



# HOSANNA

*in the highest!*

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

**Matthew 21:9**

# PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

## GATHERING

**PRAYER FOR MEDITATION:** *Holy God, you reveal the truth about your people and the ways of our world in the suffering of the Son and his steadfast love. Show us again the image of humility you desire for us, and teach us obedience, so that self-emptying may be our pathway, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## RINGING OF THE CHIMES

### PRELUDE

*Fugue in C Major*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Buxtehude

### OPENING SENTENCES *(Matthew 21:5, 9)*

*Rev. John White*

One: Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey.

**ALL:** *Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*PALM PROCESSIONAL: 196** *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 118:26 and Matthew 21:9)*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!

**ALL:** *Come with palm branches, hosannas, and songs!*

One: Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

**ALL:** *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.*

One: Shout praises!

**ALL:** *Hosanna in the highest heaven!*

## MOMENT FOR CONFIRMATION

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

### CHORAL INTROIT

*Jesus Loves Me*  
Quest Kids

Bartlett Warner

## PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*Rev. John White*

As we enter Holy Week, let us prepare our hearts to follow Jesus to the cross by confessing all that turns us from our Savior's path.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

*Rev. John White*

*Abba God, Father of Jesus, forgive our lack of respect and attention as your son enters this most painful of weeks. We, like the disciples, fall asleep when Jesus asks us to stay awake and pray. Our minds wander as he sets his path straight for Jerusalem to speak truth to power on our behalf. We are careless with our faith, while Jesus acts with extraordinary love. Forgive our apathy. Forgive our inattention. Forgive our careless and self-serving attitudes. Remind us, this Holy Week, of the salvation you offer in Jesus Christ. Let us not take this gracious gift for granted. Amen.*

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (*Psalm 118:1*)

*Rev. John White*

One: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"  
In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.  
**ALL:** *Thanks be to God! Amen.*

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 437** *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!*

WAYFARING STRANGER

*You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are the Lord, giver of mercy!*

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.  
**ALL:** *And, also, with you.*

**THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

*Epilogue of Praise*  
Chancel Choir

Martin

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

*Libby Smith*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Rev. John White*

**\*HYMN: 642** *Heleuyan, We Are Singing*

HELELUYAN

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Rev. John White*

**FIRST READING**

*Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29* (pg. 565-566)

*Rev. John White*

One: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

**SECOND READING**

*Matthew 21:1-11* (pg. 23)

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON**

**Who is This?**

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

**RESPONSE**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Philippians 2:5-11*)

*Rev. John White*

Let us confess what we believe.

*We believe in “Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

**OFFERING  
OFFERTORY**

*Trio in G Major*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Rev. John White*  
Stainer

\*Doxology (Tune: 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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.*

\*Dedicatory Prayer

*Rev. John White*

**SENDING**

**\*HYMN: 198** *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*

ST. DROSTANE

**\*CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*  
Chancel Choir

Psalm 148

*(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude and ask that you use the Postlude as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)*

**POSTLUDE**

*Hymn-Prelude on RATHBUN*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Bingham