



# Immanuel Presbyterian Church

Online Worship Service

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

*Discovering and displaying Christ  
in here and out there*

# Celebration of the Lord's Day

## Gathering

### WELCOME AND PRAYER

#### PRELUDE

*Wild Geese*

Mary Oliver

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 118*

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter, and give thanks to the Lord.

All: **We will give You thanks, for You have answered us; You have become our salvation.**

One: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

All: **This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

#### HYMN

*Hosanna Loud Hosanna*

ELLACOMBE

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and then later pronounced "crucify him," we are often fair-weather disciples who deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Remembering the events of Jesus' last week helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinner-saints in need of a Savior. In honesty and hope, let us now confess our sins to our forgiving God.

#### RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God of the foolish cross, riding down the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey,

All: **You are not the savior we expect.**

One: Your power doesn't look like the power we want our God to demonstrate.

All: **Your wisdom makes no sense to us.**

One: We are happy to join the crowd, waving branches,

All: **But not so sure we want to follow you**

One: into the temple courts

All: **into the upper room**

One: into the Garden of Gethsemane

All: **to the foot of the cross.**

One: Forgive our false assumptions.

All: **Clarify our clouded vision.**

One: Let us relax into the foolishness of your love, your grace.

All: **Hosanna, hosanna.**

One: Save us, we beseech you!

SONG

*Hosanna*

## Hearing

INTERLUDE

*Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

*Matthew 21:1-11* NRSV

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup> "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."

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> 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!" <sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

One: The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God endures forever.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON SERIES

*The Passion of Lent*

SERMON

*The Gospel According to Donkeys*

Rev. John C. Tittle

## Responding

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Philippians 2*

All: Take to heart among yourselves what you find in Christ Jesus: He was in the form of God; yet he laid no claim to equality with God, but made himself nothing, assuming the form of a slave. Bearing the human likeness, sharing the human lot, he humbled himself, and was obedient, even to the point of death, death on a cross! Therefore God raised him to the heights and bestowed on him the name above all names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow—in heaven, on earth, and in the depths—and every tongue acclaim, "Jesus Christ is Lord," to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

One: Christ, by your passion,

All: protect us.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

HYMN

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

(Sung by our congregation and choir with string orchestra at the Music & the Word service "Glimpses," April 2019.)

## Sending

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Song of Hope*

Argentine folk melody

### Participants:

Abby Tittle, Online Worship Service Producer  
Dr. Walter W. Schurr, Director of Music  
Will Price, Alternative Worship Service Music Leader  
Kris Goorsky, Lay Reader

### Acknowledgments:

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Bulletin Art: "*Entry of Christ into Jerusalem*," fresco transferred to canvas from the Hermitage of San Baudelio de Berlanga (Soria), Indianapolis Museum of Art.



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