



**Date: March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday
Joint Service 10:00 am**

**Worship Leaders: Worship Committee
Musician: Evelyn Strandquist
Audio/Visual:
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)**

Musical Prelude

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)

Lent Dates

- **Holy Week:** March 29 ~ April 4
- **Good Friday Service:** at Erskine United Church on April 3 at 10 am
- **Easter Sunday Service:** at Big Valley United Church at 9 am and at Stettler United Church at 11 am on April 5

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.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

***Hymn And on This Path MV #8**

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Call to Worship

There is such a commotion when worship leaders wave palm leaves.

Light the Christ Candle

Light and warmth are returning to the land outside these walls. Light and warmth are represented in the light that glows from this flame. May the symbol of this lit candle remind us of the reality of the land and the light and warmth of our presence with God.
Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Opening Prayer

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

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

Today is a day of somber preparation.

We seek your presence, oh 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: "Our Father..."

Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C., Goulais River, Ont.

Prayer of Confession

God, our helper, our wisdom, our guide, journey with us into the streets of Jerusalem. May we not be tempted by power and greed. Keep us focused on love and compassion, rather than the evils of

indifference in domination. Point us to the cross of acceptance and forgiveness. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our friend and companion amen.

Hymn *Ride On, Ride on in Majesty VU #127

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Prayer of Illumination

Enlightening God, still our minds and open us up to listen for your word for us today. Speak to us through this time of worship that we may sense your guidance and grace. Inspire each one of us through the power of the Holy Spirit to find hope in you and share your hope through our lives. Amen.

Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont.

Scripture Readings:

- **Psalm 118 VU ~ Donna Boyd-Stadelmann**
- **Philippians 2: 5-11**
- **Matthew 21: 1-11 ~ Lori Roberts**

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

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Message Mary-Lou Manson

Hymn *At The Name of Jesus VU 335*

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A Mission & Service Story (Donna Boyd-Stadelmann)

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow VU#541

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Offering Prayer

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

Our gifts our celebration gifts.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together saying:

ALL: 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.

***Hymn *Blessed Assurance* VU 337**

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***Commissioning and Benediction**

As we travel on this Lenten journey,

We know that God leads and guides us.

As we travel on this Lenten journey,

We notice the words of Jesus making choices for life.

As we travel on this Lenten journey,

we dream and work with the spirit for a world where peace and harmony are restored. We leave this place in peace, going in the love of God. Amen.

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude