



Date: April 2, 2023
Palm Sunday
Theme: Jesus' Humility

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Linda Osetsky
Audio/Visual: Amy Kwon
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

(Please, gather outside the sanctuary to be given ribbons.)

Musical Prelude

Call to Worship

They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Let us join in the welcoming of Jesus.

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven! Hosanna!"

Allan Warren, Appleby U.C., Burlington, Ont. [Prayers for Worship 2023 Year A \(Ash Wednesday to the Last Sunday of Easter\). pdf](#)

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Procession into the Church

(Please, process into the sanctuary waving the branches and singing *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna, VU#123.*)

Hymn *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* VU#123

Words: Jennette Threlfall 1873. Music: traditional 18th-century German tune. Adapted by Xavier Ludwig Hartig. Public Domain. N/A

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Lenten Bible Study** ~ No Bible Study on Good Friday. Study of Chapters 37 – 50 for Stettler is April 21, 2023. Everyone is welcome to join with Big Valley on Thursday April 6th @1:30 (chapters above)
- **Good Friday Service** ~ Joint Service hosted by Erskine United. Starts at 10:00 am
- **Easter Sunday Services:** Big Valley 9:00 am ~ Stettler United 11:00 am
- **FUNDRAISING CONCERT** ~ High Level Bridge ~ Sunday May 07
- Dessert (6:30 pm) & Concert (7:15) pm ~ Tickets \$20.00 - (available at the church office or from a board member)

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Lenten Candle-Lighting Prayer

Today we take one step further on our Lenten journey, travelling in the shadow of our teacher, hoping to follow faithfully in his Way.

We keep our senses attuned, attentive to God's Child, the Beloved. Even when what we experience makes us uncomfortable or afraid, we do not turn away.

Tori Mullin, St. John's U.C., Marathon, Ont. <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/lenten-candle-lighting-prayer>

Opening Prayer

Today is a day of triumphal entry, as we join in welcoming Jesus.

We are enthusiastic to be part of this world, O God, when there is joy and celebration all around us.

Today is a day of sombre preparation.

We seek your presence, O God, when the way is challenging.

Today is a day of commitment as disciples of Jesus.

Motivate us to be a people of faith, willing to share in the journey Jesus embraced.

Instill in us hope and confidence for the future, despite present realities, as we are reminded of your assurance in the words Jesus taught us:

Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C., Goulais River, Ont. [Prayers for Worship 2023 Year A \(Ash Wednesday to the Last Sunday of Easter\). pdf](#)

The 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. 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.

Prayers of Confession

Loving God, forgive us for our selfish ways and for ignoring the needs of others.

Make us servants who are a blessing to all who surround us.

Forgive us for our insecurities and for not trusting where you lead.

Make us confident followers of your word and way.

Forgive us for turning the other way when things get tough.

Make us bearers of our crosses as your son willingly carried his.

Forgive us for our greed, which causes so much damage to your creation.

Make us conscientious people who put the needs of your creation before our own desires.

We exalt and delight in your mercy and grace, for you are our one and only hope of salvation.

We praise your name, our glorious God. Amen.

Anita Ouellette, Ebenezer U.C., Campbellville, Ont. [Prayers for Worship 2023 Year A \(Ash Wednesday to the Last Sunday of Easter\). pdf](#)

***Hymn *I Love to Tell the Story* VU#343**

Words: Katherine Hankey. Music: William G. Fischer Public Domain. N/A

Prayer of Illumination

ALL: O You who are the Light of the minds that know you, the Life of the hearts that love you, the Strength of the spirits that seek you; help us so to know you that we may truly love you, so to love you that we may fully serve you, in whose service is perfect freedom.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 130.

Scripture Readings:

Psalms 118:19–29: The stone the builders rejected.

Philippians 2:5–11: Let the same mind be in you as was in Jesus.

Matthew 21:1–11: Jesus enters Jerusalem.

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1) (being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885 Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* VU#288**

Words, Music: Thomas O. Chisholm © 1923, renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Company. Descant: © 1995 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Words, Music, Descant: Hope Publishing Company CCLI, Licensing, OneLicense.ne

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU#541 Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A © 2012 The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial Share Alike Licence. Visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/ca>.

Offering Prayer

The palm branches are symbols of all we have to celebrate as we welcome Jesus, God's just and caring one, to Jerusalem.

Our gifts are celebration gifts.

This bread and this cup remind us of the suffering and sacrifice, as Jesus, God's faithful one, refused to take the easy way out.

Our gifts symbolize our renewed faithfulness.

God accepts and blesses them.

To God be the glory and praise. Hosanna! Amen!

David Sparks, Summerland, B.C. Prayers for Worship 2023 Year A (Ash Wednesday to the Last Sunday of Easter). pdf

Prayers of the Gathered Community

***Parting Hymn *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* VU#560**

Words: Washington Gladden 1879. Music: Henry Percy Smith 1874. Public Domain. N/A

*Commissioning and Benediction

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967** "Danish" Public Domain. N/A

Postlude