First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome		
Prelude	"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"	arr. Pierre La Plante

Call to Worship Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of 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.

* Hymn 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

<u>Refrain</u>:

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. (Refrain)
- 2 The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. (Refrain)
- 3 To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (Refrain)
- 4 Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)

* Prayer for the Day

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.

Kyrie 575

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. 10:00 a.m.

Zechariah 9:9

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11

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.

Psalter: Psalm 118 (Hymnal 391)

Refrain: This is the day; this is the day; this is the day that God has made!

- Open, now, open the doorways of justice! Let us be glad as we pass through those gates. This is the place where the righteous may enter, singing to God with thanksgiving and praise. (**Refrain**)
- 2 I will sing praises because you have heard me, offering salvation with grace upon grace, turning the stone that the builders rejected into the cornerstone, rock of our faith. (**Refrain**)
- 3 It is the Lord who has done all these wonders.I have seen marvelous, marvelous things.This is the day that the Lord has created.Join the rejoicing as every heart sings: (Refrain)
- 4 Praise the Creator, the Christ, and the Spirit, from the beginning through worlds without end: God who is now and who evermore shall be, glory forever, amen and amen! (**Refrain**)

A Time with Children

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 9:15-28

For this reason {Christ] is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant. Where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Hence not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment had been told to all the people by Moses in accordance with the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop,

and sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Thus it was necessary for the sketches of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves need better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Sermon: "Priest and Sacrifice"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 260

"Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"

- Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone! Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes nor questions how.Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of angels, here on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own; Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heaven your throne. As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest; here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

* Affirmation of Faith: Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant. 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 confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. A Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing Jack Scheuer Offering Offertory "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" arr. Douglas Wagner Prayers of the People and 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.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 216

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

- Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.
- 2 Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me; and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.
- 3 I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Processional to Calvary" from The Crucifixion

John Stainer

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children	
And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Tabbi Miller-Scandle
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

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Church Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for our 10:00 Virtual Worship Service. We're happy you tuned in, hope that you will find our time together enriching, and look forward to the day we can worship together once again.

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Palm branches will be distributed after the service this morning, both in the sanctuary and on School Street for those who drive by after worship. **"Communion packs**" will also be available for those who wish to take communion at home for Maundy Thursday and Easter. **Palms and "communion packs**" will also be available from our office during Holy Week while supplies last.

A Maundy Thursday service will be held on April 1 at 7:30 p.m. It will be in person and online. Those who make advance reservations may attend in person. The Lord's Supper will be served. Those worshiping at home are encouraged to take part.

We offer our own pre-recorded **Good Friday** worship service online. Go to fpccs.org for the link. There is also a **national Good Friday worship service**, featuring seven national leaders of the Presbyterian Church. It will be broadcast live online from California at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time (fpccs.org for the link).

We will have an **Easter worship service** in the sanctuary at 10 a.m. on April 4. It will be broadcast live as well as available in person to those who have <u>made advance reservations</u>. We will serve the Lord's Supper during the service, and invite those at home to join us in the sacrament.

And yes, yes... we will have a **Holy Humor** worship service on Sunday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m. If there was ever a year when we needed it, this is it.

Have you had your shots? A growing number of folks in our church family have received their vaccinations for covid-19. Bravo!

If you have received the appropriate vaccines and wish to return to the sanctuary for worship, we cordially invite you to contact our office and make a reservation. We also welcome children who have returned to school.

Because the corona virus continues to be contagious, we ask all who attend to wear masks, keep appropriate distances, and refrain from singing. We look forward to the day when ALL of us can be back together. That day is coming. In the meantime, we will respect one another and do what is safe for all.

Study with us during Lent

Rev. Carter is leading a Bible study at 10 a.m. on the Wednesday mornings of Lent, the next date being Lesson 7 on March 31. It will be held live on Zoom, with a small group meeting simultaneously in Room 206 (Session Room). Would you like to be physically present? Contact the church office (586-6306) to make a reservation. Masks and safety rules apply! The study is "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament." **Note:** the final two Wednesday morning studies will take place on April 14 and 21.

CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to <u>camp</u> <u>lackawanna.org</u> to see what programs are being offered this summer and to register your children for camp! Family Camp registration is also open!

Our church provides scholarships for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

DATES	CAMP	AGE GROUP
June 24-27	Family Camp	All Ages
June 28-30	Mini Camp	Ages 6-10
July 4-10	Wet n' Wild	Ages 7-16
July 11-17	Music, Arts and Drama	Ages 7-16
July 11-24	JH/SR 2-week	Completed grades 6-11
July 18-24	Adventure Camp	Completed grades 6-10
July 25-31	Night Owls	Completed grades 3-10
August 1-7	Camp Olympics	Ages 7-16

Camp Lackawanna is actively seeking staff for Summer Camp. In addition to Counselors, a Cook is also needed. Applications can be filled out at www.camplackawanna.org

Our building is bustling -- one person at a time! Feel free to read a book or check out a DVD from our church library, pray or play the piano in the sanctuary, or have a free cup of coffee with the pastor (who will keep six feet away). No groups, please, but Masked Individuals are welcome in limited numbers whenever the building is open. <u>Stir-Crazy</u> <u>People</u> are especially invited.

The Presbyterian Woman's Association will be unable to host the Annual Spring Luncheon with guests from Clarks Summit State Hospital. However they are so appreciative of getting new socks when they come here that a Spring Gift of BRAND NEW socks will be collected (for both men and women) and taken to the residents. A box has been placed in the Narthex for your donations. Please call Janet Dobson (570-563-1887) with questions.



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