



## March 28, 2021 Palm-Passion Sunday Holy Week begins...

**Prayer Requests, Welcome & Announcements** ~ Jan Richardson

### **Candle Lighting & Centering**

*"Here is my Servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one, in whom I delight!"*

*I have endowed you with my Spirit, that you may bring true justice to the nations. You do not cry out or raise your voice or make yourself heard in the street. So gentle that you do not break a bruised reed, or quench a flickering flame, faithfully you will bring forth true justice. Isaiah 42:1-3*

### **Call to Worship**

Jesus, humble, obedient, a suffering servant. Jesus, courageous and loyal in witnessing to God. Jesus, on the back of a donkey coming among the people. What is our response?

**To pray and praise; gather and listen to the ancient story; question our own understanding of what it means to be on the way to Jerusalem.**

Come then in fear and trepidation, in anticipation and confidence, for God comes close to invite us to this service. Come let us worship God.

### **The Gospel Story for Palm Sunday ~ *Jesus enters Jerusalem***

*Palm-Passion Sunday begins with shouts of praise as Jesus of Nazareth - hero of the common people - enters the Holy City. Yet, in so doing, he marches inevitably towards his death.*

For today's service, Holly reads a paraphrase from page 43 of *Mystic Bible*, by Alexandra Sangster, Sophia Books. Audio Link: <https://soundcloud.com/jan-richardson/palm-sunday-gospel-holly-m>  
(option) Video Link ~ Linnea Good, biblical storyteller version [https://youtu.be/Mlslp\\_k9bqo](https://youtu.be/Mlslp_k9bqo)

**Special Music ~ *On the Road to Calvary***, composed and sung by Dave Goodwin, accompanied by Barbara-Lynn Goodwin. Used with the permission of OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521 Audio Link: <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/2d586d74-4ff6-470b-bac9-2746b7ca242d/downloads/On%20the%20Road%20to%20Calvary.mp3?ver=1585615584239>

### **Palm Sunday Congregational Prayer**

<https://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/2012/03/palm-sunday-congregational-prayer.html>

**Thank you God for your triumphal entry into our world each and every day.**

**The slow motion explosion of buds on the trees proclaim "Hosanna!"**

**Rushing water, falling from heaven, gurgling to the sea, proclaims "Hosanna!"**

The fragrance of spring in the morning air proclaims, “Hosanna!”  
And the beauty of a baby’s fingers, the softness of their cheek proclaims your praise!

We long to join this chorus, giving you thanks and praise for who you are, for all you have created, all you are creating.

Thank you for sending Jesus, who showed us your love for all creation, your love for us.

He opened our eyes to see your kingdom come here on earth.

Forgive us for the times where we have gone about our own business, concerned with many things, oblivious to the needs of those around us, oblivious to the call of your love in our heart.

God of grace, equip us to be your servants, listening, eager, ready.

Thank you for your presence in our world, even in war-filled places.

We hear of bombs dropped, children killed, the needy betrayed.

We are tempted to despair, and to think that you have forsaken us.

We are tempted to think that you are powerless.

Give us a vision of your entry into our world as the Prince of peace, changing hearts, changing our hearts, one by one, creating an army of peacemakers who say no to violence.

God of great deeds, open our hearts to be your hearts, our hands to be your hands,

our arms, to be your loving arms

for all who need your presence.

You know the people in our congregation with pressing needs:

those with new diagnoses, those waiting for tests, those coping with chronic pain.

We grieve with those here who are grieving, and we ask you for comfort and healing.

We pray for marriages that are in trouble, and relationships that are strained, walk with us, and show us the way.

*(Silence is held)*

We ask all these things in Christ, Amen.

### **A Reading Mark 14:3-9**

*The action of this woman, her courageous crossing of boundaries to minister as disciple and friend to Jesus as he faces death, is a mirror image of the action of Jesus both in life and in death. This woman’s sensitivity to Jesus’ need in no way denigrates the demands of the poor.*

**A Blessing for Health Care Workers**, *A poem authored by Mable Woo and shared through the AHS Spiritual Care, central zone, Spring Newsletter*

Blessings upon your hands  
that have touched lives  
and provided healing.  
Blessings upon your eyes  
that always see the person  
behind the illness.  
Blessings upon your feet,  
as you move from person to person,  
attending to need after need.  
Blessings upon your words,  
as you offer encouragement,  
comfort, and support.  
Blessings upon your mind,  
as you work with wisdom,  
purpose and understanding.  
Blessings upon your heart

as you care for others with compassion  
and as you care for yourself with kindness.  
Blessings upon you,  
as you are a blessing.  
May God bless you -  
your hands, your eyes,  
your feet, your words,  
your mind, your heart -  
for all the care you provide.  
And may your patients, residents, families,  
team members and others  
be blessed through you.

## A Reading from Mark 14:12-25 ~ The Last Supper

**Prayer: *Surely Not I?*** written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes, inspired by Mark 14:18-19,  
<https://www.unfoldinglight.net/>

Surely.  
I would never betray you, never deny you.  
Surely?

Beloved,  
give me the faith to doubt  
my righteousness.

Give me the assurance to question,  
to examine myself honestly,  
to ask.

Give me the confidence to wonder  
how I might betray your perfect love,  
to see.

Give me grace to confess  
how my promises are broken, my heart  
broken.

Give me the peace to be troubled  
by my smugness,  
and repent.

Open my eyes to see that you see,  
you know, and knowing, you keep right on  
eating with me.

## A Reading from Mark 14:32-42 ~ Jesus prays in Gethsemane

**Hymn ~ *Go to Dark Gethsemane* #133 VU**

Words: James Montgomery. Music: Richard Redhead. Public Domain

## A Reading from Mark 14:43-50 ~ The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus



**& A Time for Reflection**

## Minute for Mission ~ Mission & Service Easter Appeal

As disciples of Jesus, we're invited to walk his way, to share his sufferings, to imitate his attitudes, to "empty" ourselves, to live in service of others - in short, to love others as he loves us. Video Link: <https://youtu.be/kBOHYqYgVPY>

### Offering Prayer for Holy Week:

Holy God, you have fed us all out of your own generous and gracious hands. From them, we have received welcome, nourishment, hope, and consolation. May these things grow in us, alongside the gift of faith, so that we may plant their seeds in the world around us.

Through the Holy Spirit, guide us in the days ahead to re-member our place in your great and on-going story of resurrection, redemption, and restoration through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

~ written by lutheranjulia, and posted on RevGalBlogPals.

<http://revgalblogpals.org/2016/03/18/friday-prayer-something-is-coming/>

### & The Prayer Jesus Taught, sung version, page 959 VU

Recorded as sung by Emma Werboweskey, accompanied by Veronica Weber. Words: Public Domain. Music: David Haas © 1986 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Used with permission of OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521.

## Closing Words ~ An Affirmation of Faith for Holy Week

This statement of faith was written by Roddy Hamilton. and posted on re worship <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/02/affirmation-of-faith-for-holy-week.html>

some shout hosanna  
**some shout crucify**  
some shout Jesus  
**some shout Barabbas**  
some wave palms  
**some shake their fists**  
*today we choose...*

some break bread  
**some break silence**  
some proclaim Jesus  
**some deny Jesus**  
some carry the cross  
**some run from the cross**  
*today we choose...*

some are angry  
**some rejoice**  
some anoint with costly perfume  
**some complain at the waste**

some like the light  
**some prefer the shadows**  
*today we choose...*

some weep  
**some conspire**  
some follow  
**some hide**  
some believe  
**some betray**  
*today we choose*

to shout for life  
**to follow the cross**  
to break bread  
**to hold belief**  
to trust love  
**and tell the world**  
*we choose to follow Jesus*

## Postlude ~ Abide With Me, Words: Henry Francis Lyte. Music: William Henry Monk.

Public Domain Video Link: an instrumental shared by Pete & the Re-Petes with organ, piano, violin, trumpet and pan flute. Recorded at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Stettler, Spring 2019 <https://youtu.be/OrmQNjSrPjU>

