



# Immanuel Presbyterian Church

Online Worship Service

*Palm Sunday*

March 28, 2021

*Discovering and displaying Christ  
in here and out there*

# Celebration of the Lord's Day

## Gathering

### WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

#### INTROIT

*Journey with Us for a Week*

Schurr

#### 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

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

One: The confession of our evil deeds is the beginning of our good deeds. 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. 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 (Praise is Rising)*

Baloché and Brown

## Hearing

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

*Mark 11: 1-10* NRSV

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## 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.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Refrain*

One: Hosanna! Messiah!

**All:** our strength and our Redeemer

### 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.

### SONG

*Via Dolorosa*

Borop and Sprague

## Sending

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## ***The Poet Thinks About the Donkey***

*By Mary Oliver from her book of poetry, Thirst*

*On the outskirts of Jerusalem the donkey waited.  
Not especially brave, or filled with understanding, he stood and waited.*

*How horses, turned out into the meadow, leap with delight!  
How doves, released from their cages, clatter away, splashed with sunlight.*

*But the donkey, tied to a tree as usual, waited.  
Then he let himself be led away. Then he let the stranger mount.*

*Never had he seen such crowds!  
And I wonder if he at all imagined what was to happen.  
Still, he was what he had always been: small, dark, obedient.*

*I hope, finally, he felt brave. I hope, finally,  
he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him,  
as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped, as he had to, forward.*

### Participants:

Rev. Dr. John Tittle, Pastor  
Dr. Walter W. Schurr, Director of Music  
Will Price, Alternative Worship Service Music Leader  
Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation  
Abby Tittle, Online Worship Service Producer  
The Sanctuary Choir of Immanuel Church  
Bob and Carol Van Gelder, vocalists

### Acknowledgments:

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### Bulletin Art:

*"Entry into Jerusalem"* by Jyoti Sahi, 2012



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