

Order of Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 2, 2023 10:00 AM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING

Prelude

Grand Dialog in C

Louis Marchand

Mark Frazier, organ

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Opening Litany

JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

UMH 278

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Matthew 21:1-11

Leader: As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

People: **God, forgive us for the times when we do not trust your word and do not follow where you lead. We long to be the ones who can go into the village ahead of you. Forgive us when we play it safe.**

Leader: This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

People: **God, forgive us for forgetting that you are always coming toward us. You are drawing near, like a king on a donkey. Help us find you in our midst.**

Leader: The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

People: **Creator God, forgive us for the moments when we choose greed over generosity, or when we choose our self-image over our loyalty to you. Give us the courage to be unabashed in our faith. Give us the strength to throw our coats on the road.**

Leader: The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,
"Hosanna to the Son of David!"
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

People: **Son of David, give us the conviction to shout your name from the rooftop. Give us the wisdom to sing, "Hosanna!"**

Leader: When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

People: **With hope in our hearts we pray to you, Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Wines

Leader: Family of faith, there will be days when we withhold our praise.
There will be days when we dare not follow.
There will be days when we ignore God's call,
when we choose comfort over courage,
and ourselves over others.
But even on those days,
even on our worst days,
we belong to God.
Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **Nothing can separate us from God's love. We are loved, forgiven, and sent out to serve. Hosanna! Amen.**

Children's Message

Offering

Rev. Wines

*You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.
You may text to give at 84321 or go to the Online Worship page of our website
and click "Make your online offering."*

Reflection

Seeking: Where Are you Headed?

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

THE STORY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Prayer

Loving God, as we hear your word today, draw us into the events of our Savior's passion. Let us see how the palms of honor and the shouts of praise get dried and twisted into cries for a crucifixion. Let us feel the pains of denial, the rocks of betrayal and the dark night of prayer. Let us feel the heavy weight of the cross and know Christ carried it for us. Holy God, place us in the story so we might see our weakness, but learn of your grace. Take us through the twists and turns on the road to Calvary and lead us to the glory of the empty tomb that lies beyond. Amen.

Scripture

The Passover with the Disciples
Matthew 26:17-25

Scripture

The Betrayal, Trial and Crucifixion
Matthew 26:30-27:56

Anthem

Eternal
Chancel Ringers

Jason Krug

Scripture

The Burial of Jesus
Matthew 27:57-66

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam,
Rev. Wines

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Wines

We believe in a God who walks headfirst into the world's suffering,
who lights a candle in the darkest night,
who pulls back the curtain so we can see the stars.

We believe in a God who does not shy away from the truth,
who is bold in seeking justice,
and humble in taking power.

We believe in a God who sees our hurt and wraps love around it,
cocooning us in hope,
tethering us to one another.

We believe in a God who is always carrying us
from the pain of the world
into the hope of a new day.

That is where God is headed.

That is where we follow.

May it be so.

Amen.

Hymn

Lead Me to the Cross

Benediction

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

"Lead Me to the Cross" words and music by Brooke Ligertwood

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