

PALM SUNDAY

CELEBRATING THE KING



And the
multitudes
that went
before, and that
followed,
cried, saying,

**Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he
that cometh in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.
Matthew 21:9**

@juneoreyes

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

March 29, 2020



Worship Service

1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE

(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

Palm Sunday April 5, 2020

(Bulletin to follow the YouTube online service)

Welcome

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...

“He humbled himself and became obedient...” From this biblical phrase flows the vintage hymn Christians have sung through the centuries – that Jesus Christ is Lord! Lordship equals authority and power. Worldly culture practices power over others. Jesus exercised Godly power on our behalf, and he calls us to have the same mind – refusing selfish ambition and conceit, and serving the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of others in grace-filled humility.

We bumble along in selfishness and hollow glory, building ourselves up, until our egos collapse, only to humiliate ourselves. By contrast, Jesus emptied himself preemptively in the forge of temptation, and on the anvil of Gethsemane. He took the humble servant position. “Not my will, but yours be done.” The cross was Christ’s obedience for our sake, to save us from ourselves. He didn’t clutch being equal with God as his personal right, and he died in humility and obedience.

“Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?” “Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.” Jesus is Lord! To God be the glory!

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: Honor.

P: Honor and praise.

L: Honor, praise, and glory.

P: Honor, praise, and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

L: In celebration, we join the crowds of old,

P: Waving branches, giving honor to the Messiah.

L: And yet, our celebration is bittersweet,

P: For our story doesn’t end here.

L: We know the pain of what lies ahead.

P: Today anticipates the rest of the story –

L: A story of betrayal and death

P: A story of hope and resurrection.

A: We give thanks that you allow us to be part of your story, O God, and we come to worship you this day.



*Hymn of Praise

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor To Thee, Redeemer King!

To whom the lips of children, Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,

Who in the Lord’s name comest, The King and blessed One. Refrain

The people of the Hebrews, With palms before Thee went;

Our praise and prayers and anthems, Before Thee we present. Refrain

To Thee, before Thy passion, They sang their hymns of praise;

To Thee, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. Refrain

Thou didst accept their praises; Accept the prayers we bring,

Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King! Refrain

Meeting God in the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Second Lesson

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 fulfil 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

Reconciling Palms and Thorns

Responding to the Word

*Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

*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.*

*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.*

*"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.*



Cares Chorus, Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Cares Chorus:

*I cast all my cares upon you. I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime, I don't know what to do, I cast all my cares upon you.*

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

God has provided for us in so many ways. All that we have truly comes from God.

Giving of our resources is an essential part of discipleship. We feel grateful for our blessings and we share a good portion of them to do Christ's work. Since we cannot gather together for worship, we encourage each of you to send in your tithes and offerings so that the church can continue its ministry.

Going Out to Serve

*Blessing

L: Go forth from this place in joy,

P: Praising God for his gift of enduring love.

L: Lift high the palm branches of your faith,

P: Waving them in thanksgiving for the steadfastness of a loving God.

A: Who is with us always, even as we travel our own roads to Jerusalem.

L: And may the blessings...

*Response

He Is Lord

*He is Lord, he is Lord. He has risen from the dead, and he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow, Every tongue confess, That Jesus Christ is Lord.*

Friends, consider watching an appropriate and joyful Palm Sunday praise song on YouTube:

Hosanna! By the Maranatha! Singers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YApEljvE6S4>

Have a blessed day to worship Almighty God – the King of Kings!

