



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Congregational sharing and prayer

Use a mic or text/email prayers to Pastor Michael. To ensure that you are heard, please hold the microphone close to your mouth and extend the handle straight out (not down).

Prayer & Offertory

Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows.

Introduction of visitors & online participants

Work of the church

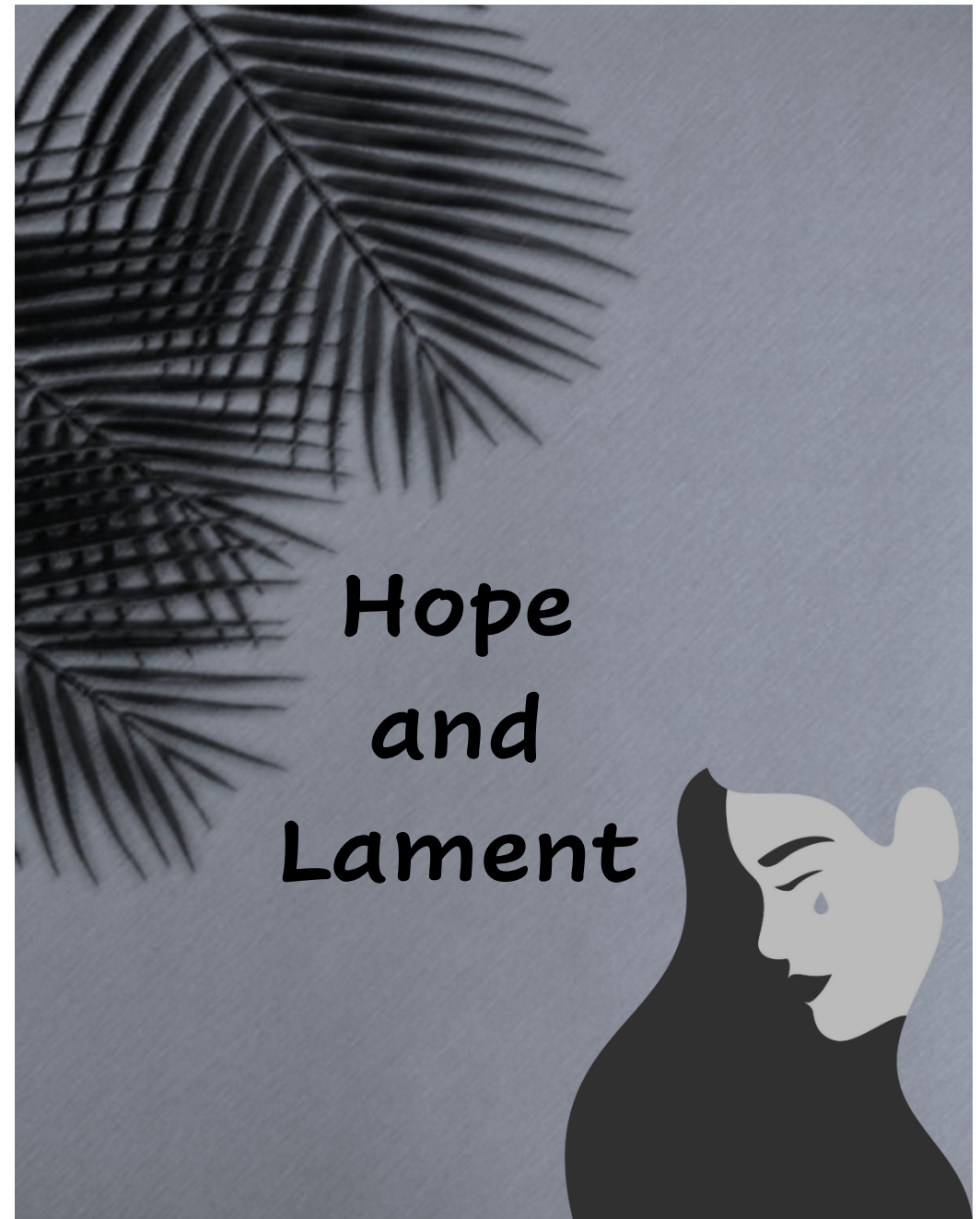
***Sending Hymn #412** “My Soul Cries Out”

***Benediction**

Congregational response: God is with Us.

**Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the worship ribbons during the hymns.*

Note: Because worship is participatory and not a performance, instead of applauding please show appreciation for preludes, offertories and special music in other ways, such as ASL, silent applause, saying “Amen” or thanking musicians later.



Celebration *of* Worship

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday
Holding It Together: Hope & Lament

*The candles on the communion table dim, one each week,
as Lent unfolds and Jesus' faithfulness brings him closer and closer to the cross.*

Centering chimes

Prelude *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

*Call to worship

One: Welcome Lent, all this mystery...

All: Joy and sadness, fear and grief.

One: We struggle – wanting resolution.

All: Doubts wrestle with belief.

One: Meet us in this sacred searching.

All: Meet us in the loss and pain.

One: In the tensions and mysteries of life,

All: we yearn for the peace of your reign.

*Hymn #312 *“Jesus is Coming”*

Welcome and Prayer

PROCESSION OF PALMS

Scripture John 12:12-18

*Hymn #313 *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*

Children’s story and children’s offering for Sola Gratia Farm

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

JESUS ANTICIPATES HIS DEATH

Scripture John 12:23-33

Introducing Lament

THE FACTS ABOUT JESUS

Scripture John 19:16b-22

Drama

Lament Janet E. Guthrie

Hymn #715 *“Longing for Light”*

PROFITING FROM INJUSTICE

Scripture John 19:23-27

Lament Randy Nelson

Lament David Schrag

Hymn #794 *“If the War Goes On”*

JESUS THIRSTS FOR JUSTICE

Scripture John 19:28-37

Lament Nicole Anderson Cobb

Lament Phil Martens

Hymn #696 *“My God, My God”*

LOVE AND HOPE IN THE MIDST OF LOSS

Scripture John 19:38-42

Lament Jan Kellogg

Hymn #694 *“Tears of Suffering”*

(printed order of service continues on the back of the bulletin)

We welcome, without exclusion, all who seek God’s love and grace . . .

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities. We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.