

⁴Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. ⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. ¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. ²¹They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. ²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. ⁴²When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Website: wesleymorgantown.org
Email: wesleymorgantown@gmail.com

Livestreamed 11:00 Service:
facebook.com/wesleymorgantown

GATHER as a community for worship ~ **GROW** in relationship with God and others ~ **GO** to serve Morgantown and the world

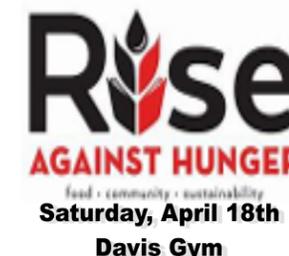
Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO WESLEY CHURCH

We are glad you are here. Whether you are here for the very first time or a lifelong member of Wesley Church, you are welcome. May this day be filled with God's presence and blessing. Please fill out the Connection Card and drop it in the offering plate so that we will be able to contact you.



On Saturday April 18, just a few weeks away, six area Rotary Clubs plus a couple of church groups and a few others will *Rise Against Hunger*, converging here in Wesley's gymnasium to package a few thousand meals for folks in a hungry world! For about 16 years, Wesley has provided venue, substantial \$\$\$, and a little bit of labor to join Rotarians and other volunteers to package meals that will be distributed, mostly to schoolchildren, in some of the world's hungriest countries. We've been the venue (gym) for this charity event for years and you are all invited and encouraged to participate in this joyous mission effort in two ways: First try to find and contribute a few bucks (actually as many as possible!) to help purchase ingredients, provide support staff, and then distribute meals in one of about 75 needy countries. Then consider attending the festive two-hour packaging session (9:00am-Apr. 18) to help with "food preparation" at the packaging event! It is a good time and a great help for many! (Make donations to Wesley UMC, designated for Rise Against Hunger!)



Last Sunday to pick up an Alms Bag! Almsgiving is a Christian practice of giving money or material items to persons living in poverty. Wesley UMC is practicing almsgiving this Lent. You can pick up an alms bag at the back of the sanctuary and return it to the church by Easter Sunday, April 5th. All money collected will be used to help pay our conference apportionments, which help to bring people out of poverty by funding feeding programs, schools, farming improvements, anti-malaria nets, safe wells, and hospitals around the world.

Lectionary Study w/Pastor Martha

We'll be meeting weekly via Zoom on WEDNESDAYS at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to take part in this lively discussion of the upcoming Sunday's scripture lessons. Contact the church office to get the Zoom link. **No study on Wednesday, April 1st.**

Lectionary Readings Easter Sunday April 5th:

Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6 / Ps 118:1-2, 14-24

Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43 / John 20:1-18 or Matt 28:1-10

PRAYER FOCUS

Dear God, We can only imagine how difficult the coming time must have been for Jesus. He knew what was going to happen and how it would end. He surrendered everything to Your wisdom. Thank you Jesus. You gave your life so we might live. Amen.

WEEK AT WESLEY

Sunday, March 29th	PALM SUNDAY
8:30 a.m.	Worship Service (In Person)
9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School, 2nd Fl Classrooms
9:30 a.m.	Children's Sunday School, 3rd Fl Classrooms
11:00 a.m.	Worship Service (In Person & Livestreamed)
6:00 p.m.	College Study, 3rd Floor Classroom
6:00 p.m.	Youth Group, 3rd Floor Classroom
6:00 p.m.	Davis Gym Reserved (Mission Church)
Monday, March 30th	HOLY WEEK
7:30 p.m.	NA Meeting (Lecture Room)
Tuesday, March 31st	
Wednesday, April 1st	
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room 3rd Fl
Thursday, April 2nd	Maundy Thursday
1:00 p.m.	BSF Group, 3rd Floor
7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	NA Meeting, Davis Gym
Friday, April 3rd	Good Friday
7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service, Sanctuary
Saturday, April 4th	EASTER VIGIL
9:30 a.m.	Altar Guild, Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Davis Gym Reserved (Mission Church)
9:00 p.m.	Easter Vigil Service, Front Steps & Sanctuary

2026 Wesley UMC

Sunday, March 22nd:

124 In Person / 147 Online



Online Offering Option!

Scan the QR code

with phone or device.

Thank You!

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR INFO NEEDED

If you were born in a country other than the United States, please indicate on your Connection Card. Wesley wants to celebrate the diversity of our congregation.



HOLY WEEK

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND

7:00 P.M. SERVICE

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD

7:00 P.M. SERVICE

EASTER VIGIL,

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

9:00 P.M. SERVICE

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH

6:30 A.M. SUNRISE SERVICE

(MARKETPLACE PAVILION—SPRUCE ST UMC)

8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. SERVICES

WESLEY UMC

The Church in Worship

Congregational Responses and Prayers are in ***bold italic print***

† Congregation Standing (*as you are able*)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” arr J Smith

† GOSPEL READING MARK 11:1-11

† CALL TO WORSHIP
Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN #278 (UMH) “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

† OPENING PRAYER
God our hope, today we joyfully acclaim Jesus our Messiah and King. Help us to honor him every day, so we may enjoy his kingship in the new Jerusalem, where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS
11:00 a.m. Service Only - Children age 3 through 2nd grade are welcome to attend Children’s Church immediately following the Children’s Message (located on 2nd floor behind balcony)

SPECIAL MUSIC “Sing Out Hosanna to the Lord!” Liebergen
Chancel Choir

HYMN OF PREPARATION #280 (UMH) “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

SCRIPTURE MARK 14:17-15:47

SERMON “What Happened? What Does It Mean?” Pastor Martha

SILENCE

† PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS DOXOLOGY #95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
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† CLOSING HYMN #285 (UMH) “To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord”

† BENEDICTION

SPECIAL MUSIC “On the Via Dolorosa” Wagner
Chancel Choir

† POSTLUDE “Oh Come and Mourn With Me Awhile” E Morrison

MARK 11:1-11; 14:17-15:47

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.”³ If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?”⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

¹⁷When it was evening, he came with the twelve.¹⁸ And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.”¹⁹ They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I?”²⁰ He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me.”²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”²² While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.”²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.²⁴ He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.²⁷ And Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’”²⁸ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”²⁹ Peter said to him, “Even though all become deserters, I will not.”³⁰ Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”³¹ But he said vehemently, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And all of them said the same.³² They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”³³ He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated.³⁴ And he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.”³⁵ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.³⁶ He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”³⁷ He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour?”³⁸ Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”³⁹ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.⁴⁰ And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.⁴¹ He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.”⁴² Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”⁴³ Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders.⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”⁴⁵ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him.⁴⁶ Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.⁴⁷ But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?”⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.”⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.⁵¹ A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him,⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

⁵³They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled.⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none.⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,⁵⁸ “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’”⁵⁹ But even on this point their testimony did not agree.⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”⁶¹ But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”⁶² Jesus said, “I am; and ‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?” All of them condemned him as deserving death.⁶⁵ Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophesy!” The guards also took him over and beat him.

⁶⁶While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by.⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.⁶⁹ And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.”⁷⁰ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.”⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate.² Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.”³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things.

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