

The Worship of God

Palm/Passion Sunday in Lent • April 5, 2020

Gathering

News for Our Life Together

Sounding of the Trinity

Prelude

Hosanna in the Highest

David W. Music

Gail Thomas, soprano; Laura Viau, alto; Wayne Tillman, tenor; Chad Hammer, bass
(*"Daughter of Zion" refers to the people of Israel and points to God as parent.*)

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Daughter of Zion, rejoice and see, your King comes to you. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

TEXT: Matthew 21:9; Zechariah 9:9a; Luke 19:38; MUSIC: David W. Music

Call to Worship (*All speak words in **boldface***)

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

Hosanna in the highest! God saves!

Your procession has come into view, O God,
the procession of our God and King.

Now we join the great procession.

Hosanna! God saves!

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

Let us worship God

Hymn #196, v. 1

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

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.

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Matthew 21:1-11

Hymn #196, v. 2

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

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.

Prayer of Adoration (based on Psalm 118)

Gracious God, we come this day with palm branches, hosannas, and songs!
We give you thanks, for you are kind and always merciful.

Your loving kindness endures forever.

By grace, you open for us the gates of righteousness.

In gratitude, we enter giving thanks to you, saying,

“This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us give thanks and rejoice in it!”

We enter through this gate to be near you,

for you are the one who saves us.

We enter in this place to pray

because in our praying you answer.

We enter using the light of Christ Jesus,

“the stone the builders rejected”,

“the One who comes in your name”,

the Light showing us your way to right-ways that lead to peace.

O God, we give ourselves to you as we share our praise with others, for:

“You are kind, you are merciful, and your loving kindness endures forever.”

Amen.

Hymn #196, v. 3

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

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.

Call to Confession

This day of palms, hosannas, and songs leads to Jesus’ passion. The events of Jesus’ last days helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—we have in Christ. In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Judas, slave of jealousy, where are you? **I am here.**

Peter, slave of fear, where are you? **I am here.**

Thomas, slave of doubt, where are you? **I am here.**

Men and women of Jerusalem, enslaved to mob rule, where are you?

I am here.

Pilate, slave of expediency, where are you?

I am here.

The story of Christ's passion and death mirrors for us so much of our weakness and sin. We all come here as men and women who miss the mark, separated from God and alienated from our neighbors near and far.

Lord in your mercy, hear our cries for your righteousness, wholeness, and forgiveness, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God has come to you, humble, in the form of a servant, to free you from the weight of sin and death. Even Judas was included in that last supper with Jesus. Jesus' obedient suffering has released you. God is kind. God is merciful. Your sins are forgiven. In the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn #196, v. 4

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

***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!***

Offering

A Call to Generosity

You may opt to give online or via mail

Doxology, #196, Refrain

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

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

TEXT: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt. P.D.; MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861 P.D

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

God, whose word can silence the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:6-13

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"What Was She Thinking?"

Rev. Laura Viau

Response to the Word

The woman anointed Jesus' head with oil and Jesus named it a "beautiful act of kindness" to be remembered. Praying for others is an act of kindness, an act of caring for souls. Praying for others is definitely an act of faith, and maybe today, as we pray aloud—together—an affirmation of our faith. *(Laura, maybe we could "live-stream" this service, if it's not illegal? Is there a way to stream the taped parts and during this time of prayer live-stream using FaceBook?)*

Prayers of the People *(adapted from A Wee Worship Book 4th ed.)*

Let us pray, responding to the phrase "Jesus Christ, lover of all," with the words, "bring healing, bring peace."

O Christ our Lord,
as in times past,
not all the sick and suffering
found their way to your side,
but had to have their hands taken,
or their bodies carried,
or their names mentioned.
So we, confident of your goodness,
bring other to you.
As in times past,
you looked at the faith of friends
and let peace and healing be known.
Look on our faith,

[Respond with names of specific individuals.]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

We name before you
those whose problem is psychological;
those haunted by the nightmares of their past or the concerns of their future;
those whose minds are shakled
to neuroses, depression or fears,
who do not know what is wrong
or what to pray.

[Respond with names of specific individuals.]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

We name before you
those in whose experience
light has turned to darkness,
as the end of a life
or the breaking of a relationship
leaves them stunned in their souls
and silent in their conversation,
not knowing where to turn
or whom to turn to
or whether life has a purpose any more.

[Respond with names of specific individuals.]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

And others whose troubles we do not know
or whose names we would not say aloud,
we mention now in the silence
which you understand.

[Silence]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

Lord God,
you alone are skilled to know the cure
for every sickness and every soul.
We pray for all touched by COVID-19.
For those infected
and those who have been exposed.
For parents and families,
clergy and churches,
caretakers and those living alone.
For those who must work,
despite the threat of sickness.
For those who have become unemployed
or underemployed
If, by our lives, your grace may be known
then in us, through us,
and, if need be, despite us,
Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

On all who tend the sick,
counsel the distressed,
sit with the dying,
or advance medical research
we ask your blessing
that the resources to do the work—
well and safely—be supplied
and that in caring for your people
they may meet and serve you.

[Respond with names of specific individuals.]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

For those leading nations;
for those who administer the agencies of health
and welfare around the world,
we ask your guidance
that in all they do
human worth may be valued,
and the service of human need be fully resourced.

[Respond with names of specific individuals.]

Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

Trusting in your ever-lasting loving kindness and mercy,
into your hands, gracious God,
we commend all for whom we pray.
Now we pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

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.**

Sending

Hymn #465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in Prayer!***

TEXT: Joseph Scriven, 1855 P.D.; MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868 P.D

Charge and Benediction

Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com);
Robin Fort, Director of Music; **Randy Warner**, Organist/Pianist;
Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Stephanie Reeves**, Church Secretary;
Linda Rowell, Church Treasurer; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;
Hery Ramambasoa, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific



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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺