

Memorial First India United Methodist Church

APRIL 2, 2023 9:45 A.M. PALM SUNDAY/ EASTER CANTATA

Ministers: The Whole Congregation Together: We Can Make a Difference

****Indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. At those places marked “unison” or printed in bold you are invited to join in reading aloud with the entire congregation**

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE *Gathering in Front of the Church* *Peter Kotiah*

THANKSGIVING OVER THE PALMS *Rev. Saroj Sangha*

PROCESSION WITH PALMS *We will enter His gates with thanksgiving in our hearts!*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS: *Rev. Saroj Sangha*

****CALL TO WORSHIP “Psalm 118:14-20” (1ST Response) UMH #839** *Arun Medapally*

****HYMN** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” *UMH #280*

SERVICE OF CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Source of our hope and promise, we would rather sing hosannas with a cheering crowd, than stand up for our convictions in the face of an angry mob; we would rather dine at your table with those we call friends, than admit we are no different from those we consider enemies; we would rather imagine our faithfulness in the face of opposition and temptation, than admit that we too might betray you with a kiss. Forgive the fickleness of our devotion, and strengthen our resolve to follow Christ each and every day, even to the cross. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: Hear the good news! God has forgiven each one of us and calls us to take our parts in the drama of redeeming love.

People: Praise God, who accepts and uses our very human lives in the unfolding story of salvation and new life! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL (See Insert)

Arun Medapally

SERVICE OF PROCLAMATION

****THE GOSPEL LESSON John 12:12-19**

Nitesh Manda

L: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY:

Rev. Saroj Sangha

SERVICE OF COMMITMENT

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL SELECTION

(Telugu) Chancel Choir

The Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

EASTER CANTATA

"THE LAMB"

COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY: JAY ROUSE & ROSE ASPINALL

Directed by: Peter J. Kotiah

MFIUMC Choir

SENDING FORTH

****HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"**

UMH #155

****DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Minister: Hear the voice of God calling your name.

People: We will follow where God leads us.

Minister: Hear the voice of Christ claiming you as his own.

People: We will live as brothers and sisters in faith.

Minister: Hear the voice of the Spirit sending you forth.

People: We will go where the Spirit sends us.

Minister: Go forth, called, named, and claimed by God.

ALL: Amen.

****BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Shalom to you"**

UMH #666

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

POSTLUDE

Peter Kotiah

Easter LILIES

You may order **Easter LILIES** to be placed on the altar for Easter Sunday Service, in honor or in memory of your loved ones. The cost is \$12.00 each, and **TODAY** is the last day to order them. Please place your Order form with the payment, in the collection plate or drop it in Church office for Liz or John Roth and make your check payable to "MFIUMC" and in the Memo area indicate LILIES. Thank you!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 06, 2023 Maundy Thursday – at 7:30 p.m. Worship Service followed by Holy Communion, commemorating the Supper Jesus shared with His disciples before His crucifixion.

April 07, 2023 Good Friday – from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. A Service of Meditation on Seven Words of Christ from the cross.

April 09, 2023 Easter Sunday – Sunrise Worship services at 7:30 a.m. We gather to worship the Risen Lord and proclaim: *Christ has died, Christ is Risen, and Christ will come again!*

The congregation is requested to bring **fresh flowers** (bought or from your garden) to **decorate the Cross, signifying New Life in Christ**, during the Easter Worship Service.

Following the Service, we gather downstairs in the Ernst Fellowship Hall for a Potluck breakfast. Children will have their **Easter Egg Hunt**.

Memorial First India United Methodist Church
9226 Colesville Road - Silver Spring, MD 20910

Pastor, Rev. Saroj Sangha at 301-879-0374 or Church at 301-585-8015
Office hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday thru Friday, www.mfiumc.org

Worship Leaders

Liturgist: Arun Medapally; **Reader:** Gospel, Nitesh Manda;
Acolyte: Daniel Charles;
Greeters and Ushers: Mr. Robert Boddu; Mrs. Sarah Boddu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Altar flowers are presented to the Honor and Glory of God!

The first flower arrangement is placed in the loving memory of Mrs. Esther Williams' birthday celebration, by Meera and Ajay Devadanam, Indira Souri and Peter Kotiah.

The second flower arrangement is placed in the loving memory of Mrs. Sharana Moses' birthday celebration, by Meera and Ajay Devadanam, Indira Souri and Peter Kotiah.

Every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study is held via Zoom.
Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study is in the Church Parlor.

PRAYER SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Please take time to pray for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

Mrs. Glory Tadikonda (our church secretary), **Mrs. Pauline Robinson**,
Mr. Scott Whittemore (Liz Roth's cousin), **Dr. T. Vishwas Rao Jude**, **Mr. Paul Jerome Kola**,
Mrs. Victoria Jaipal, **Mr. Sherlock Ratanjee**, **Mr. Raphael Neville Victor**,
Mr. Richard McMullen, **Mrs. Esther Cornelius**,
Mrs. Asuntha Francis (Mrs. Rachel Samuel's sister), **Dr. Sudhakar Babu**,
Mr. Winston Vaughan (Diane Brown's brother), **Mr. Mani Bhushan** (Smitha Kola's father), and
Mr. Naga Bhushanam (Suneetha Anchula's father).

CHILDREN RECEIVING CARE AT HOME: Elysia Durgam and Abigail Channuri

PRAYER TIME AT CHURCH FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH COMMENCING APRIL 1ST
AT 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM

We would like to express our gratitude to Mrs. Meera Devadanam, Peter Kotiah's cousin, for providing snacks/lunch for the Congregation in memory of her loved ones. Please join us in the Parlor.

*Church Cleaning will be on Saturday, April 8, 2023: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Please mark your calendars!!*

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader: Blessed One, we are humbled by your example. You entered Jerusalem in lowly estate, riding on a donkey. You emptied yourself and came as a servant to all forsaking the power to command. Son of David, come to us now and be our King, that we too may sing our hosannas! Lord forgive us when we sang hosannas with the cheering crowd rather than stand up for our convictions. Forgive our fickle faith, and heal our hesitant hearts. We pray to the Lord...

People: **Lord, open the gates of righteousness for us, so we can enter with shouts of thanksgiving. Hosanna! Blessing on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: We pray for the sick and suffering, the lonely and friendless, the tempted and the unbelieving. Be merciful to those who suffer in body or mind, and those who are in danger of distress or in loss. Lord, we submit them to your care and comfort: Release them from any fear, anxiety, anger, and misplaced desires. In your grace may they be healed and restored to the joy of health. Grant them courage, endurance and hope. Be near to those who are passing through the dark shadow of death. May they find eternal rest and light at the evening time. We pray to the Lord!

People: **Lord, we thank you for taking this broken, jagged piece of our souls and for creating a beautiful masterpiece in Christ.**

Leader: Lord, we pray for our nation and the nations of the world, be near to us to save us from these troubled times. Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership, here at home and abroad. Grant them wisdom to search your will and accomplish your purpose. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; help them keep our policies just and merciful and uphold the truth at all times. We pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, help us that we may be steadfast in our faith and true in our discipleship.**

Leader: God of love, we thank you for the joy of our families and friends, for the gift of children young and old, and for the grace you have bestowed upon us. Grant them the joy health and strength that they may enjoy many blessed years of life pleasing you. Bless the church family that we may grow in your wisdom to love and honor one another. Grant us courage to step out in faith, so that we may be good traveling companions to encourage, strengthen, and comfort one another. As we have received your blessing, be our help to be a blessing to those around us, Be our hope and future. We pray this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who also taught us to pray...

ALL: **Our Father which art in Heaven Amen.**

COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY: JAY ROUSE & ROSE ASPINALL

Sung by: MFIUMC Choir. Directed by: Peter J. Kotiah

Sopranos:

Subhashini Kalapala
Simple Rana
Aparanjini Paul
Vijaya Henry
Navaneetha Akula
Smitha Kola
Nishitha Kola
Neelima Valaparla
Johanna Jagga
Suneethy Durgam

Altos:

Prabha Clarence
Vinolia Victor
Kalluri Himabindu
Estherrani Devadanam
Diane Smith-Brown

Tenors:

Ahan Brown
Colin Robinson
Praveen Newton
Jayakumar Durgam
Anil Akula

Narrators:

Priscilla Ramsey and Sumanth Durgam

Media Team:

Manas Kalapala, Smriti Thomas, Sanjeeth Thomas, Ashish Medapally
Lincoln Korani, Vbhinay Marapaka and Praneeth Medapally

We express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Chancel Choirs, Narrators, Media Team, and the Choir Director for presenting such a wonderful Easter Cantata, "The Lamb" for the glory of God, especially during this sacred season. We pray that God will use this music ministry to bless your hearts with hope and love, today and always!

**“THE LAMB”
AN EASTER CANTATA**

COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY: JAY ROUSE & ROSE ASPINALL

(Printed & Published by Lorenz Publishing Company ©)

Sung by: MFIUMC Choir. Directed by: Peter J. Kotiah

- (1) CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS (2) THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS
(3) THE BLOOD OF JESUS MEDLEY (4) THERE IS A FOUNTAIN
(5) BROKEN BREAD, BROKEN LIFE (6) HE’S RISEN, HALLELUJAH!

(1) CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS:

Oh! Oh! Crown Him Lord of all!
Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne:
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but His own!
Awake, my soul sing (awake, awake my soul and sing)
Of Him who died for thee, (of Him who died,)
Hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
Crown Him the Lord of love: behold His hands and side.
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky (no angel, no angel in the sky)
Can fully bear that sight, (can bear that sight)
But downward bends his wondering eye at mysteries so bright.
Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave,
Who rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing (His glories, His glories now we sing,)
Who died and rose on high, (who rose on high,)
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
Oh! Oh! Crown Jesus Lord with many crowns!

(2) THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS:

Early in the morning, the first day of the week;
A ray of light was shining, the sound of running feet.
A holy fire, a lightning flash, the rocks all shift; the ground gives way.
There was silence around that empty tomb, as the stone was rolled away!
This is how we know what love is, He came to give His life for us.
This is how we know what love is. Redemption paid upon a tree.
He came to die for you and me!
Not a word between them, they step into the tomb,
That grave so dark and silent: His body had been moved!
They gaze in fear. How could they know that death had died, and He’d made it so?
Now our ransom’s paid and Love has won. The stone was rolled away!

This is how we know what love is, He came to give His life for us.
This is how we know what love is. Redemption paid upon a tree.
He came to die for you and me!
Sing O sing of my Redeemer! With His blood, He purchased me.
On the cross, He sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free!
This is how we know what love is, He came to give His life for us.
This is how we know what love is. Redemption paid upon a tree.
He came to die for you and me! He came to die for you and me!

(3) THE BLOOD OF JESUS MEDLEY:

Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's power in the blood, there's power in the blood.
Would you over evil a victory win? There's wonderful power in the blood.
There is power, power, wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb.
There is power, power, wonder-working power in the precious blood of the Lamb.
Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you washed in the blood (Are you, are you washed in the blood)
In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
O, the blood of Jesus! O, the blood of Jesus!
O, the blood of Jesus, it washes white as snow!
Oh! What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!
O, precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow,
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus!
There is power, power, wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb.
There is power, power, wonder-working power in the precious blood of the Lamb.
In the precious blood of the Lamb, in the precious blood of the Lamb.

(4) THERE IS A FOUNTAIN:

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins.
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains,
The dying thief rejoiced to see, that fountain in his day.
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away,
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away,
Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power,
Till all the ransomed church of God, be saved to sin not more,
Be saved to sin not more, be saved to sin not more,
Till all the ransomed church of God, be saved to sin not more,

Ever since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die,

(5) BROKEN BREAD, BROKEN LIFE:

Broken bread, broken life, holy gift, Your sacrifice.
Shameful sin, desperate need, Son of God, You came to bleed.
Precious is the blood of Christ! Wondrous sinless sacrifice!
Come to free us from our sin. Come to bring us back to Him.
Look how love has brought us in.
Broken bread, broken life, Lamb of God, You paid the price.
Bound to Him, (bound to Him) in His death, (in His death)
Life renewed, (life renewed) in brokenness (in brokenness.)
Gathered here (gathered here) in His name, (in His name)
Won our peace, (won our peace) we've been reclaimed (we've been reclaimed.)
Precious is the blood of Christ! Wondrous sinless sacrifice!
Come to free us from our sin. Come to bring us back to Him.
Look how love has brought us in.
Broken bread, broken life, Lamb of God, You paid the price.
Lord, You are the Bread of Life. Thank You for your sacrifice.
Lord, You are the Bread of Life. Thank You for your sacrifice.
Lord, You are the Bread of Life. Thank You for your sacrifice.
Lord, You are the Bread of Life. Thank You for your sacrifice.
Come to free us from our sin. Come to bring us back to Him.
Look how love has brought us in.
Broken bread, broken life, Lamb of God, You paid the price.
Broken bread, broken life, Lamb of God, You paid the price.
Lamb of God, You paid the price!

(6) HE'S RISEN, HALLELUJAH!

He's risen! Hallelujah! He's risen! Hallelujah!
Death, where is your sting? Behold the King of kings! He's risen! Hallelujah!
He's risen! Hallelujah! He's risen! Hallelujah!
Death, where is your sting? Behold the King of kings! He's risen! Hallelujah!
Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior!
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!
He's risen! Hallelujah! He's risen! Hallelujah!
Death, where is your sting? Behold the King of kings! He's risen! Hallelujah!
Vainly, they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly, they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!
Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus my Savior!
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!