

† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †
Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021

HANDBELL PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Dale Wood

INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P O Lord, save us;

C O Lord, grant us victory.

P Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C From the house of the Lord we bless You.

OPENING HYMN

All Glory, Laud and Honor

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming our King and blessed One.

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present.

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
As You received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King.

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

CONFESSION

P Let us confess our sins to the One who saves.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem gathered with palms in their hands to greet our Lord Jesus Christ, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King, and when He comes again, may we go forth to meet Him with trusting hearts, following Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens – awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

C See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

P Hosanna to the Son of David!

C Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

P Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Bless these palms and palm crosses, that remembering His suffering, death and resurrection, we may rejoice in the victory He has won for us, who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing;
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav'n our King.
Oh, may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!

SERMON

"Funny Things Jesus Says"

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Relying on the promises of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

P Jesus came among us as a teacher and a suffering servant. As we enter into this Holy Week, guide us with Your Word and open our hearts to seek Your will each day. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P The created world reminds us that life springs from death. Restore places that have been damaged by disaster, pollution, or misuse, and nurture the new growth of flowers, trees and crops. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Jesus emptied Himself and was obedient. Inspire all who are in positions of authority or leadership to use their power for good. Grant wisdom to those making decisions and perseverance to those who are struggling with weakness or opposition. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P During His earthly ministry, Jesus relied on others to care for His needs. Sustain healthcare workers, food service providers, social work agencies, and all who look out for those in need. Bless our own outreach ministries and community partnerships. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Jesus shared times of joy and sadness with the disciples and those who followed Him. We give You thanks for our families and friends, and for our community of faith. Bless those who are preparing to travel for the holidays and bring cheer to those who are still missing loved ones. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Console and strengthen all who live in fear of violence and hate, especially those in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community, and deliver all people from injustice and hatred. Grant respite and renewal to those who are experiencing illness or any kind of mental or physical suffering. We pray especially for all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now...(PAUSE). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We praise You for the faithful witnesses You have given in every age and time. Give us also the faith to trust the promises of new life in Your Son as we await the resurrection celebration. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.

O Savior meek, pursue Thy road, with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die.

O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin.

CLOSING PRAYER

P God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of Your Son You offer Your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hosanna!

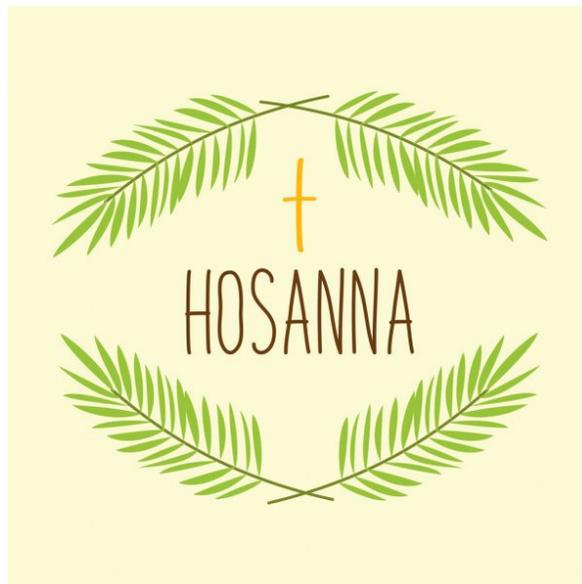
Joseph Prentiss

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today’s service:

Lector Jennifer Schell Podoll

If you would like to receive a palm frond or palm cross, feel free to stop by the Reception Desk during the week between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., or contact the church office to make arrangements.



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