

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Palm Sunday—Sixth Sunday of Lent

13 April 2014

On this Palm Sunday we are focusing on the majesty and kingly authority of Christ and our need to be in persistent prayer and steadfastness of faith. Our service starts with the **Children's Choir** singing "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Many thanks go to Marc Sammons, Sara Nixon, Sue Steffens, and others who prepared the choir for our worship this morning. We continue by singing **All Glory Laud and Honor** even as we hear the sweet hosannas from the lips of the children. We continue with **The Earth With All That Dwells** which is a versification of Psalm 24, Behold the King of Glory comes.

With **Psalm 5: Hear My Words**, we sing specifically about prayer and the desire for God to hear our voice as we call out to Him.

The **Prayer of Confession** from **Isaiah I** draws our attention to the vain offering and offensive prayers that can burden our worship and keep us from seeking justice. The **Profession of Faith** from **Psalm 72** gives us a picture of what righteousness and justice looks like when the Son of Man comes and He "gives justice to the elect." There is deliverance for those who persevere in calling out in their need.

The first **Communion Hymn** is **Psalm 73: O God, How Good Thou Art** and is a prayer for the clarity and rightness that comes when we enter the House of Prayer and rest in God alone. The second **Communion Hymn** is **Come Ye Disconsolate** that reminds us that heaven ultimately heals the wounded heart. The final hymn is **Lift Up Your Heads** which is a traditional Psalm associated with Palm Sunday as we "throw wide the portals of our heart" in response to the kingly reign of Christ. We finish with a **Benediction** from **Revelation 7**—Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!
—Greg Wilbur

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into his courts.

Prelude—Ride On, Ride On in Majesty (*Children's Choir*)

Ride on, ride on, in majesty! Hark! all the tribes Hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on, in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die!
O Christ! Thy triumph now begin Over captive death and conquered sin.

Text: Henry H. Millman, 1820; Music: TALLIS CANON, Thomas Tallis,

Announcements & Preparation

Introit—Hosanna! (*Children's Choir*)

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! To the Son of David. Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna! To the Son of David. Hosanna! This is Jesus

Music: Frank Hernandez, 1990.

Call to Worship—John 12:13, Zechariah 9:9-12

Pastor: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

All: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

All: Behold, your king is coming to you.

Pastor: He is righteous and bears salvation; He is humble and mounted on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Hymn of Praise—All Glory, Laud, and Honor

The Children's Choir will sing verse 1. We will respond by singing the rest of the hymn as a congregation.

Verse 1 (Children's Choir):

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!

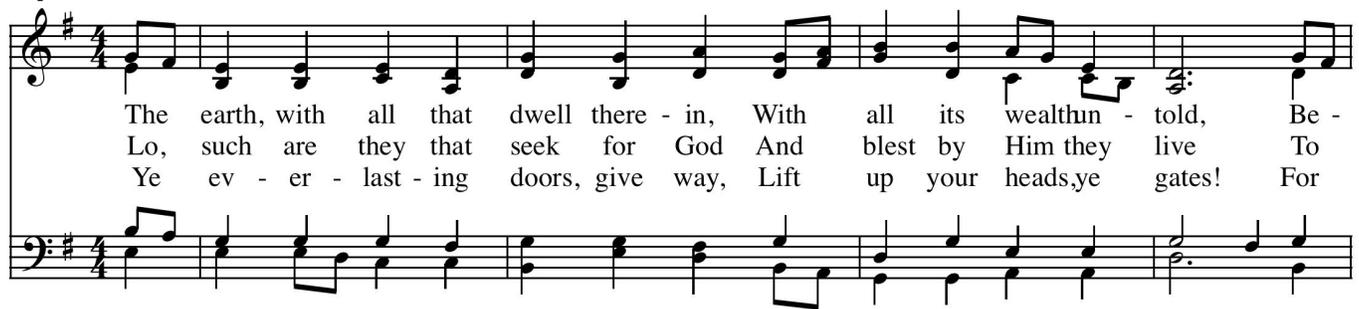
The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went; our
Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring, who

praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent: to
in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King! All

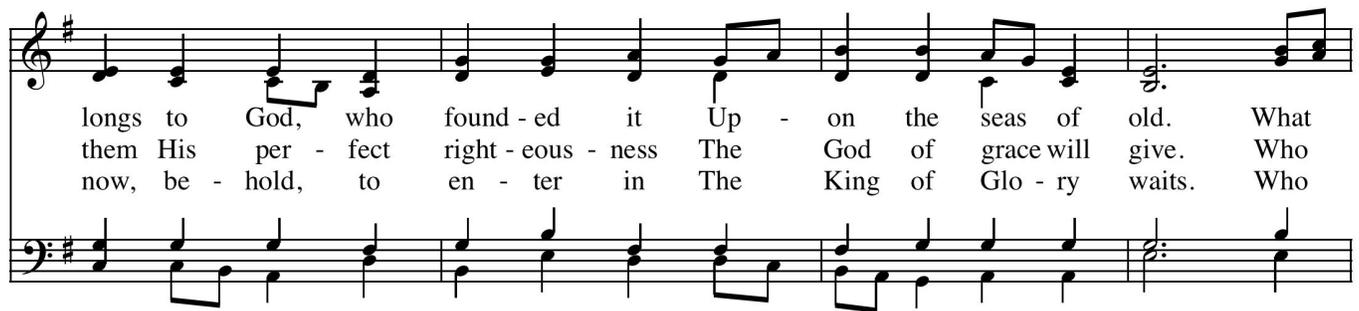
thee be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise; to
glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King, to

thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Hymn of Praise—The Earth With All That Dwells



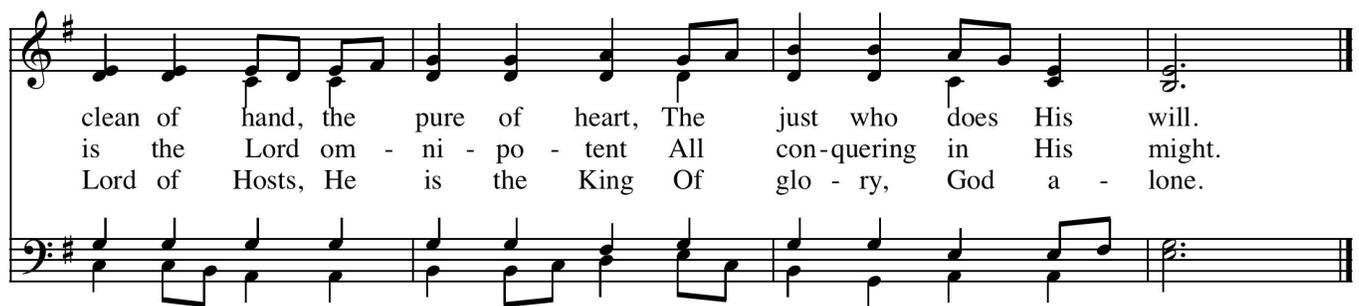
The earth, with all that dwell there - in, With all its wealth un - told, Be -
Lo, such are they that seek for God And blest by Him they live To
Ye ev - er - last - ing doors, give way, Lift up your heads, ye gates! For



longs to God, who found - ed it Up - on the seas of old. What
them His per - fect right - eous - ness The God of grace will give. Who
now, be - hold, to en - ter in The King of Glo - ry waits. Who



man shall stand be - fore the Lord On Zi - on's ho - ly hill? The
is this glor - ious King that comes? To claim His sov - 'reign right? It
is this glor - ious King that comes To claim His right - ful throne? The



clean of hand, the pure of heart, The just who does His will.
is the Lord om - ni - po - tent All con - quering in His might.
Lord of Hosts, He is the King Of glo - ry, God a - lone.

Text: *The Psalter*, 1912, Psalm 24; Music: KINGSFOLD, Old English Folk Song

(Please be seated)

Scripture Reading & Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Praise—Psalm 5: Hear My Words

Hear my words, O grac - ious Lord, To my thoughts at - ten - tive be;
With the morn - ing light, O Lord, Thou shalt hear my voice a - rise,
Thou art ho - ly, O my God, Thou de - light - est not in sin;
In the full - ness of Thy grace To Thy house I will re - pair;

Hear my cry, my King, my God, I will make my prayer to Thee.
And ex - pec - tant I will bring Prayer as mor - ning sac - ri - fice.
E - vil shall not dwell with Thee, Nor the proud Thy fav - or win.
Bow - ing toward Thy ho - ly place, Lost in love I wor - ship there.

Text: Psalter 1912; Music: Gregory Wilbur, Adapted from *Keine Schönheit hat die Welt* by Johann Scheffler, 1657

The Reading of the Word—Luke 18:1-8

1 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. 2 He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. 3 And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ 4 For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’” 6 And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. 7 And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? 8 I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Elder: The grass withers, the flower fades;

All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—The Gospel of Luke, Part 80

The Promise of Persistent Prayer

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Isaiah 1:2-6, 10-17

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You have brought us up like children,
but we have rebelled against You.

All: We are burdened with iniquity, we are evildoers who deal corruptly.
We have forsaken and despised You, O Lord.

Pastor: We continue to rebel—we are sick and our heart is faint.

All: From the sole of our feet to the top of our heads, there is no soundness in our bodies.

Pastor: Hear the word of the Lord, and give ear to the teaching of our God.
We have put our trust in our service and obedience.

We have trampled His house with vain offerings and offensive prayers.

All: We have burdened You, O Lord, with our fleshly obedience.

Pastor: You call us to wash ourselves and to make ourselves clean;
to remove the evil of our deeds from before your eyes.

All: May we cease to do evil and learn to do good; to seek justice and correct oppression;
to bring justice to the fatherless and plead the widow's cause.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Sung Response—Come, O Redeemer, Come



Fa - ther en-throned on high, Ho - ly, Ho - ly: An - cient e - ter - nal light, hear our prayer.
Look now up - on our need, Lord be, with us; heal us and make us free, from our sin.



Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us mer-cy. Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us peace.

CCLI #11121087 ©1996 Metro One, Inc. Text and Music: Fernando Ortega, 1996.

Assurance of Pardon—from Romans 7:25-8:1; I Timothy 1:2; I Thessalonians 5:23

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. And now grace, mercy, and peace are yours from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. The God of peace Himself will sanctify you completely so that your whole spirit and soul and body may be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Sung Response—Sanctus

WOMEN

MEN Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r and might,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r and might, -
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
Bless - ed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho
high - est, Ho san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est. A - men.
san - nah in the high - est, Ho san - na in the high - est. A - men.

CCLI #11121087 Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: FRANKLIN SANCTUS, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Profession of Faith—from Psalm 72

When the Son of Man comes, He will bring justice and righteousness.

He will judge the people with righteousness, and the poor with justice!

The mountains will bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

He defends the cause of the poor of the people,
gives deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crushes the oppressor!

May we fear you while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth!

In his days the righteous flourish, and peace abounds, till the moon be no more!

He dominion is from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth!

For he delivers the needy when he calls,
the poor and him who has no helper.

Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be His glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Having confessed our sins and made a good profession of faith, God's Table is open to all those "faithfully-fenced" members of the covenant community. Please come forward to partake of this means of grace. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Hymn of Communion—Psalm 73: O God, How Good Thou Art



O God, how good Thou art To all the pure of heart, Though life seems
Ev - er, O Lord, with Thee, All shall be well with me, Held by Thy
In earth or Heaven a - bove Who is there that I love Com - pared with
O it is good that I May still to God draw nigh, As oft be -



vain. Bur - dened with an - xious care, I groped in dark des -
hand. And Thou wilt guide my feet By Thine own coun - sel
Thee? My heart may faint with fears, But God my strength ap -
fore. The Lord Je - ho - vah blessed, My re - fuge and my



pair, Till in Thy house of prayer, All was made plain.
sweet, Till I, for glo - ry meet, In glo - ry stand.
pears, And will to end - less years My por - tion be.
rest, Shall be in praise con - fessed For - ev - er - more.

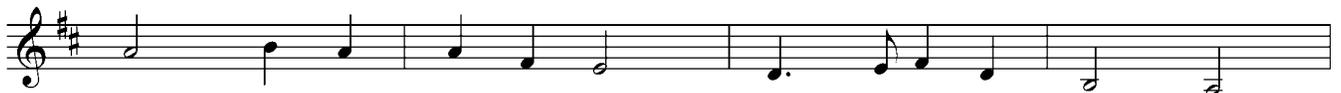
Hymn of Communion—Come Ye Disconsolate



Come, ye dis - con - so - late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish,
Joy of the de - so - late, light of the stray - ing,
Here see the Bread of Life, see wa - ters flow - ing



Come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.
Hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure!
Forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove.



Here bring your wound - ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;
Here speaks the Com - for - ter, ten - der - ly say - ing,
Come to the feast of love; come, ev - er know - ing



Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not heal.
"Earth has no sor - row that Heav'n can - not cure."
Earth has no sor - row but heav'n can re - move.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

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.*

Hymn of Praise—Lift Up Your Heads

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; Be - hold, the
A Help - er just He comes to thee, His char - iot
O blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
Re - deem - er, come, with us a - bide; Our hearts to

King of glo - ry waits; The King of kings is
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is
Rul - er is con - fessed O hap - py hearts and
tem - ple, set a - part From earth - ly use for
Thee we op - en wide; Let us Thy in - ner

draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here!
ho - li - ness, His scept - er, pi - ty in dis - tress.
hap - py homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes!
heaven's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
pre - sence feel; Thy grace and love in us re - veal.

Text: Psalm 24, Georg Weisdel, 1642, Tr by Catherine Winkworth, 1855; Music: TRURO, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—Hosannas to the King (Revelation 7:9-12)

Pastor: “I looked, and behold, there was a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes. And they all had palm branches in their hands.”

All: They cried out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Pastor: And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God.

All: They said, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Sung Response—We Will Glorify

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "Ho - san - na to the King of kings, Ho - san - na to the Lamb; Ho - san - na to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

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HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Chuck Emerson, 943-8443 or emersonbrntwd@aol.com

2nd and 4th Sundays 5:00 p.m., Steffens' house—Sermon Commentary/Study

Stacy McGuire 591-9462 or stacy.a.mcguire@gmail.com

Check for dates and locations—Sermon Commentary/Study

Greg Wilbur 512-4156 or greg@cstonepres.org

2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays at 5:00 p.m., Wilbur's house—Sermon Commentary/Study

Jim Smith 347-4188 or jims@svmic.com

2nd and 4th Sundays at 6:00 p.m., Smith's house—Sermon Commentary/Study

Mike and Mel Payne, 615-618-3299 or meljpayne@gmail.com

Sundays 5:00p.m., Payne's house—Sermon Commentary/Study

Randy Allen, 260-1884 or randmanrx@gmail.com

Sundays at 5:30 p.m., Elliott's house—*When Sinners Say I Do* by Dave Harvey

Taking the Message Home

Last week we learned a tremendous amount about the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ from Luke 17:20-37. This week Jesus shows us the love and generosity of the Father as we prayerfully wait for the return of Jesus Christ.

- How does the parable of the Persistent Widow connect with the previous instruction about the second coming?
- Is the judge in the parable a comparison with God or a contrast to God?
- In the parable, a helpless, powerless woman appeals over and over to someone with authority and power to vindicate her. Why is this a great picture of prayer?
- What does the last verse, “Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?” mean in context?
- Discuss with your HFG your prayer life, especially prayer for Jesus’ return. How can you help one another in persistence in prayer?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version