



*"Entry of Christ into Jerusalem" Morgner, Wilhelm, 1891-1917.*

# **Christ Church** UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dan Stark, Pastor  
Organist and Pianist, Matt Lawrenz  
Nancy Charles, Song Leader

[www.uccmke.org](http://www.uccmke.org)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/christchurchucc](https://www.facebook.com/groups/christchurchucc)

March 28th, 2021

This weekend we begin our inevitable march towards the cross and the holiest of weeks in the Christian tradition. This service is centered on Jesus' "triumphant" entrance into Jerusalem. However, the "hosannas" of the crowd quickly turn to cries of "crucify him!" Again and again, we find ourselves at the crossroads of Jerusalem and Golgotha. May God give us the courage to hear this story and carry it with us through Holy Week. Again and again, we draw on courage...

*\*Please recite the PURPLE words aloud.*

**Prelude**

*Solemn Melody*

Davies arr. West

**Words of Welcome**

**Opening Song**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**Refrain: All glory, laud and honor to your, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

1. All glory, laud and honor to your, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. You are the King of Israel,  
and David's royal Song, now in the lord's name coming,  
our King and blessed One!

2. All glory, laud and honor to your, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise:

3. All glory, laud and honor to your, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
for you delight in goodness, O good and gracious King!

**Call to Worship**

One: The story of faith is a story of courage.

**All: It took courage for John the Baptist to prepare the way.**

One: It took courage for Mary to say, "Here I am. Use me."

**All: It took courage for the disciples to drop their nets and follow Jesus.**

One: It took courage for the paralyzed man's friends to lower him through the roof.

**All: It took courage for Peter to walk on water.**

One: It took courage for Zacchaeus to give half of his possessions to the poor.

**All: It took courage for Jesus to enter Jerusalem on a donkey.**

One: Faith has never been easy. It is a journey of courage.

**All: Again and again, God, show us the way.**

One: Let us worship a brave and courageous God.

## Opening Prayer

One: Come O Holy One. Fill in these stories with your wisdom with your love with your change so that we might rely on your answers. Here and now. Amen.

## A Liturgy of Silence and Story

## UCC Worship Ways

### Special Music

"Jesus Came In Triumph Riding"

by Lloyd Larson

duet by Nancy Charles and Pam Kothrade

## The Palm Parade

Mark 11:1-11

They were looking for answers. So, they went to Jerusalem. They gathered in the streets to make a way for peace. On the other side of the city, there was another procession. Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, rode into Jerusalem with an army of horses, armored soldiers and waving banners.

On the other side of the city, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus had sent two of his disciples to go into the village and find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. He instructed them, "If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They replied with the answer Jesus had given. "The Lord needs it," they said.

Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and Jesus sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who needed answers, those who had come looking for peace, began shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

*Come. Join in the parade, you who need answers, you who came looking for peace.*

## The Anointing

Mark 14:1-9

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

They were looking for their own answers. They thought they knew how the world worked. While they worried, Jesus sat at the table in the house of Simon the leper. A woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. She did not reply. She continued with her task. She did what she could; she anointed his body beforehand for its burial.

Jesus spoke, where she did not. "Truly I tell you," he said. "Wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

*Come. Kneel beside her. Do not speak but remember what your hands have done to proclaim the good news.*

### **The Last Supper**

Mark 14:10-25

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

They didn't understand his way. They didn't understand all that he taught but when it came time to share in the Passover feast, they turned to Jesus. On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." The disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, those looking for answers, those who came looking for peace, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man, the Human One, goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Human One is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

*Come. Find your place at this table, you who need answers, you who came looking for peace.*

### **Song of Response**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus Name*

**1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!**

2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all; hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

3. Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all; to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

4. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall! We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

### Call to Confession

One: Glennon Doyle, a famous author and writer, frequently uses the phrase, *"We can do hard things."*

It's one of her many mottos in life.

As a result, this declaration, *"We can do hard things,"*

Has become an anthem for so many.

You can buy these words on poster prints, on greeting cards, and even on coffee mugs.

These five simple words aren't particularly radical,

So when I stop to think about why they have caught hold for so many,

I can only assume that it is because life and faith require courage.

Vulnerability requires courage.

Relationships require courage.

Advocacy and justice require courage.

Facing our privilege requires courage.

Faith requires courage.

Even confession requires courage.

So friends, let us do hard things.

Let us confess together, trusting that God is always there,

Cheering us on, in every courageous act.

Let us pray. . .

### Prayer of Confession

One: God of palm branches and hallelujahs:

**All: We confess – we love a good Palm Sunday celebration.**

**We love the sound of a joyful parade.**

**We love shouting, "hallelujah!"**

**We love that Palm Sunday means Easter is just around the corner.**

**We love good news.**

**However, if we slow down and pay attention,**

**We know that Palm Sunday was not a walk in the park for you.**

**There was risk. There was fear. There was the threat of violence.**

You were leading a peaceful protest against an unjust empire,  
And the whole world knew it.  
Forgive us for glossing over the courage this day took.  
Remind us that the story of faith is a story of courage,  
And even we can do hard things.  
With hope we pray. Amen.

### Words of Forgiveness

One: Family of faith,  
Even when we gloss over the truth,  
Even when our courage fails us,  
Even when we doubt that we can do hard things,  
God believes in us. God loves us. God forgives us.  
Hear and believe this truth:

**All: We are known.**

**We are loved.**

**We are forgiven.**

**Again and again and again. Amen.**

### The Garden            Mark 14:32-40

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, Jesus threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." He came and found them sleeping; and Jesus said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. They had no answers.

*Come. Rest in the garden, you who are weary, you who don't have any answers.*

### Prayers of the People

*Hear Our Prayers, O God...*

**For health & healing:** *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Ps. 147:3*

We pray for:

~For peace and comfort for Leigh and her family, sister of Doris Mayeshiba as her husband Tom passed away this past Sunday and the funeral will be Friday.

~Betty Budzien who took a spill and will be at Froedtert hospital for some time for rehab and to heal. Thankfully, she is now out of the ICU and in room #2NT9.

~Ken and Susie K. as he navigates prostate cancer.

~Robert Kroening as he finished his last round of treatment and prays for good news at his upcoming doctors appointment.

~Kim, friend of Mary Ann Mowery who has again been hospitalized for multiple health issues.

~Rick, Uncle of Laura Pethke who recently had a "routine" heart procedure done Monday that did not go well and is now in critical condition. Prayers for the whole family.

~Prayers for strength, understanding and healing for Jack and his family as the bone marrow transplant has been postponed. He will go through another round of induction chemo. Dick and Joan Gaeth

~ Kim O as she receives chemotherapy treatments.

~Ian, husband of Molly as he receives treatments of chemotherapy every 2 weeks for 2 months for stage 2 Hodgkins lymphoma. Prayers also for Molly and their daughters during this difficult process. They are encouraged as this type of cancer has a 90% + success rate and that overall Ian's side effects are mild.

~Continued prayers Bob, cousin of Barb W, who has COVID. He is no longer sedated and finally is off the ventilator. He has a tremendous amount of healing and therapy ahead.

~Melissa F as she suffered a miscarriage at the end of last year and is greatly struggling with the loss. She is asking for prayers of peace and comfort, as she is dealing with feelings of depression.

~Judy, niece of Ken K as she is on chemo for breast cancer.

~Ken's sister who was moved to a nursing home and has a serious chronic infection and dementia.

~Susie K's Aunt Evelyn who is in hospice and Aunt Eleanore who had a stroke and is in home hospice, also for her daughters and granddaughters who are taking care of her.

~Dan, friend of Molly as he and his young family navigate his illness.

~Johnny, friend of the Ken and Sue who has COVID and other health problems.

~Bob K as he receives chemo drug treatments.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie S as they navigate Joe's medical issues.

~Nick, nephew of Nancy & Brad who has started using heroin again. Prayers for the whole family.

~Dawn & Brad D, daughter in-law and son of Laurel as she manages diabetes and dialysis 4 times per week and Brad heals.

~Tracy, daughter of Nancy K, who is at home with Nancy awaiting liver. She no longer is in need of a Kidney transplant or dialysis. She looks good. Praise God!

~Continued prayers for Julene F's nephew, who is struggling with mental health issues.

~Kelley, friend of Nancy C as she receives radiation treatment for breast cancer.

~Bernee, friend of Nancy K who has end-stage lung cancer and is in a nursing home in hospice.

### **Prayer Song**

*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

**1. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, come and listen to me.**

**2. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.**

### **The Arrest**

Mark 14:53-65

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. There did not have one answer. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" The chief priests, the elders and the scribes knew their answer. They thought they knew the ways of God. They thought they knew all that God could do. There was nothing that could convince them otherwise. They spit on him and blindfolded him. They beat him for the words he said.

*Come. Listen to what God might be saying. Listen to what God might be doing that doesn't fit with everything that you have been taught about this world. Listen for God to speak.*

### **Silence**

### **Call to Offering**

One:

Please give as you are able. [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate)

### **Prayer of Dedication**

One: O Holy One,

**Bless these gifts**

**So that the world may know your love**

**Even when we are silent. Amen.**

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

## Closing Song

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang: to Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
2. From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.
3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King, O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!

## The Denial

Mark 14:66-72

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." He answered, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it.

Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

*Come. Join those who wander through courtyards, court rooms, streets and gardens.  
Join the crowds who have come looking for answers,  
looking for peace.*

## Postlude

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

Osterland

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Some Prayers and Liturgies by UCC Worship Ways

No Answer: Prayers for Palm-Passion Sunday was written by the Rev. Elsa A. Cook

Some prayers and liturgies by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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## **Happy Birthday to these wonderful people!**

Dean Mowery March 30

Michael Miksic April 1

David Porn April 1

Selena Mayeshiba April 2

## **Announcements**

### **Easter Gift Packet**

The Worship Committee would like to give you an Easter gift packet for those people who would want one.

The gift packet will contain the communion juice and wafer and a little gift. If you would like to receive your gift packet you can come to church during church office hours 8:00 am until 2:00 pm Tuesday thru Thursday starting March 16th.

Sunday, March 21st you can come between 10:00 am until 12:30 pm and pick up your packet also.

If you would like one of the packets delivered to you, please contact the church office, at 414-481-3530, no later than Maundy Thursday, April 1st.

Happy Easter to everyone.

### **Position Opportunity**

The Pastor/Parrish/Personnel Committee would like to thank Debbie Behling for her many years of service to Christ Church as Office Administrator and as church president, council member, committee member and friend. Debbie will be retiring in May. This leaves an enormous void to fill.

The Pastor/Parrish/Personnel Committee is actively seeking someone to fill the position of Church Secretary. If you know anyone who may be interested in this position; or if you have an interest, you may check out the job description and learn how to apply at the following link:

<https://www.jobsthathelp.com/job/christ-church-ucc-milwaukee-wi-church-office-secretary/>

If you have questions regarding the position, you may submit them to the committee via email at: [pprc@uccmke.org](mailto:pprc@uccmke.org) or contact a committee member. The committee members are Dean Kothrade, Randene Wick and Dick Gaeth. Submitted by Dick Gaeth

### **DI SOS donations needed**

Please help by donating the following for our Friday night meal distribution:

\*Prewrapped plastic knife, fork and napkin (please tie or tape shut)

\*Fruit Breakfast/granola Bars (any flavors)

## **Volunteers Needed**

Friday night volunteers for SOS DI meal distribution at Christ Church.

It would be helpful if we could get 2 more sets of Building Reps so that volunteers will repeat about every 6-8 weeks. Just 1.5 hours on a Friday evening starting at 4:45pm. Please contact Jim Wick for information and/or to sign up. Thanks.

## **BVCC Food Pantry Donation Requests**

This week's most urgent needs are:

**\*Pastas & Sauces, Canned Vegetables, Individually packaged chips, cookies, fruit, granola bars etc., Toilet paper, Dish soap, laundry detergent and/or monetary donations.**

As usual donations can be dropped off at the BVCC at 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave. Tuesdays-Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.

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If you should need to contact Pastor Stark, please email [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org).  
Christ Church UCC, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207.

We are currently worshipping online-only.

You can make your offering to Christ Church at [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate) or by mailing a check to Christ Church, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207

