

March 29, 2026
Palm / Passion Sunday

PRELUDE (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

The Gate of Jerusalem

George Blake

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben
(refrain)

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

***RESPONSIVE OPENING SENTENCES**

One: "Hosanna!" They shouted. "Save us!"

All: "Hosanna!" We, also, shout today. "Save us!"

One: Savior, ride into our hearts again, this day; wash over us with excitement and hope,

All: Give us a reason to praise and to shout again, "Hosanna!"

***GATHERING 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

One: When we say, "We don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "There's no way out," we deny who God is. Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these shortcomings. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, our Passover Lamb, our all in all.

*Please stand as you are able.

(Time of Silence)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear this promise: Jesus set his face toward the cross. Nothing we could do would deter him. He decided that we are worth saving. By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #215**

What Wondrous Love Is This Wondrous Love
(verse 1)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Because we have peace with God through Christ, let us share this peace together. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, share with us your wisdom; gift us with your hope; sustain us with your truth. Be in our listening and our thinking, that through the words of Scripture we might hear your call on our lives. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *John 12:12-16*

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!' ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

CHORAL ANTHEM *Hosanna! A Procession of Promise* *Martin*

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Psalm 24:1-2, 7-10

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

All: For he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

One: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

All: Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

One: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

All: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

*Please stand as you are able.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *John 19:23-30, 38-42*

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴ So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.' ²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³⁸ After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

THE MESSAGE

"Jesus' Last Words"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, when facing death, Jesus thought of his mother, Mary, and commended her to the disciple whom he loved. Inspire us by this act of care within community, so that we can live with one another in holy and merciful love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL 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

Prelude and Fughetta in A Minor

Johann Pachelbel

***DOXOLOGY #196** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben*
(verse 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!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SENDING SONG** *There by the Cross, the Woman Stayed* St. Catherine
(verse 1)

There by the cross, the women stayed, with the disciple loved by you. Jesus, you were abused, betrayed. Why couldn't others wait there, too? Why did the others not remain as you were dying there, in pain?

(verse 2)

Christ, we confess, we do this, too; we flee from sorrow, grief and loss. You came to bring a world made new; we do not want to bear the cross. Just like those ones who fled in fear, we want a safer journey here.

(verse 3)

Teach us, O Lord, to stay nearby; teach us to stand with those in pain. Teach us to hear our neighbor's cry; teach us to risk for love again. May we stay with the poor and lost; may we remain beside your cross.

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***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *A Procession of Promise* Martin

***FINAL BLESSING**

POSTLUDE *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* Edward Broughton

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week (and beyond) Worship Schedule

Thursday, April 2

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Worship Service – 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Friday, April 3

Good Friday Stations of the Cross - at noon - starting and ending at Chagrin Falls Triangle Park

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday Celebration of the Resurrection

Sunday, April 12

Holy Humor / Bright Sunday Worship

North Church Worship and Meal Serving

April 10

Meal Preparation — 9:30–11 a.m.

April 12

Depart at 9:45 a.m., return by 2:00 p.m.

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.



The group will meet Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:

April 12 & 26

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked “yarn” in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

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

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

Sarah Circle 2025-26

We'd love to have you join us!

**The next meeting will be:
Tuesday, April 14**

Our study this year is:

PCUSA: Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ

Meet September — May the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Church Library. For more information, please contact Glenna Pool at 419-789-9446 or e-mail gpool205@yahoo.com.

Mid-week Lunch Group – April 14



All are welcome to gather for lunch together at Buckeye Café (located across from the church in Tanglewood Square) at noon on the second Tuesday of each month (April 14, May 12, June 9, etc.) for a time

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

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



Ground beef, chicken, eggs, milk, fresh fruit and vegetables, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti sauce, pasta, Spaghetti O's, snacks, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, April 17 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, April 18 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

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

Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

Credit card donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

<http://valleypresbychurch.org>

Look for “Give Now” button. Can only be used for donations.

Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.

Use the following QR Code to donate via **Zelle**:



VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Lois Urban

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Glenna Pool