



March 24, 2024
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Palm Sunday Meditation

Jesus is still parading down the streets of our lives. He comes to the gates of our hearts as He came to the gates of Jerusalem.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me" (Rev. 3:20). Jesus doesn't want our hosannas. He wants our hearts. Maybe today, you will crown him King!

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
Palm/Passion Sunday / Say No Lenten Series: 'Fear'

March 24, 2024
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

People of God, do not be afraid, for your Savior is coming,
riding on a donkey, daring to raise the branches of liberation.
Shout your hosannas in the street and in the sanctuary.
Hosanna in the highest! Our Savior has come to set us free!
Palm branches and praise mark this day with hope.
Hosanna, come and save us!

* *Invocation*

Humble God, you have shown us the way to enter all the
Jerusalems of this world. You showed us not to enter our lives with
fear, but with humility and courage. As we worship this day, we
draw upon your example of Jesus on that humble donkey, and we
raise our palm branches in rejoicing! We raise our voices, shouting
along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!"
Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem. Amen.

* *Opening Hymn*

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Mt Hope PH #155

Greenfield CH #300

Grace TH #135

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

**God of our hosannas, it would be all too easy to embrace a
vision of you as entering Jerusalem with all the pomp and
circumstance and violence that power provides. And yet,
that is not your way, and we confess that we often whisper
with the ways of fear rather than shout of your liberation
for all people. Help us to lay our lives at your feet and
welcome you with shouts of joy. Amen.**

Words of Grace

Dear ones, embrace this world with courage. Leave your fear behind, for it does not have the last word and does not have to be the donkey you ride in on. God offers you the way of hope, humility, and hosannas. Rest in the assurance that you are forgiven and embraced in God's tender arms of love. Amen.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 NRSV

A Song of Victory

- ¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
- ² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”
- ¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.
- ²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
- ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.^[a]
- ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.^[b]
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.^[c]
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.
- ²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Mark 11:1-11 NRSV

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)

TH #497

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* *Meditation Hymn* "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

Mt Hope PH #345

Greenfield CH #169

Grace TH #7

Today's Message

** The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Sung Response

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

TH # 501

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

* Doxology

TH # 551

* Offertory Prayer

God of the great shouts of hope, just as you received the voices of the crowd upon your entry into Jerusalem, receive these gifts as an expression of our joy and gratitude. Take our voices and our offerings and use them to proclaim your salvation to all people. Amen.

* *Closing Hymn* *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*
Mt Hope VH #100 *Greenfield* CH #297 *Grace* VH #100

* *Benediction*

People of God, raise your branches high. Sing with shouts of joy. For Jesus has not only entered the city of Jerusalem, but into the hearts of those who are willing to walk in his ways. Go forth not in fear, but in the courage and hope of God our Creator, Jesus our Brother, and the Holy Spirit our Liberator. Amen.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

Fear: Service Prayers for Palm/Passion Sunday Year B was written by The Rev. Dr. Chad Abbot, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference.