

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

1760 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: 412-331-2863 Website: <https://www.kenmawrchurch.org>

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

*Declaring God's Grace & Demonstrating God's Love,
as Directed by God's Word*

Welcome to Worship!

A joyous welcome to all! Matthew's gospel states the question on everyone's mind that first Palm Sunday: *When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"* (v. 10). But the cheers turned to jeers in a very short time. Why is that? Because the crowds wanted a Miracle Jesus. The Pharisees wanted a Ritual Jesus. The zealots wanted a Military Jesus. The disciples wanted a Victorious Jesus. All these different groups that were part of the crowd had their own private view of Jesus. As they waved the palm branches and shouted "*Hosanna*," they thought they were finally getting what they wanted. On Sunday they shouted "*Hosanna*" and hailed him as "*Jesus the prophet from Nazareth*," but on Friday they hung him on a cross and put up a sign saying, "*Jesus the King of the Jews*." Truthfully, Palm Sunday was a funeral procession, and the cheering would stop soon enough. Because Jesus was "*A Very Odd Sort of King*."

-Pastor Karl

Please join us for our Maundy Thursday Communion Service on April 2, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. The choral music and dramatic readings will guide us through scripture and reflections as we remember and honor the sacrifice of our Lord.

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Karl McDonald
Commissioned Pastor	Louise Schoppe
Administrative Assistant	Tiffany Kelly
Treasurer/Accountant.....	Nancy Gilkey
Assistant Treasurer	Lori Ryan
Clerk of Session	Diane Kuffner
Elder of the Month	Diane Felter
Deacons of the Month	Amy Schmidt/Val Kamenar
Musicians	Alex Weibel/Mitchell Fleischman/Ross Antonich
Counters	Tom Simchak/Diane Kuffner
Van Driver	Tom McCullough
Flower Delivery	Barb and Craig Cannella

The Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparing for Worship

“Let the Rocks Cry Out!”

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn of Praise #267

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, O God, if we pray only to ask, only to urge you to solve problems for us, or to rescue us from our troubles. Jesus told his disciples that he regarded them as friends. O God, throughout this Holy Week, let us walk with you as our friend until our companionship and conversation become as natural as breathing in and out. Lift us out of our self-centeredness by revealing your heart for this world. O God, forgive us and in your mercy renew us, that we may believe and never pose an obstacle to the faith of others. We pray in the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Congregational Response #479 (vss. 1 & 3)

**Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**Near the cross, O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day, with its shadow o'er me.
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

Time with the Children (Kids spell love T-I-M-E) – No Children's Church today

Prayers of the People & 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Faith #266

"Hosanna"

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

Matthew 21:1-11

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: 5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' " 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" 10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" 11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." (NIV)

Sermon

"A Very Odd Sort of King"

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

I. Sentences from Scripture Mark 8:34-35 + 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 + 1 Peter 1:3

II. Call to Discipleship

The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering, and a responsibility. It is marked by change, growth, and deepened commitment. It is lived out of a continuously renewed sense of God's call and God's claim upon us made in our baptism.

III. Call to Renewal

By God's grace we are saved and enabled to grow in faith and to commit our lives to Christ. I invite you now to claim that grace given to you in baptism. On this occasion we celebrate the depth of God's love in Jesus Christ and join together to reaffirm our baptismal vows.

IV. Profession of Faith

As God embraces you in the covenant, I ask you to reject sin, to profess your faith in Jesus Christ and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we are baptized:

Do you renounce all evil and powers of the world which defy God's righteousness and love? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and trust in him as Savior and Lord? **I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love, to your life's end? **I will, with God's help.**

V. Thanksgiving over Water

VI. Prayer

VII. Blessing and Anointing

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Sending Hymn

"The Power of the Cross"

**Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then Nailed to a cross of wood.**

***This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.***

**Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin;
Every bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your blood-stained brow.**

***This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.***

**Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath,
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; "Finished!" the victory cry.**

***This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.***

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, Won through Your selfless love!

***This, the power of the cross: Son of God, slain for us.
What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.***

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*Benediction

**All are invited to stand
Thank you for worshiping with us today!*



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - March 29, Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows 8:30 /11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 2, Worship and Communion at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Kids Program - April 3, 9:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Good Friday Worship and Communion - April 3 at 12:00 Noon

Easter Sunday - April 5 Worship Times: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

1760 Pine Hollow Road,
MKees Rocks, PA. 15136

TODAY AT KMUPC

March 29, 2026


Worship Services/Palm Sunday/Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows	8:30 and 11:00
Sunday School	9:45

THIS WEEK AT KMUPC


Wednesday	Choir.....	7:00
Thursday	Staff Meeting	10:00
	Maundy Thursday Communion Service	7:30
Friday	Kids Program.....	9:30–11:45
	Good Friday Communion Service	12:00
Next Sunday	Worship Services.....	7:00, 8:30 and 11:00
	Sunday School	9:45
	Children’s Church.....	11:00

LOOKING AHEAD

- April 6 – High School Youth Night & Bible Study
- April 7 – Lord’s Lambs
- April 7 – Sunday School Teachers Meeting
- April 9 – Food Pantry
- April 11 – Men’s Breakfast
- April 12 – Confirmation Class
- April 14 – Esther Circle
- April 15 – Jackies Lunch Bunch
- April 16 – Helping Hands
- April 19 – Deacons Meeting
- April 19 – Confirmation Class
- April 19 – Middle School Youth Night
- April 20 – High School Youth Night & Bible Study
- April 20 – Finance Meeting
- April 21 – Session Meeting
- April 23 – Food Pantry



Good Friday –
Child Registration



Good Friday –
Volunteer
Registration

The flowers today are given in memory of Linda Barth on her 68th birthday (April 1) from Ken, Colton, Olivia and John.

The flowers today are also given in honor of Jean Bryan on her 95th birthday (April 5) with love from The Bryan Family.

The rose on the baptismal font is in celebration of the birth of Murphy James Mahnke to David and Audra Mahnke on March 17. Address: 107 Red Pine Drive., Coraopolis, PA 15108

TODAY’S BENEVOLENCE: A gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** enables the church to share God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Envelopes are in the narthex.

Please remember with cards and prayers...

AT HOME

Betty Borden – 3501 Masonic Drive Sewickley, PA 15143
Jean Bryan – c/o Sarah Manges, 9742 Valley View Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Lovell Bryant – 108 Homer Circle, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Dorothy Burgunder – 3927 Windgap Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15204
Sandra Camarota – 2314 Forest Grove Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108
Ralph Chasey– Coraopolis Towers, #818, 951 1st Ave, Coraopolis, PA 15108
Bill Conrad – 115 Phillips Lane, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Larry Dickson – 116 Connie Park Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Joan Downs – 906 Canterbury Drive, Moon Twp., PA 15108
Pippa Downs – 136 Marie Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Rose Ann Grannis - (Angela Schoppe's mom) 3121 47th Street, New Brighton, PA 15066
Peg Harcha – 189 Williams Street, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Patricia Hildebrand – 2027 McKees Rocks Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Corinne Irwin – 20 Kenridge Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Ann Joseck – 2107 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143
Carol Kaczmarek – 664 Magnus Lane, Coraopolis, PA 15108
Lee Leck – 22 Rossi Dr., McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Evelyn Lieberman – 1306 Brookline Blvd., Apt. 706, Pittsburgh, PA 15226
Alex Lugin – 34 MacArthur Way, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
George McCurdy – (Russ' father) 1820 German Settlement Road, Ridgway, PA 15853
Roberta Meixell – 32 Eichelberger Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108
Suzanne Murr – 1780 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Ken Parme – 31 Hodgson Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
Julia Ramsey – 1113 Mohawk Rd., R.D. #2., McDonald, PA 15057-2553
Jeff Sammel – 145 Connie Park Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Donna Sheets – 1500 Letort Street, Apt. 910, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Dave Smith – 1464 Critchfield Drive, Bridgeville PA 15017
Ellen Tresky – 84 Thorncrest Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Carla Winter – c/o Stacey Viviano, 113 Amy Jo Lane, Coraopolis PA 15108

IN CARE AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES

Elaine Crist – 125 Apple Blossom Way, Room 332, Moon Township, PA 15108
David Gadsby – Province of Wexford, 210 Fowler Road, Room 1030, Warrendale, PA 15086
Janet Gregory – Heritage Valley Senior Living, Rm 222, 30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Addie Mitchell – Evergreen Personal Care, 25 Glade Ave., Waynesburg, PA 15370
Loretta Osborne – Heritage Valley Senior Living, Rm 210, 32 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Peggy Ponte – Caring Heights, Room 201, 234 Coraopolis Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108
Helen Sharpe – Apple Blossom Senior Care, Rm 251, 125 Apple Blossom Way, Moon Twp, PA 15108
Virginia Shaw – Heritage Valley Senior Living, Rm 301, 32 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Dee Young – Heritage Valley Senior Living, Rm 110, 32 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136

IN THE MILITARY

LCpl Andrew Gregory - 731 College Avenue, Old Town, ME 04468
Sgt. Paul McCurdy - 7436 McAuliffe Loop, Ft. Campbell, KY 42223
Jackson Dorsey - U.S. Coast Guard Academy, 16 Mohegan Ave., Chase Hall, New London, CT 06320