

# PALM SUNDAY

March 20, 2016

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME

### CALLING ON GOD

#### HYMN      All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*(Congregation invited forward to place palm branches in container)*

**Refrain:**

*All glory, laud, and honor  
To You, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

You are the King of Israel,  
And David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's Name coming,  
Our King and Blessèd One. [Refrain]

The company of angels  
Is praising You on high;  
And we with all creation  
In chorus make reply. [Refrain]

The multitude of pilgrims  
With palms before You went;  
Our praise and prayers and anthems  
Before You we present. [Refrain]

To you before Your passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To You, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise. [Refrain]

As You received their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
O Source of ev'ry blessing,  
Our good and gracious King. [Refrain]

## **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

**Once again I sit here grieving  
Over things that I have done  
Yet my great fault is disbelieving  
In the fullness of Your Son**

**I have gathered all my treasures  
Forged them into calves of gold  
Looked on them as my deliverers  
To their hands my life I've sold**

**I have purchased shame and poverty  
Greater bondage than before  
Carefully constructed misery  
I am broken, weak and poor**

**Take my filthy rags, they're all I own  
Break the idols that wove them for me  
All the guilt must fall on me alone  
Save for what was nailed to the tree**

*(Pastor sings)*

Now I have heard your cry  
For mercy and release  
For pardon and for peace  
A servant of the Word  
I stand before your face  
I announce to you His grace

Let it be as you believe  
Let it be as you believe

So not by my own power  
But in the Name of the Holy One  
Father, Spirit, Son  
And in our Shepherd's place  
By order of the Prince of Peace  
Your sins I now release

Now the tomb is a place for the living,  
His people by death no longer defiled.  
Now your sins are washed clean by forgiving  
Your Father has chosen you as His little child

*(All sing)*

I will sing of Your love forever,  
Your faithfulness to all make known,  
No power is able to sever me  
From Your great mercy - I am Your own

Let Your Comforter fill up my longing  
And complete what He's begun  
Seal in me that sense of belonging  
To the family of Your Son

Christ was crucified, Christ is risen!  
Jesus died, yet Jesus lives!  
All you debtors released from prison  
Shout for joy that He forgives!

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

#### HYMN      Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna,  
The little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple  
The lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them,  
Close folded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises,  
The simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed  
Mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving  
And chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
Rode on in lowly state  
Nor scorned that little children  
Should on His bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our Redeemer,  
The Lord of heav'n our King.  
Oh, may we ever praise Him  
With heart and life and voice  
And in His blissful presence  
Eternally rejoice!

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### READINGS

Luke 22:1-23:56

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people. Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd.

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded,  
For with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
Comes our homage to demand.

King of kings yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heav'nly food.

A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing." He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

### A SONG OF ISRAEL'S LONGING FOR HER KING

#### "This Time"

And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

Go to dark Gethsemane,  
You who feel the tempter's pow'r;  
Your Redeemer's conflict see;  
Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away;  
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.

And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

#### [A SONG OF PETER RESTORED](#)

"I Will Feed Your Sheep"

Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God." So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips."

Follow to the judgment hall;  
View the Lord of life arraigned;  
O the worm-wood and the gall!  
O the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;  
Learn of Him to bear the cross.

Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place." When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him."

But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"-- a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.

So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

#### [O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken](#)

That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?  
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,  
What dark transgression?

The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;  
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;  
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;  
God is committed.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

#### A SONG OF THE UNEXPECTED MESSIAH

##### "If He is the Son of God"

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See Him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it:  
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends through fear His cause disowning,  
Foes insulting His distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound Him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him  
Was the stroke that Justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed,  
See who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,  
Son of Man and Son of God.



Here we have a firm foundation;  
Here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,  
His the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded  
Who on Him their hope have built.

Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid.

It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

## PRAYERS

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION (Music)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

HYMN            No Tramp of Solders' Marching Feet

No tramp of soldiers' marching feet  
With banners and with drums,  
No sound of music's martial beat  
"The King of glory comes!"  
To greet what pomp of kingly pride  
No bells in triumph ring.  
No city gates swing open wide:  
"Behold, behold your King!"

And yet He comes, The children cheer;  
With palms His path is strown.  
With ev'ry step the cross draws near:  
The King of glory's throne.  
Astride a colt He passes by  
As loud hosannas ring,  
Or else the very stones would cry  
"Behold, behold your King!"

What fading flow'rs His road adorn;  
The palms, how soon laid down  
No bloom or leaf but only thorn  
The King of glory's crown  
The soldiers mock, the rabble cries,  
The streets with tumult ring,  
As Pilate to the mob replies,  
"Behold, behold your King!"

Now He who bore for mortals' sake  
The cross and all its pains  
And chose a servant's form to take,  
The King of glory reigns.  
Hosanna to the Savior's name  
Till heaven's rafters ring,  
And all the ransomed host proclaim  
"Behold, behold your King!"

[POST-SERVICE MUSIC](#)