



## *Palm Sunday Worship*

*April 2, 2023*

*Draw near to God*

*for God is waiting for you*

\* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able  
*italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation*

### **PRELUDE**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people.*

**Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!**

*Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming king.*

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

*We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth.*

**Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus Christ, on the first Palm Sunday you entered the rebellious city where you were to die. Enter our hearts, we pray, and subdue them to yourself. And as your disciples blessed your coming and spread garments and branches in your way, make us ready to lay at your feet all that we have and are, that we too may bless your coming. In the name of the Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #196** All Glory, Laud, and Honor

1. All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son whom in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One

2. All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.

3. All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee now high exalted, our melody we raise.

4. All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS**

**Patient God, we confess that we love a parade. We are very happy to see banners waving and hear people shouting their praises. Our hearts thrill to the spectacle. But we fail to see the sadness on the face of the Savior; our shouts block out his sorrow. He comes to us as King, and we expect that royal treatment will follow. We do not and cannot believe that in a few days we will be among those who will turn our backs and run from his presence. How fickle we are, O Lord. Yet you continually forgive us and call us to turn our lives around--to see the needs of others, to reach out in trust and faith, to be willing to witness to your good news of saving love. Heal our hearts and give us courage for the days ahead; for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING**

*...Remember the good news and say it aloud: Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 21:1-11

**CHANCEL DRAMA** The Point of No Return by Les Ellison

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**\*HYMN #197** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little 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 victor palm branch waving, and changing clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

**SERMON** Less is More

## **CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**What can we offer that you have not already offered us? What can we do that you have not already done for us? Lord Jesus Christ, in your gifts to us, you have provided us the way to live and serve you. In both your triumph and your suffering, you deserve our praise. Through the gifts we now offer, we express our longing to serve and to follow wherever you go. Amen.**

## **SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*The Lord be with you*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**SHARING THE ELEMENTS** (please hold the bread and then the cup until we all commune together showing our unity in Christ.)

## **UNISON PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

\***HYMN** #198 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

1. Ride on! ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry;  
thy humble beast pursues its road with palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. Ride on! ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on! ride on in majesty! The hosts of angels in the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on! ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 2, 2023.**

This week's carillon is in memory of Florence Blumrick. (Fuzzy) was an organist for many years and Courtney Woolslayer's great grandmother.

**Easter Flower Dedication:** If you would like to dedicate a potted flower in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below or pick one up on the table outside Fellowship Hall. Return the form to the church office or put it in Susan Flanagan's mailbox.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** During the remainder of the Lenten season we will provide the opportunity for donations for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). Weekly donations may be made with the final donation on Easter Sunday.

### *Holy Week Schedule*

<b>Good Friday, April 7</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Good Friday Worship.</b> This service will begin with a simple soup supper
<b>Easter Sunday, April 9</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Easter Potluck Breakfast.</b> All are invited to bring breakfast food to share.
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Easter Egg Hunt for the children</b>

**April Friday Night Fellowship Sign Up:** Due to the conflict with Holy Week services, Friday Night Fellowship will be held on April 14 (second Friday). The theme is *Italian Night*. Spaghetti and meatballs will be provided. We will need a couple of salads and bread as well as dessert. Part of our mission project is collecting new or gently used shoes for Soles 4 Souls. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office for Friday Night Fellowship.

**Food Pantry Needs:** This week we are asking for the following items: **Canned Yams, Green Beans or Applesauce.** Bring your item(s) to the church during the week or next Sunday morning. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

**Vacation Bible School:** Save the date – June 26-30, 9:00 am – Noon at The Anchor Presbyterian Church. Please contact Pastor Su if you can help. **Register here:** <https://vbspro.events/p/events/62355b>

**Calendar:**

<b>April 2 Palm Sunday</b>	9:00 am	Confirmation Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service - followed by Coffee Hour, Fellowship

**April 3** 6:30 pm Youth Group  
5:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting  
**April 5** 11:30 am Lenten Communion Service  
12:00 pm Bring your Brown bag lunch for fellowship.  
**April 7** 6:00 pm Good Friday Worship starting with a soup supper

**Elder of the month:** Amy Raab      **Deacon of the month:** Maggie Realley  
**Coffee Hour:** Doug and Vini Christie      **Usher:** Amy Raab

*In our thoughts and prayers:*

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Ray and Joan Curran, Alvin Cornell,  
Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Bill Yerkes, David Posnett, Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza

**Church Staff**

**Susan Fall, Pastor**

**Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music**      **Sue Lewis, Handbell Director**

**Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator**

**Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager**

