



New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
April 2, 2023 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE  
(302) 378-4446 [www.newcov-church.org](http://www.newcov-church.org)

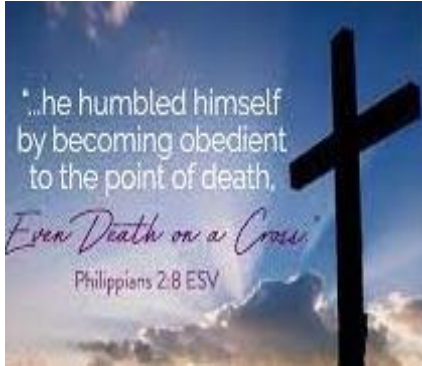
# The Worship of God

## April 2, 2022 Palm/Passion Sunday

### Welcome and Announcements

### Sharing Our Vision

### Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



*“He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death...” 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 be of 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. May we follow in his footsteps.*

## Preparing to Meet God

### Call to Worship

**L:** This morning God shall awaken our ears to hear, as those who were taught by Christ.

**P:** ***And we shall console the forlorn through the dignity of our hearing.***

**L:** This morning God shall awaken our eyes to see and our tongues to speak, as those who were taught by Christ.

**P:** ***And we shall inspire the tired and sustain the weary through the integrity and authority of our seeing and speaking.***

**A:** ***This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!***

### Hymn # 88

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

*The congregation is invited to join the parade as we process throughout the sanctuary, giving glory to God and praising Jesus as his loving, sacrificial Son.*

**Refrain:**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

1-Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

2-The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.

3-To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

4-Thou didst accept their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!



**Prayer of Confession**



**We have praised your Son with our lips, most holy God, but we fear that our songs of praise will fade away when we are left to face our true feelings. Our lips are conditioned for praise today, but our hearts are conditioned for disobedience. Forgive us for saying what we do not feel, and feeling what we ought not to say. Put true joy in our hearts that we may be sincere in our praise of your Son, our Savior, through whom we pray. And now, holy God, we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and to seek your forgiveness.....Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

- L: Hear the Good News: There is no sin so terrible that God's love cannot forgive it.
- P: No matter where we are or what we do, God is there, and God forgives us.**
- L: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
- P: Thanks be to God!**

**Meeting God in the Word**

**Children's Message**

**Prayer for Illumination**

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

*As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.*

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music**

Hosanna

Choir

**Second Reading**

Mark 11: 1-11

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

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*When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples 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. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'*

*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.*

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Everyone Loves a Parade!

## Responding to the Word

**Hymn # 142**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*1-All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
And crown him Lord of all! Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown him Lord of all!*

*2-Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!*



*3-Let every kindred every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

*4-O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!*

### **\*Litany of Faith**

L: He comes to you on a colt never ridden, and his face is set before you like flint.

**P: O God, you are our help. Tell us: Who is this king whom we hail and why are we swept away?**

L: Do you not recognize the Bethlehem babe, who arrived to the singing of anthems and slept in the silence of awe?

**P: The baby who inspired the joy of the angels and kindled the hope of the people?**

L: Do you not recognize the temple youth, who questioned the answers of sages and answered questions of teachers?

**P: The youth who amazed the minds of the elders and astonished the hearts of his parents?**

L: And do you not recognize the Nazareth prophet, who proclaimed release to the captives and demanded relief for the poor?

**P: The prophet who preached salvation? Who is he to be glorified? How can he be the Chosen One?**

L: And do you not recognize the Jewish messiah, who was anointed king by a woman's hand, who established the kingdom for servants and sinners?

**P: The messiah who sleeps in the house of outcasts and feasts with sinners? O God, tell us how we can hail this king of honor this day – the One who has swept us away?**

L: He comes to you on a colt that none has ever ridden. Tell me: How soon will you take him to the tomb where none has ever lain?

**A: Holy God, help us to understand your will as well as our own actions and their implications. May all that we do honor you!**

### **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 provided all that we need, and so we are called to return a portion of our blessings to God to be used in God's service. We so appreciate all that each of you shares for our church's ministry. May we all give sacrificially for God's glory.

*Prayer of Dedication: Holy God, you are the source of all goodness. We realize that the value of the offerings we bring varies with the marketplace, but the eternal value of your church and its ministry remains constant as you enable us to serve you in the power of the Spirit. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and give ourselves and our resources to you. Use them to transform us into your faithful disciples. Amen.*

## Going Out to Serve

### \*Hymn # 89

### Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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.



### \*Blessing

L: Let us have the mind among ourselves that is ours because it was Christ's.

**P: And let us go and do for our neighbors as Christ has done for us.**

L: May God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you this day and forevermore.

### \*Response

*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.*