



ADVENT HOUSTON

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

LENT

"Unfortunately some Christians live as though the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ never happened. Our lives become absorbed in the day-to-day experiences of life. We focus on name-brand clothing, the color of our houses, the size of our bank account, the year and make of our automobile, the prestige in which others hold us, and the symbols of our own power. We too easily forget our Maker and Redeemer, replacing God with things and ambition. Lent is the season that does something about this situation. It calls us back to God, back to basics, back to the spiritual realities of life. It calls on us to put to death the sin and the indifference we have in our hearts toward God and our fellow persons. And it beckons us to enter once again into the joy of the LORD - the joy of a new life born out of a death to the old life."

Lent is a forty-day period in the church calendar that dates back to the 4th century. It was originally a time of preparation and spiritual discipline for all who were being baptized at Easter—the normal time of baptism for all new Christians and their families. As early as the 1st century, we see Christians using a time of preparation for their baptism, and with time, this preparation grew to forty days in association with Jesus' forty days of prayer and fasting in the wilderness.

Lent is a time that beckons us to remember our own baptismal vows. Martin Luther encouraged his congregation during Lent to "live into [their] baptism." And so, we too should live into our dying with Christ and rising with Christ. We too are called to live into that pattern of repentance and faith. We are invited to turn away from all distractions and sins and turn toward God.

This lenten practice can take many forms. We can choose to fast from food, reminding ourselves that Christ is our daily bread. As theologians Louis Weil and Charles Price remind us, "The psychosomatic unity of human beings makes it inevitable that a physical glut will cloud mind and spirit." Alternately, we can fast from some of the distracting behaviors that we have slipped into, like scrolling on our phones at bedtime. Or, we can pursue new habits that help us to pattern our lives on the life of Jesus; we may commit to praying every day or to calling a friend to check on them every day.

During this lenten season, make time to consider the condition of your heart and to enter into a season of living out your baptism in repentance and faith.

REFLECTION

“Men will allow God to be everywhere but on his throne. They will allow him to be in his workshop to fashion worlds and make stars. They will allow Him to be in His almonry to dispense His alms and bestow his bounties. they will allow Him to sustain the earth and bear up the pillars thereof, or light the lamps of heaven, or rule the waves of the ever-moving ocean; but when God ascends His throne, His creatures then gnash their teeth. And we proclaim an enthroned God, and His right to do as He wills with His own, to dispose of His creatures as He thinks well, without consulting them in the matter; then it is that we are hissed and execrated, and then it is that men turn a deaf ear to us, for God on His throne is not the God they love. But it is God upon the throne that we love to preach. It is God upon His throne whom we trust.”

— **Charles Spurgeon**

“The only monarch who ever deserved that man should fall down before him was a child of poverty, whose life was spent in teaching, and who died an ignominious death.”

– **Martin Luther**

Christ is either Lord of all, or He is not Lord at all.

– **Hudson Taylor**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

*Call to Worship

Based on Zechariah 9:9

Leader: Behold your king comes to you, O Zion, meek and lowly,
sitting upon an ass.

People: Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice.

Leader: Your throne is the throne of God, it endures forever;

People: And the scepter of your kingdom is a righteous scepter.

Leader: You have loved righteousness and hated evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of
gladness above your fellows.

**ALL: Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Children proceed to the front of the chapel and
wave palms during the next song.**

*Song – All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" words by Edward Perronet and John Rippon
and music by Oliver Holden

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Verse 1

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

Verse 2

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all

Verse 3

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all

Verse 4

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all

**Nursery and preschool children may leave
the chapel with Miss Kelley.**

Prayer of Adoration

First Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

[5] Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (ESV)

Leader: The Word of the LORD.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

[1] Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, [2] saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. [3] If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." [4] This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

[5] "Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

[6] The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. [7] They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. [8] Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [9] And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" [10] And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" [11] And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee." (ESV)

Leader: The Gospel of the LORD.

People: **Praise be to You, Lord, Christ!**

***Song – I Will Wait For You (Psalm 130)**

"I Will Wait For You (Psalm 130)" words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matthew Merker, and Stuart Townend
© Words: 2018 Getty Music Publishing

Verse 1

Out of the depths I cry to You
In darkest places I will call
Incline Your ear to me anew
And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Verse 2

Were You to count my sinful ways
How could I come before Your throne
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze
I stand redeemed by grace alone

Chorus 1

I will wait for You I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied

Verse 3

So put Your hope in God alone
Take courage in His power to save
Completely and forever won
By Christ emerging from the grave
Chorus 1

Verse 4

Now He has come to make a way
And God Himself has paid the price
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice

Chorus 2

I will wait for You I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight
I will wait for You I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied

***Affirmation of Faith**

From Psalm 24 & "Jesus Is Lord" Creed

Leader: Who is this King of glory?
People: **The LORD, strong and mighty,
The LORD, mighty in battle!**

Leader: Who is this King of glory?
People: **The LORD of hosts,
He is the King of glory!**

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?

**ALL: Jesus is this King of glory
For Jesus Christ is Lord!
There is no other.**

Confession of Sin

From Rev. Giorgio Hiatt, Pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Winston Salem, NC

ALL: Our Father in heaven, we come to you now, as our King. And we can only come to you because you welcome the needy and the afflicted. And that is who we are.

Father, our central need is for your reign. Yet, we run from it. We are afraid of being weak, because we don't trust you to carry us. We try to look out for our own well-being, because we don't trust you and we want control. We often turn our hearts away from your heart and our feet away from your commandments.

So, receive us now as your children. Receive us, not because we're good or because we vow to do better; but receive us because you rejected your Son in our place. We pray in His name. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:13-14

Leader: God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, Have mercy upon. You, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Citation - Words: Ancient Text, Music: Phil Madeira



LEADER: Lord Je-sus Christ, son of God, have mer-cy on me, a sin-ner.



ALL: Lord Je-sus Christ, son of God, have mer-cy on me, a sin-ner.



LEADER: Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son. Lord Je-sus Christ, have mer-cy on me, a sin-ner.



ALL: Have mer-cy on me, a sin-ner. Have mer-cy on me, a sin-ner.

ADVENTURERS

CHILDREN (K - 3RD GRADE)

All kids from Kindergarten through 3rd Grade are invited to go to Adventurers, a children's lesson and activity time during the sermon. They will be escorted back to the chapel after the Passing of the Peace.

Prayers of the People

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Leader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Leader intercedes on behalf of the community

Leader: We pray all of this in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray, saying...

People: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Sermon Reading

Jonah 4:5-11

[5] Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. [6] Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. [7] But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. [8] When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." [9] But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." [10] And the LORD said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. [11] And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?" (ESV)

Leader: The Word of the LORD.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Do You Do Well To Be Angry?"

Rev. Taylor Leachman

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

Leader: May the Peace of the Lord be always with you!

People: And also with you!

RETURN OF CHILDREN

During the Offertory, "ADVENTURERS" teachers will bring the children back to the Sanctuary. Feel free to pick up younger children at this time as well. You may also wait to retrieve them, as childcare is provided for the duration of the service.

Announcements

WE'RE SO GLAD TO HAVE YOU WORSHIP WITH US. PLEASE SIGN IN SO WE HAVE A RECORD OF YOUR ATTENDANCE.

OPTION 1: TAKE THE BLUE SIGN-IN PAD FROM UNDER THE SEAT AT THE END OF THE ROW AND RECORD YOUR INFORMATION THERE.



OPTION 2: SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA AND FILL OUT THE FORM THERE. YOU MAY ALSO DO THIS AFTER THE SERVICE.

Offertory & Private Prayer

ALL GIVING IS A RESPONSE TO GOD'S GENEROSITY TO YOU IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE, BUT PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT JESUS OR CHRISTIANITY, OR IF YOU ARE A GUEST, WE WOULD INVITE YOU TO REFRAIN FROM GIVING AT THIS TIME.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE AT [ADVENTPRES.ORG/GIVE](https://adventpres.org/give). YOU CAN ALSO SCAN THIS QR CODE OR PLACE A GIFT IN THE OFFERING BASKET TOWARD THE ENTRANCE OF THE SANCTUARY.



SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Celebration of Holy Communion

People: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Nourish us, therefore, gracious Lord, so that in partaking of this sacrament of your son Jesus Christ, we may walk in newness of life, grow into his likeness, and evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Leader: The LORD be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the LORD.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the LORD, our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his majesty. The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified. He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives forever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, forever praising you and *singing*:

People:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
Hea - ven and earth are full, full of your
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
Lord. san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Leader: Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Advent welcomes all baptized Christians to participate in the Lord's table. This includes all Christians, whether members at Advent or at another church. Children who have been baptized and admitted to the table by the elders of this church or the leadership of another church are also welcome to the table.

If you're still investigating Christianity, not sure what you believe, or simply choose not to participate, you may either remain in your seat or come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing. Feel free to use the prayers printed in the bulletin below. Non-communing children are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing while their parents receive communion.



We serve both wine and grape juice for communion. Grape juice is available in the center of the communion trays; wine is available along the edge. All communion bread is gluten free.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH:

LORD JESUS, YOU CLAIM TO BE THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. IF WHAT YOU CLAIM IS TRUE, PLEASE GUIDE ME, TEACH ME, AND OPEN TO ME THE REALITY OF WHO YOU ARE. GIVE ME THE ABILITY TO FOLLOW YOU NO MATTER WHAT IT MIGHT COST ME. GIVE ME AN UNDERSTANDING FOR YOU THAT IS COHERENT, CONVINCING, AND LEADS TO THE LIFE THAT YOU PROMISE. AMEN.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING AGAINST SIN

LORD JESUS, GIVE ME THE ABILITY TO SEE IN YOU THE FULFILLMENT OF ALL MY NEEDS AND DESIRES, AND HELP ME TO TURN FROM EVERY FALSE SOURCE OF SATISFACTION TO FEED ON YOU, THE TRUE AND LIVING BREAD. ENABLE ME TO LAY ASIDE THE SIN THAT CLINGS SO CLOSELY TO ME, AND RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE THAT YOU HAVE SET BEFORE ME, LOOKING ONLY TO YOU, THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF MY FAITH. AMEN.

PRAYER FOR BELIEF:

LORD JESUS, I ADMIT THAT I AM WEAKER AND MORE SINFUL THAN I EVER BELIEVED, BUT THROUGH YOU, I AM MORE LOVED AND ACCEPTED THAN I EVER DARED HOPE. I THANK YOU FOR PAYING MY DEBT, BEARING MY PUNISHMENT ON THE CROSS AND OFFERING FORGIVENESS AND NEW LIFE. KNOWING THAT YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD AND ARE NOW REPRESENTING ME AT THE FATHER'S RIGHT HAND IN HEAVEN, I TURN FROM MY SINS AND RECEIVE YOU AS MY SAVIOR. AMEN.

Communion Song – All the Poor and Powerless

“All the Poor and Powerless” words and music by Leslie Jordan and David Leonard
© 2011 Integrity’s Praise! Music

Verse 1

All the poor and powerless
And all the lost and lonely
And all the thieves will come confess
And know that You are holy
And know that You are holy

Chorus

And all will sing out hallelujah
And we will cry out hallelujah

Verse 2

All the hearts who are content
And all who feel unworthy
And all who hurt with nothing left
Will know that You are holy
Chorus x2

Bridge

Shout it, go on and scream it from the mountains
Go on and tell it to the masses
That He is God (x3)

Reprise

We will sing out hallelujah
And we will cry out hallelujah
We will sing out hallelujah (x2)

Ending

Shout it, go on and scream it from the mountains
Go on and tell it to the masses
That He is God

*Closing Song – Red Sea Road

"Red Sea Road" words and music by Ellie Holcomb, Christa Wells, and Nicole Witt
© 2015 Full Heart Music

Verse 1

We've buried dreams
Laid them deep into the earth behind us
Said our goodbyes
At the grave but everything reminds us
God knows we ache when He asks us to go on
How do we go on

Chorus

We will sing to our souls
We won't bury our hope
Where He leads us to go there's a red sea road
When we can't see the way He will part the waves
And we'll never walk alone down a red sea road

Verse 2

How can we trust
When you say you will deliver us
From all of this pain
That threatens to take over us well
Well this desert's dry but the ocean may consume
And we're scared to follow you

Chorus

Bridge

Oh help us believe
You are faithful, you're faithful
When our hearts are breaking
You are faithful you're faithful
Oh grant us eyes to see
You are faithful, you're faithful
Teach us to sing
You are faithful, you're faithful
You're faithful

Chorus

Ending

No we'll never walk alone down a red sea road
No we'll never walk alone down a red sea road

*Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving and Mission

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you;
 The LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious
 to you;
 The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you
 peace, now and forevermore.

Announcements



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 7, 12:00 noon

We can't get to the resurrection of Easter without "The Old Rugged Cross" of Good Friday. Join us as we reflect on Jesus' accomplishments on the cross.



EASTER SERVICE

Sunday, April 9 - 10:00 a.m. Service

He is Risen! Celebrate our Risen Lord for an Easter morning service. Invite friends and family to join us.

Note 10:00 a.m. Worship time!

Easter Feast

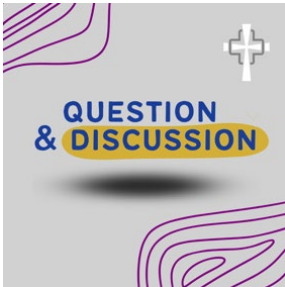
SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH
1:00-4:00 P.M.

THE LEACHMAN HOME
4517 EVERGREEN ST.
BELLAIRE, TX 77401

EASTER FEAST

Sunday, April 9 - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate an Easter Feast with friends at the Leachman's. They will provide the main dish, bring something to share, and invite friends, neighbors, co-workers, roommates to join you!



QUESTION & DISCUSSION

Next Q&D is April 30th



Scan the QR code for more info and to submit your questions.



DONUTS AT THE PARK

May 7

Come join us for our next donuts in the park event! Sunday, April 2nd, at 10:30 A.M. at Colonial Park in the West U area.

Media Release

Advent Houston shares photos taken at our events in our monthly newsletters, on our website, or on social media for the purpose of promoting and highlighting the church's mission. By being present, you consent to being photographed and having these photos shared. For individuals who are not comfortable being visible in a shared photograph, please notify the church at admin@adventpres.org to opt out of the media release.

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ADVENT HOUSTON EXISTS TO **EMBRACE, EMBODY, AND EXTEND**
THE GRACE OF JESUS TO THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER, RICE
UNIVERSITY, AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.

