

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY
MARCH 28, 2021**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Hosanna Savior, we wave our palms and sing our praise as we remember your triumphal entry into Jerusalem. May your Spirit enter the heart of our worship this day giving us the strength to endure the journey, which is ahead. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

SENTENCES OF ADORATION

OPENING HYMN: *HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA*

213

1 "Hosanna, loud hosanna," the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed amid cheering crowd, the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud. The one whom angels worship rode on in lowly state, and glad to see the children, slowed down the donkey's gait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song is ours, we hail our great Redeemer, and sing with all our powers: "Hosanna, Christ we praise you with heart and life and voice. Hosanna! In your presence forever we'll rejoice!"

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

Unison: Say what!?

Pastor: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

Unison: Which side are you on, friends? Which side?

Pastor: Justice for our children is justice for all

Unison: and we will strive for justice until freedom is one. Save us, O God, have mercy and save us.

Pastor: Open to us the gates of righteousness.

Unison: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Pastor: Hosanna in the highest.

Unison: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:

We want to be respectful tenants of your beautiful garden, God, marveling at the beauty and complexity of your creation and our relationship to it. Forgive us for all the ways that we have hurt your good creation, and guide us as we strive for a healed world. Amen.

ASSURANCE

Pastor: With Christ's help,

Unison: we will return to the garden.

Pastor: Through Christ's passion,

Unison: we will weep by the tree.

Pastor: For Christ's sake,

Unison: we will proclaim the good news:

Pastor: Nothing can separate us from Jesus Christ, our liberator.

SERMON: *A Walk Though Holy Week*

Introduction

The Triumphal Entry – Matthew 21:1 – 11

(Symbol - Full Palm)

Jesus Cleansing the Temple – Luke 19:45 – 46

(Symbol - Coin)

Judas Bargains with the Sanhedrin – Luke 22:1 – 6

(Symbol - Bag of Coins)

Jesus Washes Disciples' Feet – John 13:1 – 17

(Symbols - Bowl, Pitcher)

HYMN: *JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE*

I am weak, but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long As I walk let me walk close to Thee. Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

The Last Supper – Luke 22:7 – 20

(Symbols - Loaf of Bread and Chalice)

In the Garden of Gethsemane – Matthew 26:36 – 50

HYMN: *GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE*

Journey to Gethsemane, go and feel the tempter's power; Your Redeemer's conflict see, watch the anguish of this hour; Do not hide or turn away: learn from Jesus how to pray.

Jesus' Trials – Luke 22:66 – 23:25

(Symbol - Length of Rope)

HYMN: O SACRED HEAD NOW WOUNDED

**O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, your only crown,
How pale you are with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
How does your visage languish which once was bring as morn!**

The Road to the Cross and Crucifixion – Luke 23:26 – 47

(Symbol - Nails)

HYMN: WHAT A WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS?

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What
Wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is
this! That Christ should come in bliss to bear the heavy cross for my
soul, for my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul**

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL AND WORK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A LENTEN CREED

**We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God,
who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.**

**We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God,
and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.**

**We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God
who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.**

**We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures,
and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.**

**We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination,
and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.**

**We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road,
and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.**

**This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ.
Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Pastor: Christ, we pray that you would hear our prayers, and graft in our minds
the same mind that is in you, that we might be vessels of your humility
and grace. Lord Jesus, you emptied yourself, trading in the form of God
for the form of a slave; we pray for the Church, and all her people and**

ministers. Form us into a Church that empties itself for others, and for you. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you were born in human likeness, and found in human form; we pray for the whole human family, for the nations of the earth, and for all who live in the midst of disaster, famine, or terror. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, even after humbling yourself in your incarnation, you humbled yourself even to the point of death; we pray for our nation, our leaders, and all the people who live within these borders. Bless us with your humility. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus your humility and your love for us was so broad and deep, it cost you your life. We pray for those who we love who have died, and as you were highly exalted, may they rest with you in glory. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: In your exaltation, O Lord, you were given the name that is above every name; we pray in your name for those who are poor, those who are hungry, and those who are hurting in any way. Give them your grace. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We also pray, in your name O Lord, for those who are sick. Give them the gift of healing, strength, and life. Lord in your mercy,

Unison: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You humbled yourself in the manger, and you humbled yourself on the cross; and to you O Lord we bend our knee with those above and those below, to the glory of God the Father.

Pause for private intercessions

Pastor: We dream of your reign here on earth, as it is in heaven. And so, with our siblings and cousins in the faith, from generation to generation, we join in the prayer that Jesus taught...

**Unison: Eternal Spirit,
Earth – maker, Pain – bearer, Life – giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the World!

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
Sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptations and testing, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For your reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *I WANT THE TRUTH*

Darin Jellison

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, even on a day such as this, when more than any other we contemplate how we have failed to uphold your word and your work, still we offer you these gifts of our hands and our hearts, and pray that you will receive them and use them, that together we might continue to tell the world of your love. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN: *ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR*

216

1 All glory, laud and honor to you, O Christ, we sing, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! The people of the Hebrews with palms adorned your way; our praise and prayer and anthems we offer you this day.

2 O Promised One of Israel, of David's royal line, the one called "God's beloved," of flesh and yet divine, to you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

3 As you received their praises, receive our prayers today, whose justice and whose mercy and sovereignty hold sway. All glory, laud, and honor to you, O Christ, we sing, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Special thanks to Eileen Wescoe for filling in for Dennis Duda, to Darin Jellison for sharing special music, to Darin, Ron Demkee, and Joan Hassler for reading scriptures, and to our Stream Team for filming today's service.

God's Blessings to all!