



PALM SUNDAY

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us enter the city with Jesus today!

**Let us sing hosanna to our king,
to the son of God riding on a donkey.
Let us shout for joy at Christ's coming,
wave palm branches in anticipation,
and follow the One who welcomes the
wayward
and dines with the outcast.
Let us offer praise as God draws near,
riding in triumph towards the cross.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #196

All Glory, Laud and Honor

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout,
daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you; righteous and
having salvation,
gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the
foal of a donkey. (Zechariah 9:9)*

Humble Jesus, as the people spread their coats on the ground and waved palm branches to welcome you into Jerusalem, so we welcome you into our lives this morning. King of Glory, King of Peace, Servant King, reign in our hearts and lives this day and all days, that we might praise your name.

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!**

RESPONSE #197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

CALL TO CONFESSION—from Psalm 130

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear my voice!
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.
O people, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with God is great power to redeem.*

Confident in the assurance of God's redemption, let us open our hearts to God in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Loving God, you rode a donkey and came in peace, humbled yourself and gave yourself for us. We confess our lack of humility.

As you entered Jerusalem, the crowds shouted "Hosanna, save us now!" On Good Friday they shouted "Crucify him!" We confess that our praise is often fickle.

As the crowd laid their coats and waved their palms in front of you, you took no glory for yourself on the way to the cross. We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way. We do not stay true to your will. Forgive us, and help us to follow in the way of faithfulness.

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

*Let those who fear the Lord say,
“God’s steadfast love endures forever.”
Out of my distress I called on the Lord;
The Lord answered me and set me free.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
He has become my salvation.
I shall not die, but live,
And recount the deeds of the Lord.*

**In Christ, God answers us and sets us free!
In Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!**

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun*

SCRIPTURE READINGS Luke 19:29-40
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:1-10

MESSAGE Surprised by Grace

HYMN #266 *Joy to the World*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your 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 yours is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory
now and forever. Amen.*

HYMN #269 *Lead On, O King Eternal*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” John 20:21

