

The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome and Introduction to Palm Sunday

Greeting and Opening Prayer

Leader: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Leader: Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gospel Reading | Mark 11.1-11

[1] Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples [2] and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. [3] If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately." [4] And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. [5] And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" [6] And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. [7] And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. [8] And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. [9] And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! [10] Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

[11] And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Procession

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Leader: It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest! **Leader:** Let us go forth in peace! **People:** In the name of Christ! Amen!

Processional Hymn | All Glory, Laud and Honor

Words by Theodulph of Orleans (820), music by Melchior Teschner (1615)

All glory, laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King, To whom the lips of children, made sweet hosannas ring. You are the King of Israel, and David's royal Son, Now in the Lord's name coming, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels, is praising you on high; And we with all creation, in chorus make reply. The people of the Hebrews, with palms before you went; Our praise and prayer and anthems, before you we present.

To you before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise; To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring, For you delight in goodness, O good and gracious King! Opening Prayer

Call To Worship

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest!

—based on Psalm 118.26

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

All Singing: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: The Name of the Lord be praised!

Hymn of Worship | What Wondrous Love is This

Appalachian Folk Hymn; Southern Harmony, 1835

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down; When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: Jesus, our Lord, we shout hosannas to praise you.

With eager hands, we place our cloaks and palms on the path before you. Yet, Lord, we confess that the mouths that seek to praise you often deny or defy you. And we confess that the hands that seek to serve you often become fists. Lord, hear us as we confess.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

In Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

People: Thanks be to God!

-based on Joel 2.13; 2 Corinthians 9.15

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Gospel Reading | Mark 15.1-39

- [1] And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. [2] And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." [3] And the chief priests accused him of many things. [4] And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." [5] But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.
- [6] Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. [7] And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. [8] And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. [9] And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" [10] For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. [11] But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. [12] And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" [13] And they cried out again, "Crucify him." [14] And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." [15] So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.
- [16] And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. [17] And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. [18] And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" [19] And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. [20] And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.
- [21] And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. [22] And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). [23] And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. [24] And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. [25] And it was the third hour when they crucified him. [26] And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." [27] And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. [29] And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, [30] save yourself, and come down from the cross!" [31] So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. [32] Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.
- [33] And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. [34] And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" [35] And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." [36] And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." [37] And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. [38] And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. [39] And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Hymn of Worship | Upon a Life I Have Not Lived

Words by Horatius Bonar (alt. K. Twit), music by Kevin Twit (2012)

Upon a Life I have not lived, Upon a Death I did not die, Another's Life; Another's Death, I stake my whole eternity.

Not on the tears which I have shed, Not on the sorrows I have known, Another's tears; Another's griefs, On these I rest, on these alone.

> O Jesus, Son of God, I build on What Thy cross has done for me; There both my life and death I read, My guilt, and pardon there I see, There I see.

Lord, I believe; O deal with me, As one who has Thy Word believed! I take the gift, Lord, look on me, As one who has Thy gift received.

Upon a Life I have not lived, Upon a Death I did not die, Another's Life; Another's Death, I stake my whole eternity.

Psalm | **Psalm 31.9-16**

Leader: Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; **People:** My eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.

Leader: For my life is spent with sorrow,

People: And my years with sighing;

Leader: My strength fails because of my iniquity,

People: And my bones waste away.

Leader: Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach,

People: Especially to my neighbors,

Leader: And an object of dread to my acquaintances; **People:** Those who see me in the street flee from me. **Leader:** I have been forgotten like one who is dead;

People: I have become like a broken vessel.

Leader: For I hear the whispering of many— terror on every side!— **People:** As they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

Leader: But I trust in you, O LORD; **People:** *I say, "You are my God."* **Leader:** My times are in your hand;

People: Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

Leader: Make your face shine on your servant;

People: Save me in your steadfast love!

Ministry of the Word | Come up to the Lord: The Sacrifice

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 24

- [1] Then he said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. [2] Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him."
- [3] Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." [4] And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. [5] And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. [6] And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. [7] Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." [8] And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."
- [9] Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, [10] and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. [11] And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.
- [12] The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." [13] So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. [14] And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."
- [15] Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. [16] The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. [17] Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. [18] Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

During his whole life on earth,
but especially at the end,
Christ sustained
in body and soul
the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race.
This he did in order that,
by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice,
he might set us free, body and soul,
from eternal condemnation,
and gain for us God's grace,
righteousness, and eternal life.

—Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A37

Prayers of the People, Concluded with the Lord's Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Holy Communion

(For those watching at home, I encourage you to take this time to watch and pray with us. Remember this all along: Jesus is not more present with us who are gathered than he is with you at home! The Lord's Supper is a sign and seal of his blessing to us, and a great gift, but it does not mean you are missing out on his presence or his blessing. We all participate by faith in Christ whether physically receiving the Supper or not.)

Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us. **People:** *Christ, have mercy upon us.* **Leader:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God! **People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

Leader: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

People: Holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the

Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: **People:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. **Leader:** Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Feast

Communion Hymn | Man of Sorrows

Words and music by Philip P. Bliss, 1875

Man of Sorrows! what a name for the Son of God, who came Ruined sinners to reclaim: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood, Sealed my pardon with his blood: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he;

Full atonement! can it be? Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished!" was his cry: Now in heav'n exalted high: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring, Then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Concluding Prayer

One More Hymn and the Offering | Lift Your Eyes Up

Words and music by Mona Reeves, Paul Zach, Brendan Jamieson, Orlando Palmer and Philip Zach (2018)

There is a power, stronger than evil, Wider than sorrow. There is a mountain, over the shadow, Where the sun is shining down.

> Lift your eyes up, children of Zion. Lift your eyes up, children of Zion. Hold on, hold on, your help comes from the Lord.

I went out walking, into the city.
I saw the ancient ruins.
The sound of singing, off in the distance,
Coming from the mountain of God.

Chorus

Men: Lift your eyes up, children of Zion

Women: My help comes from the Lord

Repeat 3X

Together: Don't you know that you're the children of Zion?

Chorus

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: May our Lord, whose arms were spread on the cross

to embrace the whole world.

help us this week to take up the cross and follow him.

People: Amen!

CCLI # 11299454

Announcements

Holy Week Events:

- Maundy Thursday Meals, April 1st. We will gather in our small groups for this preparatory meal, prayer, and fellowship. Contact Ben if you aren't in a small group but want to participate.
- Good Friday Service of Darkness, April 13th, 7:45 pm. This is a time of prayer and reflection upon the cross of Christ.
- Easter Service, April 4th, 10:30 am.
- Resurrection Celebration, April 4th, 5:00 pm, at the home of Don and Janet Wheeler, 15946 County Road 178. Bring a picnic and join us for a time of family fun and celebration.

Alpha:

Alpha meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at 2820 Oak Knob.

- Alpha begins with prayer. Please be in prayer about those who have been invited to Alpha, that people will respond favorably to the invitations, and that God will be at work in Alpha. Pray we will see the opportunities before us.
- If you want to be involved, we need people to bring food each week. A link to the sign up sheet is in the Redeemer Weekly email.
- If you plan to attend, or have a guest you have invited, please let Ben know! We want to have plenty of food available.

Small Group Meetings:

Small groups are an important part of our ministry at Redeemer. They offer opportunities to deepen relationships and to love, serve, and pray for one another and our city. If you are interested in joining a group, please email Ben Wheeler: ben@redeemertyler.com.

Monthly Youth Meeting:

All junior high and high school students are invited to join us on the third Sunday of the month for a time of fellowship, dinner, and Bible Study.

Bible and Book Studies:

- Men's study meets over breakfast, 7:00 am on Fridays. They are studying the gospel of Luke. Contact Konrad Kern (714-658-4972).
- The women's group is studying the gospel of Matthew on Friday mornings. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

Prayer Suggestions:

Topic: needs of our city.

- Monday
 - That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in our schools.
- <u>Tuesday</u>
 - That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in city, state, and local government, and justice systems.
- Wednesday
 - That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in local law enforcement, emergency response personnel, and hospitals.
- Thursday

That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically amongst our immigrant, economically disadvantaged, and minority populations. (See Deuteronomy 10.17-19.)

• <u>Friday</u>

That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically for a unity within our churches and between our churches in the cause of Christ.

• <u>Saturday</u>

That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically that the gospel would be proclaimed throughout our city's churches.