Worship Order
March 28, 2021
Palm Sunday
9:30 AM Online Worship

WELCOME

+ WE GATHER BEFORE GOD +

PRELUDE All Glory, Laud and Honor with Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – arr. Parks
Owen Krauss, trumpet

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LIGHTING OF TRINITY CANDLE
As we strive to be a community of faith that is
Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love,
we light this candle in the name of the Father, the Son and the Spirit
who surround us in this moment of worship.

WE COME TO GOD IN WORSHIP
The story of faith is a story of courage.
It took courage for John the Baptist to prepare the way.
It took courage for Mary to say, "Here I am. Use me."
It took courage for the disciples to drop their nets and follow Jesus.
It took courage for the paralyzed man's friends to lower him through the roof.
It took courage for Peter to walk on water.
It took courage for Zacchaeus to give half of his possessions to the poor.
It took courage for Jesus to enter Jerusalem on a donkey.
Faith has never been easy. It is a journey of courage.
Again and again, God, show us the way.

Today we remember that day involved Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, as people scattered branches and garments on the road before him. As we hold our palm branches in our hands, let us pray:
We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN The Palms

O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festive preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare.

Join all and sing His name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

His word goes forth, and people by its might
Once more their freedom gain from degradation,
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light.

Join all and sing His name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

The Palms ("Les Rameaus"), J. Faure, G. Schirmer, Inc. Distributed by Hal•Leonard Corporation
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GREETING
The mercy of God, the love of Jesus
and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

WE CONFESS TO GOD
Italics not printed in worship order posted online, or on slides, but keep in copies printed for worship leaders in the sanctuary!!

Glennon Doyle, a famous author and writer, frequently uses the phrase,
"We can do hard things."
It's one of her many mottos in life.
As a result, this declaration, "We can do hard things,"
has become an anthem for so many.
You can buy these words on poster prints, on greeting cards, and even on coffee mugs.
These five simple words aren't particularly radical,
so when I stop to think about why they have caught hold for so many,
I can only assume that it is because life and faith require courage.
Vulnerability requires courage.
Relationships require courage.
Advocacy and justice require courage.
Facing our privilege requires courage.
Faith requires courage.
Even confession requires courage.

So friends, let us do hard things.

Let us confess together, trusting that God is always there,
cheering us on, in every courageous act.

Let us pray. . .
God of palm branches and hallelujahs:
We confess—we love a good Palm Sunday celebration.
We love the sound of a joyful parade.
We love shouting, "hallelujah!"
We love that Palm Sunday means Easter is just around the corner.
We love good news.
However, if we slow down and pay attention,
we know that Palm Sunday was not a walk in the park for you.
There was risk. There was fear. There was the threat of violence.
You were leading a peaceful protest against an unjust empire,
and the whole world knew it.
Forgive us for glossing over the courage this day took.
Remind us that the story of faith is a story of courage,
and even we can do hard things.
With hope we pray. Amen.

People of faith,
even when we gloss over the truth,
even when our courage fails us,
even when we doubt that we can do hard things,
God believes in us. God loves us. God forgives us.
Hear and believe this truth:
We are known.
We are loved.
We are forgiven.
Again and again and again. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THIS DAY
If we could buy our way closer to you, we'd sell everything we have.
If we could work our way to you, we'd never take a day off.
If we could walk our way to you, we'd keep our tennis shoes on tight.
But I know—we know—we cannot buy, or work, or walk our way closer to you.
We must listen our way closer to you.
So holy God, as you have so often done again and again,
open our ears.
Clear out the self-talk that keeps us from you.
Dust out the negativity and distractions.
Remove any doubt hindering our way.
Amen.

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

FIRST READING: Philippians 2:5-11
Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.

5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
7 but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
10 so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW 344 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.

To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King.

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
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GOSPEL: Mark 11:1-11
Jesus enters Jerusalem

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

WE PROFESS OUR FAITH IN GOD
I refuse to believe that I am powerless.
I refuse to believe that injustice and hatred are simply the way it has to be.
I refuse to believe that I am better or more deserving than my neighbor.
I refuse to believe that my self-worth is rooted in my accomplishments or appearance.
I refuse to believe that the Church is dying, because I see God all around me.
I refuse to believe that the traditions of old are the only path for moving forward.
I refuse to believe that I cannot make a difference.
So with hope in my heart, I will strive to live a life of courage, conviction, and compassion, just as Jesus taught us. Amen.

WE PRAY TO GOD
O God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING In the Name of the Lord – Helvering
Meghan Carlin, soprano

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+ WE FEAST AT GOD'S TABLE +

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE
The peace of God, that washes over us again & again, be with you all.
And also with you.

Take a moment to share a sign of the peace with those who are worshipping in your household. If you are alone, take a moment to receive God's peace for yourself in the silence.

WE COMMUNE WITH GOD
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Again & again, God promises to feed us,
and so we come to the table to receive grace after grace from our God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WE SHARE THE MEAL CHRIST GAVE US

Share the bread and wine with those in your household using the words,

The body of Christ, broken for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ WE ARE SENT OUT +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

HYMN Ride On, Ride On In Majesty!

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hear all the tribes hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, your road pursue,
with palms and scattered garments strewed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Your last and fiercest strife is nigh.
The Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die,
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Text: Henry art Milman, 1827, alt.
Music (St. Drostane, L.M.): John Bacchus Dykes, 1862
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SENDING WORDS TO LEAD US INTO THIS HOLY WEEK

And now we lay down the palm branches.
And with them we lay down our belief

that there is another way for you to be God.

As the last echo of the final Hosanna fades,
so does our hope that this journey can end
in any other way.

The week stretches ahead
glory-less
and pain-full

Whether we walk with all faith or none
we look towards the cross,
knowing it is both the most human
and most divine
of all journeys

travel the road with courage,
with love,
and with the uneasy peace that is the gift of faith
into this holiest of weeks.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.
Amen.

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune *from Voluntary No. 5 in D* – arr. Wolff
Owen Krauss, trumpet

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