

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP Palm Sunday April 5, 2020

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

We gather to welcome you, O God, and yet we do not fully understand who you are, or who you call us to be. Speak to us once more your message of hope and of peace. We are living in a time of heightened anxiety and fear and need your comforting presence. Come, Lord Jesus, Hosanna! Blessed are you, for you come in the name of the Lord. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" David N. Johnson

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Let us worship the King!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who is lauded as royalty, yet rides a lowly donkey. Blessed is the one who is followed by crowds, yet knows his strength comes from quiet time with God.

Behold, our King comes, setting aside might and power to model humility and obedience.

We will follow him, carrying joy on our lips and hope in our hearts and laying our love before him to prepare the way for his glorious entrance.

 * HYMN OF PRAISE – NO. 196 "All Glory, Laud and Honor" 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, Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. *Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went, Our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. *Refrain*

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! *Refrain*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Transforming God, we confess that we are like the crowds shouting "Hosanna!" We are eager to welcome you as King but resist your call to give of ourselves sacrificially. We are restless, yet forget to find our rest in you. We profess to be disciples, but we are not willing to study your Word and learn your Ways. Forgive us, Lord, and guide us to become ones who come in the name of the Lord. Make us humble; make us prayerful; make us obedient.

Assurance of Pardon

* GLORIA PATRI – No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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* HYMN – No. 199 "Filled with Excitement"
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Filled with excitement, all the happy throng spread cloaks and branches on the city streets. There in the distance they begin to see, there on a donkey comes the Savior Christ.

As in that entrance to Jerusalem, hosannas we will sing to Jesus Christ, to our Redeemer who still calls today, asks us to follow with our love and faith.

From every corner a thousand voices sing praise to the One who comes in the name of God. Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise, our triumphant song of joy: "Hosanna, hosanna to Christ! Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!"

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.

LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING Matthew 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

"Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.""

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

SERMON

"Hosanna! Save Us!"

Rev. Rebecca Luter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Please remember those on our prayer list.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Respond to God

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Ride On, King Jesus!" Spiritual, arr. Walter Ehret Ride on, King Jesus, No man can hinder me, For He is King of King, for He is Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last, No man works like Him.

Jesus Christ on a milk-white horse, No man works like Him, The River Jordan is easy to cross, No man works like Him.

Jesus Christ in the middle of the air, No man works like Him, He calls the saints from everywhere, No man works like Him.

* DOXOLOGY

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

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In gratitude, for all your blessings, we offer our lives and our offerings. May these gifts be used to relieve suffering and bring comfort in your world for the sake of Jesus the Christ. Lord, accept and dedicate this offering and our lives to sharing Christ's love with the world. Amen.

* HYMN – No. 202 "An Upper Room"

An upper room did our Lord prepare For those he loved until the end: And his disciples still gather there To celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own: To share his bread, his loving cup. Whatever burdens may bow us down, He by his cross shall lift us up. And after supper he washed their feet, For service, too, is sacrament. In Christ our joy shall be made complete: Sent out to serve, as he was sent. No end there is! We depart in peace. He loves beyond our uttermost: In every room in our Father's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE "Palm Processional" William Mathias

* All who are able may stand. **Bold Type** – congregation in unison

Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education Jim Thrash, Director of Music Tom Bryant, Accompanist Rebecca Hutchins, Chris Luter, Tucker Williams, Choir

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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