 Worship Attendance	
9:00	102
11:00	151
Children	35
Total	288
Average Online Views	64



GIVING REPORT

updated financial news

Ministry Operations

DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR THIS FUND GO TOWARDS MINISTRY AND OUTREACH, IN ADDITION TO ALL NECESSARY STAFFING AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR HOSTING WORSHIP SERVICES AND MAINTAINING OUR CHURCH GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

BUDGET INCOME EXPECTED TO DATE: \$285,004

ACTUAL INCOME RECEIVED TO DATE: \$280,536

2026

MINISTRY OPERATIONS ANNUAL BUDGET: \$1,382,987

For questions about giving, please reach out to Cameron Wilson at finance@denverumc.org. We appreciate your generosity and support!

Give Now



CALENDAR

we'll see you there!

For information about upcoming events, go to <https://www.denverumc.org/events>

Upcoming Events

- 3/29 10am | **Palm Sunday Combined Worship** | worship@denverumc.org
- 3/30 2:30pm | **American Red Cross Blood Drive** | carol.brown@denverumc.org
- 4/1 9:30am | **Chicken Pickin'** | denzilbell@gmail.com
- 4/2 6:45pm | **Final Leadership Discipleship Experience** | discipleship@denverumc.org
- 4/2 10am | **Prayer Team** | prayers@denverumc.org
- 4/2 11am | **First Thursday Lunch** | denzilbell@gmail.com
- 4/2 7pm | **Maundy Thursday Service at Salem UMC** | salemunitedmethodist.com
- 4/4 1-3pm | **Easter Eggstravaganza** | kids@denverumc.org
- 4/5 7am/9am/11am | **Easter Services** | worship@denverumc.org
- 4/6 **Easter Monday - Church Office Closed** | news@denverumc.org
- 4/6 10:30am | **Helping Hands Meeting** | helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com
- 4/9 (through the 12th) | **Men's Walk to Emmaus** | wendi.sweet@denverumc.org
- 4/9 11am | **J.O.Y. Group** | rosannekocher@gmail.com
- 4/16 (through the 20th) | **Trinidad Mission Trip** | outreach@denverumc.org



Events Calendar

Scan to Give



LIFE AT DUMC

things to know, celebrate, & look forward to!



First Thursday Lunch - April 2nd!

Join us on Thursday, April 2nd, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the FLC for chicken pie, baked spaghetti, chili dogs, sides, homemade desserts, and lots of fellowship! Dine in or take out. To order 8"x8" whole pies, call the church office at 704-483-1601 or [email Beth Bynum](mailto:beth.bynum@denverumc.org) by Tuesday, March 31st to ensure availability.

Join us on Wednesday, April 1st, in the FLC at 9:30 a.m. to help pick chicken! New pickers are always welcome! All proceeds support local children and their families.



American Red Cross Blood Drive - Next Monday, March 30, 2:30-6:30 p.m.

We need **11 more donors**, and it's not too late to sign up to donate blood here in the CORC, next Monday! All donors will receive a \$15 e-gift card, and successful donors will receive free A1C testing (available to donors only once per calendar year). Click [here](#) or call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule your appointment.



OUTREACH

unleashing compassion



Furnish a Future

Furnish a Future Needs

Our [Furnish a Future ministry](#) allows us to donate our "excess" furniture and household goods to neighbors escaping homelessness, domestic violence, or other situations, leaving them with little or no furniture or means to purchase it. In just the first 12 weeks of this year, we have provided furniture and household goods to 27 families,

including 25 beds for neighbors who did not have one! **We currently need** sofas, love seats, kitchen tables and chairs, lamps, and twin, full, and queen mattress sets. The Mission Depot is open Tuesdays from 10:00 am - noon. You can also email FaF@denverumc.org or call Dale at (704) 269-2875.

Help with pick up and delivery! If you are occasionally available to help pick up and deliver donations, contact Dennis, lkndawg@yahoo.com. Thank you for supporting this amazing ministry!



Harbour Health Spring Gala - March 27th, 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Support Harbor Health, formerly Heartbeats Women's Center, through this annual event at Crowe Mansion. Click [here](#) for details and to purchase tickets.



Come on Down!

Support the Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center by participating in "The Price is Right - Hee Haw Edition", March 28th at 6:00 pm. Click [here](#) for details.

Helping Hands

building community through service

Helping Hands Local Outreach Opportunities

Serve our neighbors through the many ministries and partnerships of Helping Hands! Click [here](#) for the March HandUp Newsletter for current needs and opportunities. [Contact Helping Hands](#) with questions.

Helping Hands

building community through service



**Charlie Blackburn
Memorial Golf Tournament**



Helping Hands Golf Tournament - April 27th!

Registration is still open to anyone wanting to sponsor a hole in the annual Charlie Blackburn Memorial Golf Tournament at Verdict Ridge Golf and Country Club! All proceeds benefit the many

ministries and partners of our Helping Hands Community Service Group. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. **All golfing spots are now sold out, but hole sponsorships are still available.**

If you have questions about the Helping Hands Golf Tournament or would like to be added to a wait list, email helpinghandsgolftournament@gmail.com.



DISCIPLESHIP

Small Groups, Bible Studies, & Connection Groups

Discipleship Opportunities

Sunday Small Group/Sunday School hour is 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Visit denverumc.org/ministries/adult-ministries for specific **Sunday school classes, weekday Bible studies, Wednesday night, and small group offerings** with locations, descriptions, and contact information.

Email David Washco with any questions at discipleship@denverumc.org



Sunday Morning Study Opportunity Sundays, 10:00 a.m. in the CORC

Have you ever wondered what it means to be a United Methodist? What do we believe? What is our theology, and where did this denomination come from? Everyone is invited to join this time as Pastor Steve leads the conversation. The time starts on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in the CORC (old fellowship hall), with a time of fellowship, followed by teaching from 10:10 a.m. until 10:50 a.m. If you are new to DUMC and looking to get connected with others, this is a great way to meet new people and learn about the church. No need to sign up, simply show up!



Friday Ladies' Bible Study

Michell Turner will be our guest leader for this study, "The Greatest Story Ever Told, A Bird's Eye View of the New Testament". We meet in the Chapel on Fridays from 10-12. Childcare is available, just contact Sara Lee 704-230-9004.



Men's Alliance - Sunday Nights!

Sunday nights | 6:00 p.m. | Rain or Shine
Join us for a rugged workout and real devotion.
For more information, [email Caleb Hendren](mailto:Caleb.Hendren).

Women's Alliance - Wednesday Nights!

Wednesday nights | 7:00 p.m. | Rain or shine
For more information, reach out to Shelby Hobbs at shobbs0623@gmail.com. All women are invited!

Discipleship Video Series

Spiritual Gifts Assessment



HARBOR YOUTH

DUMC's 6-12th grade ministry



Attention Graduating Seniors!

If you are graduating high school or college this year, please contact Cortni at youth@denverumc.org by **May 3** so we can celebrate and include you in Graduation Sunday, May 17. Click [here](#) to submit your graduation information. We look forward to recognizing and honoring our seniors for all they've accomplished!



LAUNCH / Confirmation

All Sunday Evenings in March, 4-5 pm in the Harbor Kids area.

Middle schoolers - but really, *everyone*, even adults - are invited to join us every Sunday night in March from 4-5 pm for Confirmation class (aka LAUNCH)! Together, we will explore the traditional elements of

Methodist Confirmation, ask big questions, and grow in faith in a welcoming and encouraging environment.

Topics we will be discussing:

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- History of the UMC
- Theology
- Sacraments
- Spiritual Gifts

The journey wraps up with a special weekend retreat at the church on May 29–30, bringing everything together just before students have the opportunity to be confirmed on Sunday, May 31. We would love for you to be part of this meaningful step in your faith story! Contact Cortni at youth@denverumc.org for more information!

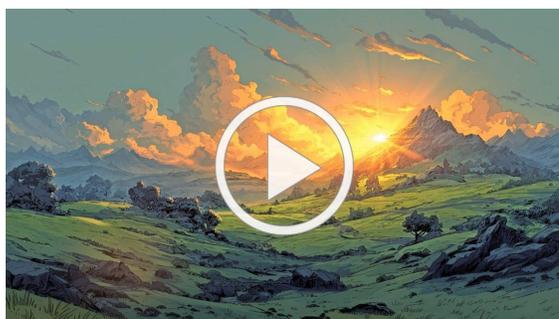
Click [here](#) to register!

March	April	May	July
All Sundays in March Confirmation: 4-5pm	April 4 Easter Eggstravaganza	May 3 Last Youth PARTY!	July 12-16 VBS!
March 8 Daylight Savings	April 5 Easter! No Youth	May 17 Graduation Sunday	July 19-23 NTS Summer Camp
March 22 Girls & Guys Night	April 12 No Youth	May 24 Rock Springs Campground Sunday	
March 29 Palm Sunday PARTY!		May 29-30 Confirmation Retreat	
		May 31 Confirmation Sunday	

Click to sign up for Harbor Youth updates!

Follow Harbor Youth on Instagram!

Email Harbor Youth



NTS Summer Camp /July 19-23
We're going back to NTS camp at Erskine College, in Due West, SC! This year camp will be looking into the life of David in the Old Testament and the theme is "Pursuit." We hope our students see God's pursuit of them and, in turn, become people chasing after a God who chases after us, redeems us, and prepares us for greatness. As they see themselves in this story of pursuit, we pray they walk away being known as people after God's own heart!

Registration must be completed by a parent or legal guardian over the age of 18 and is complete when all the required information is entered, and either payment is made in full, or the \$150 non-refundable/non-transferrable deposit has been made.

Registration is \$415 from now until April 29. Registration becomes \$435 from April 30 until July 5. Final registration is \$455 for those last 2 weeks before camp. **Registration closes at 6pm July 18!** *You will receive reminder emails of payment due 14 & 7 days before the due date if there is a balance on your account.*

Click here to register for NTS Camp!



Sign Up to Help With Sunday Night Meals!

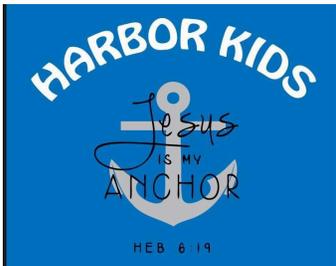
Dinner is getting a fresh spin to become an elevated concession-style. We'd love for friends & parents to be part of the evening by sponsoring a meal and/or helping run the concession stand. While you're absolutely welcome to, **there is NO cooking required**— you can choose to just serve snacks and drinks, and we'd love if you'd bring along a dessert to share! You can scan the QR or click the button below to sign up to sponsor a youth meal!

Sponsor a Youth Meal



HARBOR KIDS

DUMC's birth - 5th grade ministry



We are committed to helping your child grow in every aspect of their relationship with Jesus Christ and knowledge of His Word. Thank you for your support and prayer!

Harbor Kids is open every Sunday 8:45 a.m. - noon!
We have programs at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. and at 10:00 a.m., join us for hands-on activities to help serve our community!



You're Invited to Our Easter Eggstravaganza!

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at our **FREE community Easter Eggstravaganza!** Bring the whole family and enjoy free candy, delicious food, bounce houses, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. This year, we're also introducing our first annual Egglympics, where kids (and the young at heart of all ages!) can compete in egg-themed games and challenges.

All ages are welcome, so invite your friends and neighbors and come celebrate with us Saturday, April 4, from 1-3 pm on the DUMC soccer field.

We're also collecting candy donations to help make the event extra sweet! You can drop off donations in the Harbor Kids area anytime between now and the event. Every contribution is greatly appreciated! We can't wait to celebrate with our community

Click to sign up for updates from Harbor Kids!

Follow Harbor Kids on Instagram!

Staff & Leadership Connections

Click [here](#) to connect with our staff and Church Council

Visit our website at www.denverumc.org for the latest information



Denver United Methodist Church | 3910 N Hwy 16 PO Box 661 | Denver, NC 28037 US

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