

March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday

WELCOME

PRELUDES

Hosanna! Hosanna!
My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Rex Koury
James Pethel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

INSTRUMENTAL INTOIT

Hosanna from Jesus Christ Superstar *Webber & Rice*
Percussion Ensemble —
Xylophones: Quentin Laupan & Parker Timmons
Guitar: Jim Obman
Percussion: Mike Pauley & Don Sullivan
Keyboard: Nancy Sullivan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 107)

One: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

***OPENING SONG #197** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* *Ellacombe*
(verse 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.***

(verse 2)

***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.***

(verse 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.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us now confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to
profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of
fear and stress:

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as we enter this Holy Week of Lent, solemnly gathered at your house of prayer, we turn our hearts toward Jerusalem. We want to walk the way with Jesus, to be present each step from the Mount of Olives to the cross to the empty tomb. And yet, like other disciples before us, we fall away. Forgive our stubborn resistance to Christ's work and witness. Inspire us by your Spirit to steadfastly follow in his way, until we enter with him into the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF GODS' PARDON

One: The one who rode into Jerusalem to cheering crowds knew that the cross awaited. In this, we know the great love of God for us. Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, who has defeated sin forever. Hear and believe this good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #196**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben
(verse 4)*

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

(refrain)

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (adapted from Philippians 3)**

One: All that we seek to accomplish, all that we strive to achieve, all that we claim to possess – all this amounts to nothing without the grace of Christ. May his peace be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and our ears to hear your Word as it is read and proclaimed. Fill us with the Spirit and surprise us, for we eagerly expect your Word and know that you will speak to us today. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Psalm 118:19-29*

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! ²⁶ Blessed is the

*Please stand as you are able.

one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷ The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. ²⁹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Ride On, King Jesus (Blessed is He Who Comes)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this: ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

SERMON

“Entering”

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong.

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Let Me Be Thine Forever Johann Christoph Bach

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*SENDING SONG

God, What Can We Imagine?

"The Church's One Foundation"

(verse 1)

God, what can we imagine when all around we see a world that's lost and fallen, a bruised humanity? When violence seems a given, and sin is everywhere, God, what can be our vision—our hope, our answered prayer?

(verse 2)

This world is used to tyrants and people who oppress, and yet you sent your servant in peace and gentleness. He did not come to conquer, to break or crush the soul; and so can we imagine a life that's new and whole?

(verse 3)

Can we imagine justice that circles round the earth, till those who sit in darkness find healing, light, and birth? Can we imagine prisoners, allowed to start anew? Can we who've been discouraged now trust again in you?

(verse 4)

Could those who've faced oppression find love and welcome here? Could hungry, homeless children be free of want and fear? Could we your church find blessing in reaching to the poor? Can we your church imagine what we've been called here for?

(verse 5)

O God of love and justice, may we imagine, too, how faith, put into practice, can change the world for you. May what your church imagines when we are at our best restore your good creation till all your world is blessed.

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*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Teschner

POSTLUDE

The Jerusalem Gate

Lani Smith

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers

The flowers today are given by Barbara Anderson in honor of Benjamin & Claire Anderson.

College Age / Military Care Packages



Today, the Deacons will be collecting donations to send notes and gift cards to our college-age youth and members of the military. There will be a basket in the Narthex these two weeks, or you can contribute by regular offering, indicating: care packages.

Congratulations Eagle Scouts

Will Belew and Matt Louis – members of Valley and Scout Troop 101 in Auburn – have earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Congratulations to them both!

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Breakfast foods such as eggs, sausage, bacon, milk, orange juice, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, bread, english muffins, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Special Offering – One Great Hour of Sharing **Now through Easter Sunday, March 31**

For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Special giving envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group. We will be knitting special items like prayer shawls, blankets, and other helpful and comforting items for our members and people in our community.

The group will meet three different times each month in the Church Library; so folks can come when their schedule allows. Our first meeting will be the second Sunday of the month - April 14 at 12:15 p.m. after the 10:30 a.m. service. This will be an informational meeting and a time for folks to get started on their first project. If you can, please bring size 8 knitting needles with you.

Our monthly schedule will be:

2nd Sunday of the month — 12:15 - 2:00 p.m.

3rd Tuesday of the month — 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

4th Wednesday of the month — 10:30 a.m. - noon

Please attend as often as you can. Look forward to having you be a part of this ministry.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, April 12, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, April 13, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at
440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

Holy Week Schedule



Maundy Thursday, March 28

Worship with Communion and Tenebrae at 7 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29

Outdoor Stations of the Cross, Chagrin Falls Triangle Park at noon

Easter Sunday, March 31

Resurrection Day Worship at 10:30 a.m.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

Heart of Valley Preschool
Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Don Sullivan

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeters: Sue Doughman / Lois Urban