



Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday, Year A

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/index.html>

9 April 2017 at 10:45

*All are invited to assemble outside before worship begins
to join in the procession of the palms.*

+ + + PROCESSION OF THE PALMS + + +

Greeting

Call to Worship (Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:25-27)

Five hundred years before Jesus' birth, when the time of Babylonian exile was over and Israelites returning from exile were re-building a home in Judah, the prophet Zechariah proclaimed God's faithfulness and provided a picture of the future coming of the Messiah:

"Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

Even earlier, the psalmist wrote of God's faithfulness and invited the people of God to celebrate and give thanks for deliverance and victory:

"LORD, save us! Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar."

With palms waving, let us sing praises to God, who is faithful to his promises.

Jesus is the promised King. Jesus is the promised Messiah.

You may lay your palm at the foot of the wooden cross, or you may keep it.

†Processional Hymn 197: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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.

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 heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Announcements

1. Acolyte for Apr. 9 is William. Acolyte for Apr. 16 is Blair.
2. The foodbank item for Apr. is peanut butter. A collection box and a list are in the narthex.
3. The Samaritan's purse item for April is stuffed animals. A collection box and a list are in the narthex.
4. Joint Holy Week services: Palm Sunday at Pine Grove UMC; Maundy Thursday at Loves Memorial UMC; Good Friday at Cedar Hill CPC. All services at 6:30 pm.
5. The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be collected Easter Sunday (though offerings will be happily received at any time).
6. Marilyn has communion on April 16.
7. Sunday School with Pastor Chris will resume on April 23, 9:30am in the fellowship hall.
8. There will be a decoration of the cross for Easter; please bring flowers next week. There will be a bucket of water in the Narthex of Friday if you want to bring flowers in early.

Opening Prayer (*A Litany for Lent*)

God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us, so may we give ourselves to you, living according to your holy will. Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us; make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us; fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us. In his holy name we pray.

Amen.

†Call to Confession (*Hebrews 4:14-16*)

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, we approach God's throne of grace with boldness, that we may receive mercy. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

†Prayer of Confession

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him. We do not live the ways of his Kingdom, and we continue to give allegiance to the powers of this world. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us up, that we might be loyal ambassadors, obeying his commands and demonstrating his love. Through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

†Declaration of Forgiveness (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life is begun. Believe this good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE WORD + + +

Choral Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own, that we might turn from every distraction and listen, that we might hear and respond.

Amen.

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 21 1:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon:

Long-Awaited and Yet Unexpected

†Hymn 198: "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

Intercession for Lent

Jesus, remember us when you come into your kingdom. Hear our intercessions. For your church around the world:

We ask new life.

For all who carry out ministries in your church:

We ask grace and wisdom.

For people who have accepted spiritual disciplines:

We ask inspired discipleship.

For Jesus-followers of every land:

We ask new unity in your name.

For all who do not know Jesus:

We ask your divine blessing.

For those who do not believe:

We ask your faithful love.

For governors and rulers in every land:

We ask your guidance.

For people who suffer and mourn:

We ask your healing peace.

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.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST + + +

Offering (*Psalm 24:1*)

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it.

†Doxology (*Tune #606*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Yours, O Lord, are grandeur and power, majesty, splendor, and glory.

All in the heavens and on the earth is yours, and of your own we give you. Amen.

Children's Time

+ + + SENDING + + +

†Hymn 223: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

†Charge and Blessing

†Congregational Response:

**May the road rise to meet you; may the wind blow at your back;
may the sun shine warmly on your face;
may the rain fall softly on your fields;
and until we meet again, until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.**

Postlude

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

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