

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Leader: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor, arr. J. Chrisman

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The story of Palm Sunday tells of how people removed their cloaks and spread them out in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem.

People: The cloak we wear every day to face the world is both the persona we wish to present, and our defense against the elements.

Leader: As we come to worship may we be willing to lay down our defenses and disguises, at the feet of the One who sees us as we really are.

People: And then, set free for worship, may we offer our praises with open hearts and lives.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Ever constant God, mixing love and hope together, you pave the way to the kingdom, but we prefer to stub our toes on the potholed roads of temptation. You would touch the cup of grace to our parched lips, but we seem to hunger for the ashy taste of bitterness. You beg us to learn the songs of salvation, but we hum along with the chorus death plays in the background of our lives.

Have mercy upon us, God of Holiness. As you come to us, you bring healing for our brokenness, peace for our troubled lives, hope for our doubting minds. May we empty ourselves of everything which keeps us from following you, so we may receive these gifts, and more, from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior (continue with silent confession). Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Laying aside judgment, God offers us forgiveness; setting aside anger, God embraces us with love; letting go of grief, God pours living water upon us. This is the good news, my friends:

People: God's steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

SERMON

To Stir A City

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

MINUTE FOR MISSION – WPC Endowment

Thatcher Root

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God (prayer continues...) We pray the prayer taught to us by our Lord Jesus Christ,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF BREAD AND POURING OF CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

HYMN 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna, Ellacombe

1 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.

2 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.

3 "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.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rondeau, H. Purcell

Leaders Today

Pastor.....Rev. Scott Anderson
Liturgist..... Thatcher Root
Minister of Music Joe Chrisman