

Centering Bell

Scripture Reading

Mark 11:1-11

Call to Worship

L: Will you let this good news inspire you to act?

**P: We will. We will sing. We will pay close attention.**

**We will worship. We will follow.**

L: Hosanna in the highest!

**P: Hosanna in the highest.**

\*Hymn of Praise

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

UMH 280

*Words by Theodulph of Orleans, 8-9<sup>th</sup> cent; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851; Music by Melchior Teschner, 1615, harm. by W.H. Monk, 1861 ~ Public Domain*

*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 company of angels  
are praising thee on high,  
and we with all creation  
in chorus make reply. (Refrain)**

**The people of the Hebrews  
with psalms before thee went;  
our prayer and praise 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)**

A Season of Prayer

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession and Words of Forgiveness

**Jesus of Nazareth, we know that you spent your days teaching and healing. You marched through the streets and walked on water. You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables. Your good news was not confined to conversation. It was not confined to the Temple. Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world. Holy God, we long for a faith like that. Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon. Inspire us to love as you loved. Inspire us to act. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for tomorrow we pray, amen.**

~ Silence ~

L: Church family, whether or not you wave your palm branch, whether or not you live out your faith, whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions, God will never stop loving you. Jesus will never stop marching for you. The Spirit will never stop listening to you.

**P: We are claimed, loved, and held in grace. What good, good news. Amen!**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen!**

Prayer Song

“Lead Me, Lord”

UMH 473

*Psalm 5:8, 4:8 ~ Public Domain*

**Lead me, Lord. Lead me in thy righteousness.**

**Make thy way plain before my face.**

**For it is thou, Lord, thou Lord only**

**Who makest me dwell in safety.**

Anthem

“Do Not Be Afraid for You Are Mine”

Chancel Choir

*By Lloyd Larson based on Isaiah 43:1-5 & I Peter 5:7 and Civilla D. Martin; incorporating God Cares by W. Stillman Martin.*

*Music by Lloyd Larson (ASCAP); © 2013 Beckenhorst Press; OneLicense #A-739344*

Poem

“For the Sake of Tiny Resurrections”

*By Rev. Sarah Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC Used with Permission*

Special Music

"How Great Thou Art"

Dr. Kristie Janczyk

*Words and Music by Stuart K. Hine. Arranged by Ken Mahood. ©1995 by KME. All rights reserved. Used by Permission.*

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

**Holy One, if we've heard this story before, the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, then help us to hear it again.**

**And if we've never heard this story before, if we've never heard the story of Palm Sunday or the cries of "Hosanna," then give us the wisdom to follow along.**

**Give us the wisdom to hear these words.**

**Give us the wisdom to take them into our hearts.**

**Give us the wisdom to act on their truth.**

**We are listening.**

**Amen.**

Song of Preparation

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"

TFWS 2086

*By Bob Cull, ©1976 CCCM Music; Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing; CCLI #1365061*

**Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch Him,  
And say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord,  
And help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus.**

Message

"The Good News Is: Inspiring Us to Act"

Rev. Sharon Pajak

We Share Our Gifts

Invitation to Giving

Song During Offering

"Hosanna"

Dr. Kristie Janczyk

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**\*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

UMH 95

*By Thomas Ken, 1674 ~ Public Domain*

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

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

**God of grace, we enter this Holy Week offering our tithes and gifts, a portion of what you've already given us. Today we remember how the early followers were sent to find a donkey for Jesus to ride into Jerusalem. We picture the crowd offering their cloaks and cutting branches from the trees to celebrate the coming of the Son of God.**

**In like manner, we offer our tithes and gifts today, eager to be part of those who celebrate Jesus, the Christ, among us – not just for a parade, but all the way to the cross, the grave, and entering into life-beyond-life.**

**Receive these gifts and accept the desire of our hearts, that we might walk into the coming week as faithful followers of this One you called “My Beloved”. Amen!**

**\*Song of Response**                      **“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”**  
*By Anonymous ~ Public Domain*

**TFWS 2129**

**I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus -  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me -  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow—  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**\*Blessing**

**\*Music for Going Forth**                      **"Behold The Lamb"**  
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**Dr. Kristie Janczyk**