



Service of Worship April 13, 2025 9:30am

Palm Sunday

### Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

"Prepare the Way"

Darrell Evans & Eric Nuzum

All

**He has come to bring light into the darkness**

**He has come to bring freedom to the captives**

**He has come to restore the broken-hearted**

**It's time to proclaim the year of the Lord**

**Prepare the way (prepare the way) ~ Prepare the way for our Redeemer**

**Prepare the way (prepare the way) ~ Prepare the way for our Restorer**

**Make ready your heart, make ready your home**

**Make ready the people of God. ~ Prepare the way**

**He has come to bring hope to the hopeless**

**He has come to comfort all who mourn**

**He has come to heal our every sickness**

**It's time to proclaim the year of the Lord**

**Prepare the way (prepare the way) ~ Prepare the way for our Redeemer**

**Prepare the way (prepare the way) ~ Prepare the way for our Restorer**

**Make ready your heart, make ready your home**

**Make ready the people of God. ~ Prepare the way**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

SONG TO PRAISE

“Big, Big, God”

Julie I. Myers

Joy! Singers

Emily Hussey and Hilary Schmidt, directors

Choir: Drake Cabe, Rowan Cabe, Gilbert Dixon, Brody Frye, Henry Frye, Wyatt Schendel,  
Abigail Schmidt, Bristol Sellers, Quinn Tamke, and Zoey Wetzig

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

**ALL: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

ONE: Jesus enters Jerusalem, humble and riding on a colt.

**ALL: The crowds spread their cloaks and shout with joy!**

ONE: Some tried to silence the voices of praise,

**ALL: But even the stones would cry out!**

ONE: Let us join the joyful procession!

**ALL: Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!**

ONE: Come, let us worship the Lord!

**ALL: Hosanna in the highest!**

\*PROCESSIONAL SONG

“Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)”

Baloche & Brown

Praise Team/All

**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.**

**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, 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.**

**'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;  
In your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away.**

**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. Hosanna – Hosanna!**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**"Blessed Is He"**

**Dennis and Nan Allen**

**Celebration Choir**

**Pam Kelly, conductor; Angela Krug, accompanist**

**Katie Hearn and Keith Langabee, assistants**

**Chimes: Eloise Dixon, Brynnley Krug, James Schmidt, Lucas Wright, Sarah Wright**

**Choir: Eloise Armbrecht, Abel Frye, Kamden Frye, Charlotte Hearn, Mallory Hearn, Aiden Hussey,  
Liam Hussey, Nolan Tamke, Elie Schmidt, Magnolia Sellers, Max Soule, Grant Stromberg**

*(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children, and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Emily Nelson Dixon**

**We come with palms to celebrate a parade. We come with excitement in following Jesus. We come with palms to protest. Remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past and help us be bold in the face of injustice. We come with palms that remind us of the rocky road ahead that we may be encouraged in grief and in pain. We cry out Hosanna and we remember that we are imperfect and so we confess our sins to you.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**On this Sunday, O God, we remember how quickly we change. How fickle we are, how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next. We go from shouting "Hosanna! Save Us!" to "Crucify Him."**

**We declare that we love our neighbors and then we turn our backs on the homeless and hungry in our communities. We speak up for change and justice in one breath, and then continue unjust practices in daily lives by what we consume and the needs we ignore.**

**Forgive us, O God, for we are half-hearted believers. Forgive us, O God, for we are partial justice warriors. Forgive us, O God, for we tire easily and we forget,**

**and we grow weary. Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into Your vision of new life. In the name of Christ, who lived into the fullness of humanity, and whom we follow. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:

Let those who fear the Lord say, His steadfast love endures for ever.  
Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.  
The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.  
I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.  
In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

## **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**ONE:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL:** **And also with you and all others!**

**\*SONG OF PEACE**

**"Blessed Be Your Name"**

**Matt Redman**

**All**

**Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful**

**Where Your streams of abundance flow**

**Blessed be your name**

**Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place**

**Though I walk through the wilderness**

**Blessed be your name**

**Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise**

**When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be your glorious name**

**Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me**

**When the world's 'all as it should be'**

**Blessed be Your name**

**Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering**

**Though there's pain in the offering**

**Blessed be your name**

**Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be your glorious name**

**You give and take away ~ You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say ~ Lord, blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be your glorious name**

## Equipping

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 31:9–16 (NRSVue)

Meredith Watson

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;  
my eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.  
For my life is spent with sorrow  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.  
I am the scorn of all my adversaries,  
a horror to my neighbors,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me.  
I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;  
I have become like a broken vessel.  
For I hear the whispering of many—  
terror all around!—  
as they scheme together against me,  
as they plot to take my life.  
But I trust in you, O Lord;  
I say, “You are my God.”  
My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.  
Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.

### SONG TO REFLECT

“Jesus Does”

We the Kingdom

Praise Team

*Who tells the Sun to rise every morning? Colors the sky with the shades of His glory?  
Wakes us with mercy and love? Jesus does.*

*Who holds the orphan, comforts the widow? Cries for injustice, feels every sorrow?  
Carries the pain of His children? Jesus does*

*So we sing praise to the Father who gave us the Son. Praise to the Spirit who's livin' in us  
When I was a sinner, He saved me from who I was  
'Cause that's what Jesus does*

*Who understands the heart of a sinner? Showers His grace over all our mistakes?  
Washes us clean with His blood? Jesus does.*

*Who sings a song of sweet forgiveness? Who stole the keys to hell and the grave?  
Who has the power to save? Jesus does.*

*So we sing praise to the Father who gave us the Son. Praise to the Spirit who's livin' in us  
When I was a sinner, He saved me from who I was  
'Cause that's what Jesus does.*

*Oh, what a friend, oh, what a Savior. He's always been good, He's always been faithful  
He came to my rescue when I needed Him most. He saved my soul  
So we sing praise to the Father who gave us the Son. Praise to the Spirit who's livin' in us  
When I was a sinner, He saved me from who I was  
'Cause that's what Jesus does.*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 23: 44-49 (NRSVue)

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words  
**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Surrender to God"

Karen Wright

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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,  
forever. Amen.**

## A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

### SONG FOR GIVING

#### “Beautiful, Scandalous Night”

Praise Team

Derald Augherty  
& Steve Hindalong

*Go on up to the mountain of mercy, to the crimson perpetual tide  
Kneel down on the shore, be thirsty no more  
Go under and be purified.*

*Follow Christ to the Holy mountain, sinner, sorry and wrecked by the fall  
Cleanse your heart and your soul in the fountain that flows  
For you and for me and for all.*

*At the wonderful tragic mysterious tree  
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me  
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white  
On that beautiful scandalous night.*

*On the hillside you will be delivered at the foot of the cross, justified.  
And your spirit restored by the river that pours  
From our blessed Savior’s side.*

*At the wonderful tragic mysterious tree  
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me  
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white  
On that beautiful scandalous night.*

## Sending

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*SONG TO SEND

#### “Beautiful, Scandalous Night” *continued*

Praise Team

*Go on up to the mountain of mercy  
To the crimson perpetual tide  
Kneel down on the shore  
Be thirsty no more  
Go under and be purified.*

*At the wonderful tragic mysterious tree  
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me  
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white  
On that beautiful scandalous night.*

*\*Stand in body or spirit*

## GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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