

PALM SUNDAY | *Christians celebrate Palm Sunday to commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna!" and to palm branches laid out before his path. This Sunday, also known as Passion Sunday, starts the week in which Jesus was arrested, tried, crucified, and raised from the dead. For Christians, this week begins and ends in triumph because of what Christ accomplished by his suffering, his death, and his resurrection.*

prelude

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

preparing our hearts

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

— Revelation 7:9-10 ESV

children's choir

May the Peoples Praise you

** call to worship

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

All: Behold, your king has come to you; righteous and having salvation is he,

Leader: [H]umble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

All: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Leader: Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

All: Hosanna in the highest!

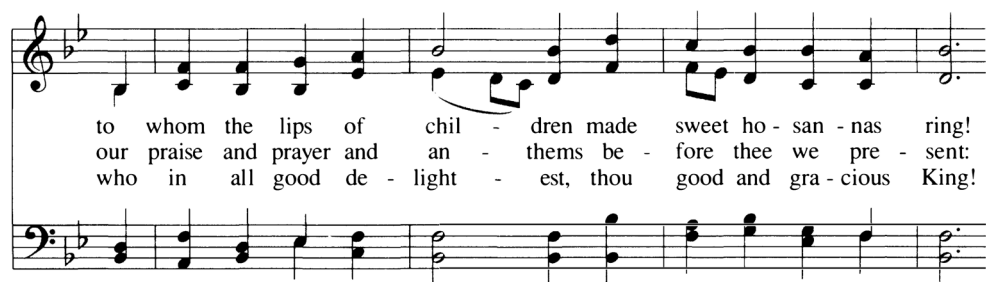
— From Zechariah 9:9, Mark 11:9b-10 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

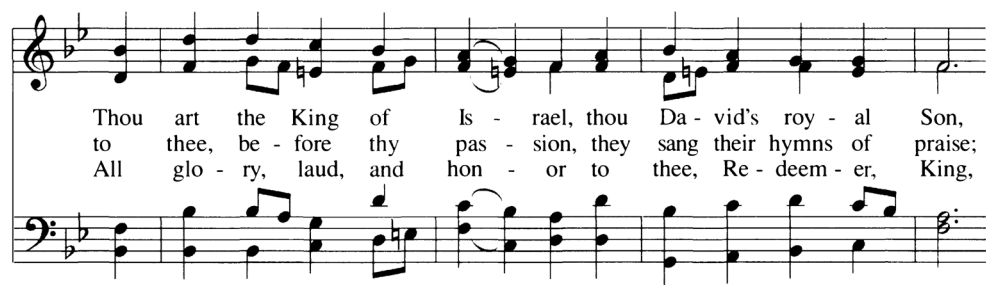
ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR



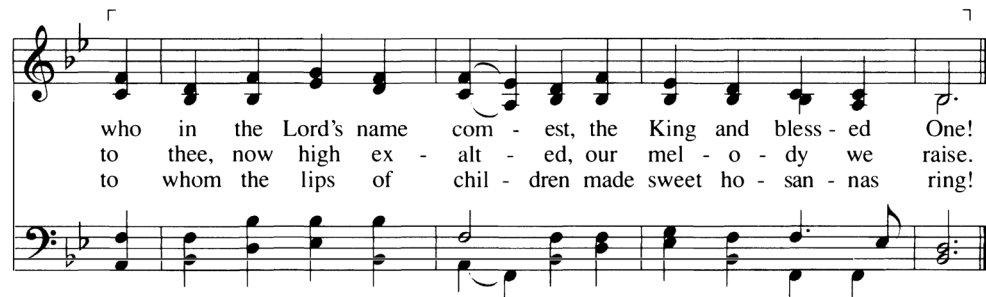
1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,
 2. The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent:
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!



Thou art the King of Is - rael, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 to thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,



who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One!
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Words: Theodulph of Orlanes, tr. by J. M. Neale; Music: ST. THEODULPH, Melchior Teschner. Public Domain.

****prayer of invocation**

Leader: Almighty and ever-living God, in your tender love, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our nature and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility. Today, as we worship together in special remembrance of your Son's determined entrance into Jerusalem on the path to his sacrificial death, grant us all ears to hear and believe your powerful Word of life. Grant us eyes to see and understand the example Christ has set before us. May we be found in him, having the righteousness which comes through faith in him; may we know him and the power of his resurrection; and may we share in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that we may attain the resurrection from the dead. We ask all in Jesus' exalted name, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

— Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer* and Philippians 3

**** affirmation of faith**

Leader: The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree.
All: God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

Leader: And there is salvation in no one else,
All: [F]or there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

— Acts 5:30-31; 4:12 ESV

THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen could ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair bowed down with care, God gave his Son to win;
His erring child he reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky. *

** Chorus:*

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure, the saints' and angels' song.

When age-old time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race — the saints' and angels' song. *

Words & Music: Frederick Martin Lehman, Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai. Public Domain.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Put to death therefore what is earthly in you. On account of these things the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away.

— Adapted from Colossians 3:5–8^{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **O Lord, forgive us for our failure to keep your commandments.**
We confess that we often try to make ourselves look good on the outside,
But do nothing about the sin that dwells within us.
Outside we try to look righteous and upright,
But inside we are filled with anger, lust, greed, lies, and idolatry.
We cling to our good deeds to prove our righteousness,
While ignoring your call to purity, mercy, and love.
Have mercy, O Lord. Create in us clean hearts, renew our minds,
And restore to us the joy of your salvation. Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power over us, and Christ intercedes for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

— Based on Romans 8:34, 2 Corinthians 5:17^{ESV}

All: **Thanks be to God!**

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Newton, last verse unknown; Music: AMAZING GRACE, American folk tune. Public Domain.

Leader: Isaiah 53:1-6
This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

prayer

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.**

**** passing the peace**

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

An elder will lead the passing of the peace. Greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

Sermon | “The Palm, the Fig Tree, and the Cross”

April 13, 2025

Matthew 21:1-19 ^{ESV} | 1 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

5 “Say to the daughter of Zion,
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” 10 And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” 11 And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. 13 He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. 15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, 16 and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

“‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise’?”

17 And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

18 In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. 19 And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once.

**** gospel charge**

Leader: Saints of the Lord, in view of what we have heard from His Word, how ought we conduct ourselves?

All: Let us lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

– Hebrews 12:1-2_{ESV}

WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.

NOTE TO PARENTS: *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

— From 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Lord and heavenly Father, when we celebrate and observe this memorial your Son has commended to us, we consider his sacrificial suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and ascension; and we await his return in power and with glory. God of Mercy, through your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these symbols of broken bread and a poured out cup. Grant that all who participate in this table may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Holy Name. Amen.

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.

Minister: Take these symbols of Christ’s sacrifice in remembrance and proclamation that he died for you, and partake of them in faith and thankfulness.

As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.

ABIDE WITH ME

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

I need thy presence, every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight; tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting, Death? Where, Grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

“Abide with Me,” Words: Henry Lyte; Music: Justin Smith.

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The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of his kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so we give freely in return; not in any way to add to Christ's supremely adequate atonement for us, but in joyful response to this work and in thanksgiving for such unmerited grace.

HOSANNA (PRAISE IS RISING)

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you, we turn to you
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you, we long for you
'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day
In your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away *

** Chorus:*

Hosanna, hosanna

You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises

Hosanna, hosanna

Come have your way among us.

We welcome you here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to you, we turn to you
In your Kingdom broken lives are made new, you make us new
'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day
In your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away *

"Hosanna (Praise is Rising)," Words and Music: Brenton Brown, Paul Baloché.
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announcements

**** benediction**

**** doxology**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all

crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Words: Thomas Ken; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH. Public Domain.

for first-time visitors

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out the welcome pad when it comes to you.

APRIL 6 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS

Praise the Lord for great participation and for an overwhelming 99% positive vote to call Reverend Dean Williams to be our Senior Pastor last Sunday! Please be in prayer for the next step in the process which will be Dean's examination by the South Texas Presbytery at the end of April.



PRAYER MEETING | TUESDAY

Please join us for the monthly prayer meeting **Tuesday, April 15, 12p** in the conference room. **Email Larry Lorimor** (prayer@cpcgeorgetown.org) for prayer requests. Scan the QR to join the Zoom meeting. All are welcome to join.

important nursery announcement

Parents of babies and toddlers who are in nursery – As our numbers, thankfully, continue to grow, it is so important that we maintain a safe, efficient, and purposeful environment for our children. In order to help us do this well, we are asking that the only adults in the room during the Sunday school and worship hour be the nursery workers and nursery volunteers. This will help us focus our needed attention on the little ones we are serving. Thank you for understanding as we seek to disciple our youngest children and keep them safe! If you have any questions or concerns, **please reach out to Korina** (kids@cpcgeorgetown.org).

good friday service | april 18

Please plan to join us **Friday, April 18, 530p**, for a Good Friday service taking a few moments to reflect on Christ's sacrifice for us through contemplative worship, prayer, readings in the Passion narrative, and celebrating his Supper together.