Worship Outline March 24th 2024 Palm Sunday

THIS WEEK AT BRECHIN

Minister: Tif Bradford-McNaughton

Music Director and Choir Leader: Tim Weger

Reader: Val Neilson

Greeters: Marilyn & Rob Russell

Power Point: Jim Boggs

Italics – leader; **Bold** - congregation

MV 115: "Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New" (3x)

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> Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.

> Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true for I am Christ the way.

> Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.

> Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true for I am Christ the way.

Branches will be distributed and laid down while we sing

Welcome and Announcements, Land Acknowledgement

Affirming Statement:

ALL: As an Affirming Ministry we boldly declare that we fully welcome and include the full participation of all people in the life and work of Ministry as we journey together, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, marital status, mental or physical ability, beliefs, cultural backgrounds, or economic circumstance. We are dedicated to being good stewards of God's world, working and living towards justice and wholeness for all God's people.

Candle lighting

ONE: We have journeyed with Jesus through the wilderness, from town to town to temple, all the way to Jerusalem. Along the way we have been invited to let go of what we no longer need, and gather a sense of who we are, and whose we are. As we gather here today, let's draw our attention to our senses. As part of Creation, we are connected by our senses to all that goes on around us. At this early point in the day, do you remember smelling anything? What have you witnessed, what have you held in your hands, and passed by on your way here? Has anything overwhelmed you today, have your senses told you to take a break, take some space? In this life where we face many assumptions that we will be fine, just fine, with whatever comes our way, it can be challenging to remember that we are tender beings, and our senses require tending to. In Christ we may trust that we can step away, and attend to the flow of Creation within us. We are sensitive, and ever sensing.

ALL: We are blessed, and we are blessing. We are loved, and we are loving. We are called to rest in God's grace, and from here, live in to a world of compassion and peace.

Hymn: MV 115 "Behold, I Make All Things New"

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> my promise is true
> for I am Christ the way.

Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.

Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true for I am Christ the way.

Gathering Words

ONE: Everyone loves a parade! **ALL: Everyone loves a parade!**

ONE: The crowds! The celebration! The excitement!

The donkey!
The donkey?

ALL: The donkey! The one that carried Jesus into the city, who helped him go through the middle of the crowd. The one who reminded the people what kind of king Jesus was.

ONE: Ah, the Donkey!

Today, we are the ones who carry Jesus in to the world--and beyond. Let us worship God.

ALL: Let us worship God! Hosanna! Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer

Living Christ, example of peace, you rode into town on a donkey. This is how you proclaim victory: gently, humble, turning the ways of war on their head. We desire to fan the flame of your ministry--proclaiming healing a victory. Proclaiming loving presence a victory. Proclaiming undoing the ways of empire a victory. Come, Holy Spirit, fan with us the embers of love. Amen.

Hymn: VU 123 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

(Words: Jennette Threlfall 1873 Music: trad. 18th-century German tune, adapt. Xavier Ludwig Hartig 1868 Public Domain)

- 1 Hosanna, loud hosanna
 the happy children sang;
 through pillared court and temple
 the joyful anthem rang;
 to Jesus, who had blessed them
 close folded to his breast,
 the children sang their praises,
 the simplest and the best.
- 2 From Olivet they followed
 'mid an exultant crowd,
 the victory palm branch waving,
 and singing clear and loud;
 the Lord of earth and heaven
 rode on in lowly state,
 content that little children
 should on his bidding wait.
- 3 'Hosanna in the highest!'

 That ancient song we sing,
 for Christ is our Redeemer;
 earth, let your anthems ring.
 O may we ever praise him
 with heart and life and voice,
 and in his humble presence
 eternally rejoice!

Faith Focus: Palm Sunday Traditions

Poem: Blessing of Palms by Jan Richardson

Scripture: Mark 11:1-11 Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem

ONE: These are ancient descriptions of Spirit's movements for the church today

ALL: Let us give thanks!

Reflection: Faith, Joy and Ripple Effects

Hymn:

(Words: Gordon Light 1986

Music: Gordon Light 1986, arr. Nan Thompson 1995

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Arrangement copyright © 1995 Nan Thompson

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1 He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy kind of lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him,
staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them,
on to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises;
waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David;
riding on to take his throne.

Then the children gathered, singing shouts of laughter, bursting cheer; in the streets their song was ringing, 'Hosannas' filled the morning air. Timid adults strained to see him, caught the Spirit, joined the song; spread their cloaks along before him, branches flashing in the sun. So all the city sang his praises; waking streets and dancing crowd; here he is, the Son of David; our Messiah, Son of God.

In our fasting, and our feasting,
called to follow in his way;
called to walk his road to Easter,
called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David,
hosanna in the heavens above;
blessed is he who comes to save us,
blessed is he who brings his love.
Let us join to sing his praises;
open hearts and souls to God;
he is with us, Son of David;
God's Messiah, Christ the Lord.

Poem: Between Parades by Anne Weems

Reflection: Moving into Holy Week and Sensory Rest

Prayers of the People and The Disciple's Prayer

We will sing MV 85, "Take, O Take Me as I Am" three times throughout the prayers of the people, preceded by the line: ...For rest in your mercy and love, we pray.

(Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995: French trans. David Fines, 2005; Music: John L. Bell, 1995
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Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

... all this we pray, remembering the prayer which Jesus taught to the disciples,

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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Offering

Hymn: VU 542 "We Give You But Your Own"

(Words: William Walsham How 1858, alt. Music: Johann Balthasar Konig 1738 adapt. William Henry Havergal 1847 Public Domain)

We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

Offertory Prayer

Sending Forth/Benediction

Go forth waving fronds and branches fanning the flames of peace: Real, justice-making, soul-shaping, sturdy, life-loving peace. The strong Spirit of liberation goes with us, as we go with her into yet another Holy Week. Amen.

Hymn: MV 85 "Take O Take me as I Am"

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