

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, the seven days of the Church calendar that culminate on Easter Sunday. During Holy Week, the Church re-enters the last week of Jesus' life. Today the mood is festive. We wave palm fronds and shout with joy. But a dark storm is gathering. Jesus enters Jerusalem with one goal in mind: to suffer and die for people he loves so dearly.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 Christian Formation
10:00 Worship

Nursery for Ages 0-5 and Mother's Room:

We have a safe and fun nursery located at the end of the hall in the Veritas Cafe. Please follow the signs. We use a Kid Check program for security.

Video: There is a video feed of the worship live-streamed to the Conference Room at the end of the hallway for anyone who needs to step out of the service.

Reflection and Preparation

Looking ahead, here's a timeline of the events as they possibly unfolded on that first Good Friday, with corresponding Scripture references. You could put these events in your calendar or set them as reminders to sound throughout the day. (Times are approximate.)

4:00 to 6:00 a.m. Jesus' trial before Annas and Caiaphas. (Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-65; Luke 22:66-70; John 18:12-28)

6:00 to 8:00 a.m. Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilate and Herod. Jesus appears before Pilate, is sent over to Herod, and then back to Pilate where he is sentenced to be crucified. (Matthew 27:1-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16)

8:00 to 8:30 a.m. Jesus carries his cross, with Simon of Cyrene's help, to Golgotha. (Matthew 27:27-32; Mark 15:16-22; Luke 23:26-33; John 19:16-17)

9:00 a.m. (Crucifixion) Jesus is crucified: "It was the third hour" (Mark 15:25). For the Jewish people, the first hour of the day was 6:00 a.m. (Matthew 27:35; Luke 23:33; John 19:18-22)

9:00 to 9:30 a.m. The soldiers divide Jesus' clothing. He prays for them. (Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34; John 19:23-24)

9:30 to 11:00 a.m. The soldiers watch over the crucifixion and mock Jesus: "He can't save himself. Come down from there, Son of God." (Matthew 27:36-43; Mark 15:29-32; Luke 23:35-38)

11:00 a.m. to Noon Jesus speaks from the cross to the thieves on either side. The repentant thief asks Jesus to remember him, and Jesus promises, "Today you will be with me in paradise." And to his mother, Mary, and to John, Jesus says, "Woman, here is your son. . . . John, here is your mother." (Matthew 27:38-44; Luke 23:39-43; John 19:25-27)

Noon A three-hour darkness descends upon the land: "When the sixth hour had come, there was a darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour." (Matthew 27:45; Mark 15:33)

Noon to 3:00 p.m. The earth quakes, the temple curtain is torn, and Jesus thirsts. (Matthew 27:51-54; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45; Matthew 27:46-50; Mark 15:33-37; Luke 23:35-38; John 19:29)

3:00 p.m. Jesus dies: "At the ninth hour, Jesus cried out, 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?'" "Jesus said, 'It is finished,' and he gave up his spirit." (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34-39; Luke 23:46; John 19:30)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 14, 2019 | Palm Sunday

Call to Worship

As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They replied, “The Lord needs it.” They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

Rejoice greatly, brothers and sisters in Christ:
the King is come.

Luke 19:29-40

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” A blessing from Ps. 118:26 that pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem received, but here it is modified to focus on Jesus’ kingship.

Though the Pharisees attempt to squelch the joy of the occasion, if the disciples stopped expressing their praise, the very stones would cry out. All creation was made to worship this King who is Lord of all.

SING HOSANNA - CHILDREN

HOSANNA LOUD HOSANNA

JENNETTE THRELFALL, 1873



1. "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an - cient song we sing,



Through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing and chant - ing clear and loud;
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heav'n, our King;



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, em - braced them to his breast,
The Lord of men and an - gels rode on in low - ly state,
O let us ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



The chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
Not shamed that lit - tle chil - dren should on his pres - ence wait.
And in his glor - ious pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

Opening Prayer

**O Lord Jesus Christ,
on this day you received the worship
of those who hailed you as their King:
Accept our praise and adoration, our worship and love;
and grant that we, who now confess you with our lips,
may never fail to give you the service of our lives,
for the honor of your holy name,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.
Amen.**

Reflection

Entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, Jesus is heralded as the king. In the few days that follow, he cleanses the Temple, defends his royal authority against a variety of opponents, gives several judgment sayings declaring the coming destruction of Jerusalem, identifies himself as the Messianic Son of David and the Danielic Son of Man (who will have a universal empire, with all peoples, nations, and languages serving him), speaks of the way that his disciples will sit on twelve thrones judging the tribes of Israel, and affirms before the Sanhedrin that he is the Son of God and before Pilate that he is the King of the Jews.

The sheer audacity of Jesus' royal claims in Luke is astonishing, perhaps even alarming.

It is easy to misrepresent Jesus on Good Friday simply as the pacifist victim of "empire."

THE KING OF GLORY REIGNS - BASED ON PSALM 24

KEITH & KRISTYN GETTY, ED CASH, CHRIS TOMLIN 2016



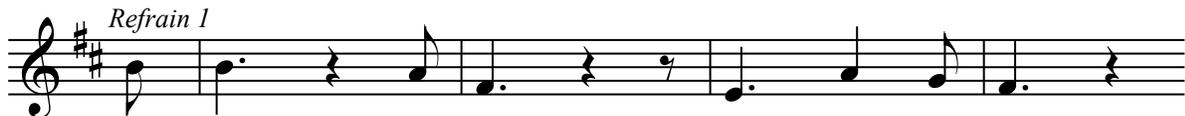
1. The King of glo - ry reigns, o - ver all the world.
 2. He calls the pure in heart, all whose hands are clean.
 3. Swing wide you an - cient gates, let the King come in.



His might - y hand sus - tains the hea - vens and the earth.
 And those who love his name a - bove all o - ther things.
 His glo - ry nev - er fades, our hearts de - light in him.



Who may come to him _____ and seek his ho - ly face? _____ *to v. 2*
 Hum - bly I will bow _____ and Je - sus' name con - fess. _____ *to Refrain 1*
 Ev - 'ry knee will bow _____ and ev - 'ry tongue con - fess. _____ *to Refrain 1*



Refrain 1
 He reigns, he reigns, Je - sus the Lord.



He reigns, he reigns, for - ev - er - more. *1x to v. 3*
2x to Refrain 2



Refrain 2
 Who is this King of glo - ry? The Lord strong and might-y.



He bore a cross of shame. Sing Ho - san - na! _____
 He rose up from the grave. *to Refrain 1*

Confession of Sin

Luke 19:41-48

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be a house of prayer’; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”

Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

**O Lord, Holy God,
we as individuals and the church catholic are too often
deaf, dumb, and blind.
We do not recognize the times of your coming.
We are prayerless and worshipless.
We are lovers of money and greedy.
Have mercy upon us.
Only your cross can save us.**

(You are invited to confess your sins silently.)

INTO YOUR HANDS

SUSAN NAUS DENGLER, 2011

Chorus

In - to_ your hands of love do I com-mit my spir - it.

In - to_ your ten - der care do I com-mit my life.

In - to_ your arms of grace do I com-mit my spir - it.

In - to_ your hands do I_ com-mit my life. _____

Choir: Jesus spoke his final words,
then he breathed his final breath.
Trusting in his Father's love,
for our sins he suffered death.

Chorus - all

Choir: Now I place my trust in you;
place my soul into your care.
You have freed me from my sin.
In your love, in your truth,
in your grace I share.

Chorus - all

Assurance of Pardon

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

For Christ came into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through him should be saved.

Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

From Matthew 21:8-9; John 3:17; Ephesians 5:1-2

Welcome and Announcements

Offering

The offering is part of our regular worship. Our hope is that all gifts offered will come from an understanding that we give because God first gave to us, and that every penny will be carefully and thoughtfully invested in cultivating faith in Jesus Christ.

Prayers for the Church and World

Passing of the Peace

As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from him. In response to his grace, we also extend that grace to one another with a handshake or a hug. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "The peace of Christ be with you."

Sermon

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

3 Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

4 In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5 To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

6 But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

7 All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

8 “He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts.

10 On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother’s womb you have been my God.

11 Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

12 Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

13 they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

16 For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—

17 I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
18 they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

19 But you, O Lord, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!
21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

22 I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
23 You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
24 For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord!
May your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
28 For kingship belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

29 All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
30 Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

POWER OF THE CROSS

KEITH GETTY, STUART TOWNEND, 2005



1. O, to see the dawn of the dark - est day; Christ on the
 2. O, to see the pain writ - ten on your face, bear - ing the
 3. Now the day - light flees; now the ground be - neath quakes as its
 4. O, to see my name writ - ten in the wounds, for through your



road to Cal - va - ry. _____ Tried by sin - ful men,
 awe - some weight of sin. _____ Ev - 'ry bit - ter thought,
 Ma - ker bows his head. _____ Cur - tain torn in two,
 suf - fring I am free. _____ Death is crushed to death,



torn and beat - en, then nailed to a cross of wood. _____
 ev - 'ry e - vil deed crown - ing your blood - stained brow. _____
 dead are raised to life, "Fin - ished!" the vic - t'ry cry. _____
 life is mine to live, won through your self - less love! _____

Chorus



Vs. 1-3: This, the pow'r _____ of the cross: _____ Christ be - came _____ sin for us. _____
Vs 4: This, the pow'r _____ of the cross: Son of God slain for us.



Took the blame, _____ bore the wrath; we stand for - giv - en at the cross.
 What a love, what a cost! We stand for - giv - en at the cross.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ who acknowledge their sins against God and their neighbors, and confess their need for the grace of Christ to partake of this meal. If you are a Christian and haven't been baptized, please talk with one of our pastors. We would be honored to baptize you.

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We praise you, Heavenly Father,
that in fulfillment of the prophet's words
your Son entered the city of Jerusalem on a colt.
And there he was lifted high upon the cross
so that the whole world might be drawn to him.
We believe that the tree of defeat became the tree of victory;
where life was lost, life has been restored!

All praise and thanks to you.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Communion

Wine is available in the inner two circles; grape juice is available in the outer ring. Gluten-free wafers are available in a basket on the back table.

We hold the bread and wine until everyone has been served in order to eat and drink together.

We ask that you dispense with your cups by the back door following the service.

Just as the climax of all history will be the Wedding Supper of the Lamb, we conclude our worship in the presence of God by feasting. The Spirit takes the common elements of bread and wine and feeds us spiritually with the body and blood of Jesus, for our nourishment and growth in grace, and so strengthens us to be sent out into the world as God's agents of his generous hospitality.

DOXOLOGY

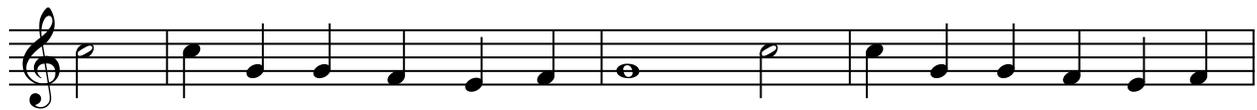
THOMAS KEN, 1674



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be -



low: O___ praise him, al - le - lu - ia!



Praise him a - bove, you heav'n - ly host, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Ghost: O___ praise him, O___ praise him,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Benediction

May God bless you, keep you, and guide you in the way of Christ Jesus. May he give you courage to take up your cross and, in full reliance upon his grace, follow his Son, wherever he may lead.