

Welcome to Worship! | March 24, 2024 | Palm Sunday

GATHERING

Prelude Festival March on "St. Theodulph"

Robert J. Hughes

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Rejoice and shout aloud for our king is coming to save us. Hosanna in the highest! Our king is coming, humble yet triumphant, riding on a donkey. Hosanna in the highest! Let us worship God!

*Hymn 197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (written by Stephen Fearing)

Triumphant God, we join the crowd today, cheering your entry into our lives. But how quickly we turn from shouts of joy to taunts of fear and hatred. Instead of greeting you when the going gets tough, we often choose to greet you only when it is convenient for us. In the moments when tough choices have to be made, we build walls to keep people out instead of bigger tables to invite more guests. We, the builders of these walls, have rejected you, the chief cornerstone. Have mercy upon us. Give us courage to build tables instead of walls. Give us strength to accept your call upon our lives. Give us righteousness that we might know the difference between what is easy and what is right. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Sung Response 581 Glory Be to the Father

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **People: And also with you.**

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 43:16-21

Anthem He's Got the Whole World in His Hand

arr. Margaret Bonds

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Second Lesson John 12:1-16

Sermon Table Talk: Extravagance

*Hymn 209 My Song Is Love Unknown

*Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

Offering and Passing of Friendship Pads

Offertory Canticle of Praise

*Doxology 606

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn 223 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*Charge and Benediction

*Dismissal We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life goes with us.

Postlude Chaconne

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington Parish Associate, Rev. Dr. Gary Smith Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger Vocal Soloist, Angela Burns Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant Adult Bells Production Coordinator, Jim Fox Lay Reader, Melinda Stewart Children's Director, Lynn Warner

The flowers in the Sanctuary

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the baptisms of Alec Hansjoerg Stern and Joseph Kean Walters.

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.

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Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

Sherman

Gordon Young