

# COVENANT *News*

A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church – Charlotte, North Carolina



# HOLY WEEK 2021



## Message from Bob



Dear friends,  
John Updike  
was a very  
distinguished  
author,  
essayist,

literary critic, and poet. He  
was also a Christian, a church  
member, and a Sunday School  
teacher. He died not long ago  
and those of us who were  
regularly enriched by his writing  
greatly miss him. "Seven Stanzas  
at Easter" is a poem he wrote in  
1961 and speaks still:

*Let us not mock God with  
metaphor,  
analogy, sidestepping  
transcendence,  
making of the event a parable,  
a sign painted in the faded  
credulity of earlier ages.  
Let us walk through the door.*

I offer this as an invitation to  
"walk through the door" of Holy  
Week and Easter this year. The  
Saturday Easter pilgrimage  
through the Sanctuary promises  
to be particularly meaningful, as  
do the various services across  
Holy Week. I trust you will not  
sidestep transcendence and  
join us!

With gratitude for you all and  
great hope for the future,

*Bob*

**Bob Henderson**  
Senior Minister



## Prepare For Holy Week Worship

*Holy Week At Covenant Will Be Rich With Worship  
and Sacred Celebration*

### **Palm Sunday**

On Palm Sunday (March 28), we'll  
commemorate the triumphal entry  
of Jesus into Jerusalem during  
online worship with a virtual palm  
processional featuring Covenant  
families during the opening hymn.



### **Maundy Thursday**

For Maundy Thursday (April 1), an  
"at-home toolkit" is available at  
[CovenantPresby.org/Lent](http://CovenantPresby.org/Lent) to help  
set your table, prepare a meal,  
say a blessing and break bread  
together. Remember that you  
share this feast with countless  
Christians across the world who  
celebrate in their homes.

### **Good Friday**

On Good Friday (April 2), join a  
livestream Tenebrae service at 7:30  
p.m., where we will share the Good  
Friday story in word and special  
music.

### **Easter Saturday On-Campus Celebration**

The Saturday before Easter (April 3)  
will be a day of celebration of new  
life on the Covenant campus. Sign  
up at [CovenantPresby.org/Lent](http://CovenantPresby.org/Lent)  
for a time slot to visit Covenant  
to enjoy vibrant music, exquisite  
art, contemplative time in the  
Sanctuary, and a menagerie of  
baby animals.

All who come will have the  
chance to spend prayerful time  
in our worship space and be  
given communion elements from



Jerusalem to take home for the  
online worship service on Easter  
Sunday.

Everyone is invited to bring a flower  
for the cross and children are  
encouraged to bring a basket for a  
modified egg hunt. The carillon will  
ring and live animals will be in the  
circle all day.



### **Easter Sunday**

On April 4, mark the resurrection  
with Communion, carillon, brass,  
timpani and organ. Hear familiar  
songs "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"  
and "Hallelujah Chorus" with  
beautiful solos from Handel's  
Messiah.

The morning also includes dancers,  
a choir procession and Rob Dicks  
at the organ for the celebratory  
"Toccatina" from Symphony #5 by  
C.M. Widor.

Livestream services are at 9:30 and  
11 a.m.



## "Notes" from Heather



Join us for  
moving  
music during  
Holy Week.

On Good  
Friday,

organist Rob Dicks, sets the  
tone for reflection and worship.

A choral ensemble will sing "O  
Sacred Head Now Wounded"  
and a beautiful setting of "Jesus  
Loves Me" and we will hear a  
cello and organ duet.

Soloists Lauren Russell and  
Ryan Harrison will sing "Abide  
with Me" and "Were You  
There?"

On Easter Sunday, the  
Sanctuary will be filled with the  
joyful sounds of brass, timpani,  
and organ accompaniment.

You will hear familiar songs,  
such as "Jesus Christ is Risen  
Today" and "Hallelujah Chorus"  
as well as beautiful solos from  
Handel's Messiah.

Guest soloist, Todd Simpson,  
and Charlotte Symphony  
Orchestra first trumpeter  
Alex Wilborn will share "The  
Trumpet Shall Sound."

Enjoy dancers, choir procession,  
familiar faces in the Lord's  
Prayer and responsive reading,  
and the ever-powerful  
"Toccatina" from Symphony #5  
by C.M. Widor to end worship in  
full-volume glory.

**Heather Potter, director of  
traditional music**

# Holy Week

## Maundy Thursday

An at-home toolkit will help you set your table, prepare a meal, say a blessing and break bread together.

## Good Friday

A livestream Tenebrae service at 7:30 p.m. will share the Good Friday story in word and music.

## Easter Saturday - Please RSVP

The Covenant campus will be alive with music, art, baby animals and contemplative time in the Sanctuary.

## Easter Sunday

Join us to worship God and celebrate the resurrection with livestream services at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

[CovenantPresby.org/Lent](http://CovenantPresby.org/Lent)

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