

April 5, 2020 ~ Palm Sunday

Welcome: Endings, Beginnings, Chaos ~ The Rev. Paul V. Stunkel

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship (Psalm 24) ~ *responsive*

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

**Men: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.**

**Women: They will receive blessing from the Lord,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.**

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory?

All: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Leader: Who is the King of glory?

All: (loudly) The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

AN ENDING

Matthew 21:6-11 ~ in dialogue, as translated in The Complete Gospels
by Robert E. Miller

When prompted, please respond:

“Hosanna” to the son of David!

“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna” in the highest.

**you are invited to stand as you are able*

***Hymn #197** ~ “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Reflection on the endings of Jesus’ Ministry

Special Music ~ “I Choose Love” (M.A. Miller)

Prayer ~ *in unison*

Merciful God,

as we enter Holy Week and gather at your house of prayer,

turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,

to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ,

that united with Christ and all the faithful

we may one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands,

the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens,

where with you and the Holy Spirit,

Christ lives in glory forever. Amen.

THE CHAOS

Response #455 ~ *“Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken”*

Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that began creation, listen even if you don't understand. (repeat)

Matthew 27:11-14 ~ in dialogue

Hymn #209 ~ *“My Song Is Love Unknown”* ~ verses 1 and 3

Matthew 27:15-18 ~ in dialogue

Hymn #209 ~ *“My Song Is Love Unknown”* ~ verses 4 and 5

Matthew 27:19-24 ~ in dialogue

Art work by Christie Piastowski

Reflection on the chaos of human choice: choosing to wash hands.

***Hymn #224** ~ *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

We gather together in the Hint of New Creation

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Reflection

Prayers/Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison*

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.

**Seeing the dawning love coming to us in Bread and Cup
at home and at church.**

As we share, please sing ~ *“Come to the Table of Grace”*

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

*Come to the table of hope. Come to the table of hope.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.
Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.*

***Benediction**

Postlude

CCLI#2342595 CVLI #502166520

2020 Easter Tulip Donations Update

St. Paul's Board of Deacons has a tradition of accepting \$10 donations for tulips to decorate the sanctuary for the Easter service. This year, the Corona virus emergency has made it impossible to do that, as the service will only be live streamed. However, the Board of Deacons has decided to accept donations to the Deacons' Food Pantry. Donations may be made in honor of, or in memory of someone or something. A list of donors with their dedications will be posted in the bulletin on the website on Easter Sunday.

The Board hopes that being a blessing to others, will also be a blessing to you.

Please send donations to reach the church office no later than Wednesday, April 8

Please include the following:

Check made payable to the Board of Deacons

Presented by _____

Phone or email _____

In memory of _____ OR

In honor of _____ OR

As a gift to St. Paul's

The Annual One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is traditionally collected on Palm Sunday. OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to build God's household and welcome our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. A designated envelope was provided with your monthly offering envelopes.

197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

224 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This carefully crafted text from the beginning of the 18th century conveys much the same intensity and vividness as a miniature painting of Christ's crucifixion, and this lyrical and dignified tune reinforces the sense that time stands still while we share such meditation.

My Song Is Love Unknown 209

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from heav - en's throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way, and his sweet prais - es
 4 Un - heed - ing, we will have our dear Lord made a -
 5 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
 stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior
 sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to
 vine: nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like

be. O who am I that for my sake my
 know. But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and
 slay. Yet stead - fast he to suf - fering goes, that
 thine. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I

Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 at my need his life did spend!
 for his death we thirst and cry.
 he his foes from thence might free.
 all my days could glad - ly spend.

The opening line here could equally well have been a courtier's lament for a secret affair, but it soon becomes a path into a vivid and poignant reflection on Christ's Passion. This 17th-century text is beautifully embraced by its sensitive and lyrical 20th-century tune.