



**Palm/Passion
Sunday**
April 10, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

Lighting the Christ Candle

Awesome God, as we enter Holy Week,
we are drawn to the flickering flame.

It burns brightly in our hearts.

Yet, we know that amidst the celebrations of this day,
there are those who want to extinguish the light in us and in Jesus.

May the radiance of Christ's glory shine brightly,
this day and through Holy Week.

In the name of the Light of the World, we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing.

It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

It is holy to remember.

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing.

Here and now, let us do all of these things.

Opening Hymn: He Came Riding on a Donkey (VU 124, vs. 1 & 2)

Words: Gordon Light 1986, Music Gordon Light 1986; arr. Nan Thompson 1995

Words and Music © 1986 Common Cup Company.

Arrangement © 1995 Nan Thompson

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1 He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy kind of lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him,
staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them,
on to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises;
waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David;
riding on to take his throne.

2 Then the children gathered, singing
shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
in the streets their song was ringing,
'Hosannas' filled the morning air.
Timid adults strained to see him,
caught the Spirit, joined the song;
spread their cloaks along before him,
branches flashing in the sun.
So all the city sang his praises;
waking streets and dancing crowd;
here he is, the Son of David;
our Messiah, Son of God.

Call to Confession

The word 'hosanna' is often sung with joy and glee on this day.
We wave palm branches, and it feels like a celebration.

But the truth is, the word 'hosanna' actually means, "save us."

The people along that parade route so many years ago were crying
out to Jesus for help, because they knew—this world is not as it
should be. There is still too much hurt here.

They were crying, "Save us!"

In the prayer of confession, we have our own hosanna moment,
because we cry out to God, admitting the ways in which we have
fallen short, and we ask for God's saving hand.

So friends, let us pray together, for there is still too much hurt here.

Prayer of Confession

God of street parades and hosannas,
we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression,

to speak up for love and to speak hope to fear,
but so often we are silent.

We worry that we'll say the wrong thing,
so we don't say anything at all.

We worry that we'll offend,
so we keep our convictions to ourselves.

We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard,
so we stay silent.

And meanwhile, the parade marches on.
Unravel our fears.

Spark conviction in us.

Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!"

Gratefully, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Friends, even when we are silent,
even when we are scared,
even when we miss the moment,
even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing—
we belong to God.

There is nothing said or unsaid,
done or undone that can undo that,
so rest in this good news:

We are forgiven.

We are known.

We belong to God, every day and always. Amen.

Hymn: And on This Path (More Voices 8)

Words: Lynn Bauman, Music: Linnea Good, 2003

Words © 2000 Lynn Bauman,

from Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the Psalms as Poetry. Used by permission.

Music © 2003 Borealis Music. Used by permission.

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1 And on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide
The gates are open wide!

2 So enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

Celebration of Holy Baptism

Hymn: I Have Called You by Your Name (More Voices 161, vs. 1 & 4)

Words and music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1995

Words and Music © 1995 Hope Publishing Company.

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1 I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

4 I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

Scripture Readings

Christian Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:28-40

Reflection: Peace is Every Step

Affirmation of Faith

(Paraphrased from and inspired by Luke 19:28-40)

Go to the village ahead of you, and you will find a colt tied there.

Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, "The Lord needs it."

We believe in a God of surprises.

We believe in a God with a sense of humor.

We believe that there are things we may never understand, but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.

They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

We believe in giving what we have.

We believe that actions of generosity change us.

We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.

The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully praising God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen.

We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker.

We believe in a God of good news.

We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

We believe there will be forces that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous.

We do not believe those voices will have the last word.

"I tell you," Jesus replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way.

We believe.

Help our unbelief.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

(Voices United 121, vs. 1, 2 & 4)

Words and Music: Marty Haugen 1984

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1 Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.

2 Seed that dies to rise in glory,
may we see ourselves in you,
if we learn to live your story
we may die to rise anew,
we may die to rise anew.

4 Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
come inflame our hearts anew,
we may all your joy inherit
if we bear the cross with you,
if we bear the cross with you.

Invitation to Offering

As we honour the gifts of time and talent that we have shared during the week, the gifts of money offered through PAR, through the website, and on the collection basket this morning, we pray:

Offering Prayer

**Gracious God, Jesus came as our king,
to share your blessings with the world.**

**The One who was greatest among us
became the least for us and our salvation.**

Our servant king humbled himself to sustain our weary souls.

**Receive the gifts we bring before you this day, that the whole world
may know the glory and power of your kingdom.**

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Amen.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn: He Came Riding on a Donkey (Voices United, V. 3)

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3 In our fasting, and our feasting,
called to follow in his way;
called to walk his road to Easter,
called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David,
hosanna in the heavens above;
blessed is he who comes to save us,
blessed is he who brings his love.
Let us join to sing his praises;
open hearts and souls to God;

Benediction

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—go in peace,
full to the brim. Amen.

Postlude

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker

Music Leader – James Yi

Vocalists – Margaret Bates and Blyth Hughes

Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey

Greeters – Deanna Bertelsen and Christine Smith

Scripture Reading – Alan Hodgson

Technical Support – Karen Clark, Sascha Enns and Rob Glenn

Flowers for the service are offered by Barbara Shobbrook

in celebration of the lives of her husband, Bob Joslin

and her cousin, Jerome McElroy.

Flowers are also offered by Gary Swenson,

in celebration of the life of Sandra Swenson.