



Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church
April 2, 2023
Palm Sunday

MUSIC LEADING TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHARED JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Zechariah 9:9)

One: Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

ALL: Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

One: Lo, your king comes to you;

ALL: triumphant and victorious is he,

One: humble and riding on a donkey,

ALL: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

*** PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM**

Matthew 21:1-11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵ "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."

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!"

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

*** HYMN #88**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY** (unison)

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 27:11-14, 24-26, 32-37, 50-54

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

³²As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

⁵⁰Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

SERMON

The Son of God

The Rev. Chris Torrey

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus, 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 to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

*** HYMN # 91**

Rise On! Ride On in Majesty!

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*** DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

THE 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God, our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and forever. Amen.

* HYMN # 89

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Thank you to Jean Nelson for serving as the Liturgist this morning!

Prayers used in this service reprinted by permission from the **Book of Common Worship**, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press.

Session Members:

Amy Heekin Gleason	Christian Education	513-477-9751
Don Kissinger	Building & Grounds	513-232-1538
Bob Lees	Membership and Outreach	513-310-3069
Martha Misheff	Congregational Life	513-609-6890
Jackie Nelson	Mission, Worship and Music	513-546-9083
Greg Roberts	Session Clerk, Nominating	513-497-0492
Karen Roberts 	Musician	513-633-1964
Rev. David Annett	Minister	513-477-9723

- † Join us for worship on Maundy Thursday, April 6, featuring the *Seven Last words of Christ* by Joseph Haydn, performed by musicians from the College Conservatory of Music under the direction of Professor Kurt Sassmannshaus: 7:00 p.m.
- † Join us for worship on Good Friday, April 7, at 7 pm featuring music from the River Valley Interfaith Choir led by Vickie Hale.
- † Join us for Easter Sunday, April 9: Worship at 10:45 a.m. Encourage Guests, Visitors, and Friends to join us!



Palm Sunday