



Sunday, March 28, 2021

~ Palm Sunday ~

Virtual Service

Worship Team: Rev. Pirie Mitchell, Dan Leaver, Lauren Wren & Cindy Milne-Wren, Debbie Jarvis, Linda Olson

Music Team: Karen Schuessler, Sheila LeClair (Hymn Leader) Senior Choir (previously recorded virtual video)

VU = Voices United hymnal MV = More Voices hymnal
Please sing along at home; we have provided the lyrics!

Prelude: Cortège (Denis Bédard)	Karen Schuessler
Welcome and Life & Work of the Church	Rev. Pirie Mitchell
Call to Worship	Dan Leaver
Opening Prayer (in unison)	Rev Pirie Mitchell

O God of us all, we come to you to worship you and your child called Jesus, remembering his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. The crowds were ecstatic! They cheered and threw down palm branches and cloaks to pave the way for him. Many didn't know his name. Many wondered who he was. Many were simply caught up in the moment.

The underground rural telegraph in those days, sent out conflicting messages about his identity: your child or just a trouble maker. He entered the city that day. He was welcomed by, and watched by many, who worried he would make trouble. A week is a long time to wait. Today we wait to see!

Be with us we pray in our prayers and our hope and our waiting.

Lighting of the Christ Candle	Rev. Pirie Mitchell
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Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: All Glory, Laud and Honour

VU 122 verses 1, 2, & 4

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

1. You are the King of Israel,
and David's royal son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and blessed one. **R**

2. The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. **R**

4. Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious king. **R**

Learning with Children

Dan Leaver

Lord's Prayer (in unison) (VU page 921)

Lauren Wren and Cindy Milne-Wren

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Readings

Scripture reading: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Debbie Jarvis

Secular reading: The Ass by Ethel Gillespie

Linda Olson

Scripture reading: Mark 11: 1-11

Linda Olson

Special Music:

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies (Keith Bissell)

Senior Choir 2015 YouTube Video

Message: Joy, palm and cloaks!

Re. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: Ride On, Ride On, the Time is Right

VU 126 verses 1, 2, & 5

1. Ride on, ride on, the time is right:
The roadside crowds scream with delight;
Palm branches mark the pilgrim way
Where beggars squat and children play.

2. Ride on, ride on, your critics wait,
Intrigue and rumor circulate;
New lies abound in word and jest,
And truth becomes a suspect guest.

5. Ride on, ride on, God's love demands.
Justice and peace lie in your hands.
Evil and angel voices rhyme:
You are the man and this the time.

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

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O God, the giving by the Jerusalem crowd on that first Palm Sunday was astounding. The folks in the Holy City had waited a long time for the appearance of the Messiah. They parted with their cloaks and blankets to make Jesus' way comfortable and clean. They were gifts given on a promise and on hope. Please accept our gifts as a rewarded promise, knowing the life Jesus gave for us. Amen

Prayers of the People

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

O God, we experience again the coming of Jesus as he made his triumphal entry into the Royal City. He rode a humble donkey. People cheered as many thought he was the long-awaited and, by then, the out-dated Messiah. It proved to be true. He was the Messiah but not in the way people traditionally thought. The Romans were not beaten back and punished as many hoped and tradition held. What Jesus brought was a new way to live where 'me first' now came after 'you first'. Help us to make this transition into Jesus' new kingdom.

Help us see you in today's world and not depend on the world of yesteryear. On this Palm Sunday, we are reminded that we do not need to run with the crowd, or the most popular idea, or those who nurture their greed and status. We can meaningfully think about our faith and our relationship with you. We can discover you in the most unusual places just as in your child riding on a donkey. For generations humankind has been constrained but well-meaning people, who define you according to their narrow conception of you. Jesus has liberated us to find a relationship with you through him. We do not need to run with the pack. Jesus liberated us that first Palm Sunday to see you as we do through the eyes and actions of others who love you as we do. Our own eyes have been opened today.

We encounter you in the face of the homeless woman struggling to survive. We can see you in the body of a disabled man who needs to depend on mobile assistance to live his life. We encounter you in the other skin colours and colourful religious faiths all around us. O God, we walk a journey sometimes fraught with difficulty. In this spring time of the year, let us see you in the flocks of returning geese, the buds on the lilac bush behind the garage and the snowdrops peeking up through the lingering snow, or the laughter of a child too young to speak.

Help our faith grow in the new year we are about to welcome on Easter Sunday. Help us grow in faith. Help us get along with the person we do not like. Give us the

strength to grow in faith and understand the Jesus of yesterday in today's world. In his name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: Hosanna, Loud, Hosanna

VU 123 verses 1 & 3

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna
the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang;
to Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.

3. 'Hosanna in the highest!'
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer;
earth, let your anthems ring.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his humble presence
eternally rejoice!

Commissioning & Benediction

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

We can emulate Jesus even though we don't have a donkey or great crowds cheering us on. Let us now ride out into the world and make a difference.

Response (in unison)

VU 298

**When you walk from here,
when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care.**

Postlude: Alla Marcia (Denis Bédard)

Karen Schuessler

WK Coffee Time: Stay tuned to find out who Glen or Jane speaks with this week!

