



Faith - Family - Fellowship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY - AGAPE

APRIL 13, 2025

10:10 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP	New Name Written Down in Glory	Praise Team & Congregation
SONG OF FAITH	All Hail the Power of Jesus Name	Praise Team & Congregation
GREETING & PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION		PR
PSALTER	Psalm 118:14-29	Jeff Karns
VIDEO		
WORDS OF WISDOM	Zechariah 9:9-10	Rochelle Conley
SONG OF HOPE	Do It Again	Praise Team (solo)
NEW DOXLOGY / BLESSING OF THE OFFERING		
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH / THE LORD'S PRAYER		Doug Hammond
WORD OF GOD	Mark 11:1-11	Alec Schumacher
VIDEO		
SPIRITUAL VITAMIN	THE CROSS Shout! Join the parade without hesitation, Amen!	
SONG OF LOVE	Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)	Praise Team & Congregation
GOING FORTH		

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Leader: Please join me in today's Prayer of Transformation.

People: Lord Jesus, I am your witness.
I receive your righteousness and release my sinfulness.
I receive your wholeness and release my brokenness.
I receive your fullness and release my emptiness.
I receive your peace and release my anxiety.
I receive your joy and release my despair.
I receive your healing and release my sickness.
I receive your love and release my selfishness.
I receive your readiness and release my resistance.

Leader: Lord, may we open up our hearts, minds, and souls to your presence in our lives. As living examples of a church that matters, allow us to be gracious in our love to all people in our words, our thoughts, and our deeds.

People: May we ever be reminded that we as your church will;
Glorify God, Commit to Christ, Teach the Truth, Fellowship through Faith,
and Love the Least, Lost and Lonely.

Leader & People:

Come Holy Spirit transform my heart, mind, soul, and strength so that my consecration becomes your demonstration; that our lives become your sanctuary.
For the glory of God our Father, amen.

PSALTER - PSALM 118:14-29

Leader: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come, let us adore him..
People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Leader: The Lord is my strength and my power; the lord has become my salvation.
People: There are joyous songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
Leader: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, the right hand of the Lord is exalted,
People: the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!"
Leader: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.
People: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but has not given me over to death.
Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
People: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

ALL: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice, let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad.

Leader: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
People: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
Leader: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
People: This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ALL: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice, let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad.

Leader: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
People: O Lord, we beech you, give us success!
Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
People: We bless you from the house of the Lord.
Leader: The Lord is God, who has given us light.
People: Lead the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar!
Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.
People: O give thanks to the Lord, who is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever!

ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

WORDS OF WISDOM - ZECHARIAH 9:9-10

Zechariah prophesied from the second to the fourth year of the reign of Darius, about 520 to 518 B.C. He was commissioned by God to encourage the people in their unfinished responsibility to rebuild the temple of Jerusalem. Rather than exhorting them to action with strong words of rebuke, Zechariah seeks to encourage them to action by reminding them of the future importance of the temple. The temple must be built, for one day the Messiah's glory will inhabit it. But the future blessing is contingent upon present obedience. The people are not merely building a building; they are building the future. With that as their motivation, they can enter into the building project with wholehearted zeal, for their Messiah is coming.

Allow these words on this day, Palm Sunday 2025, to resonate within your heart that Holy Week is now upon us, and we serve a risen Savoir, Jesus Christ the Lord.

“Shout and cheer, Daughter Zion!

Raise your voice, Daughter Jerusalem!

Your king is coming!

a good king who makes all things right,

a humble king riding a donkey,

a mere colt of a donkey.

I've had it with war—no more chariots in Ephraim,

no more war horses in Jerusalem,

no more swords and spears, bows and arrows.

He will offer peace to the nations,

a peaceful rule worldwide,

from the four winds to the seven seas.

O Lord, you have given us the gift of your Word.

People: May we ever protect and keep it pure. Amen.

WORD OF GOD - MARK 11:1-11

Within the Gospels we find reference to this historic day of when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Palm Sunday began with Jesus and His disciples traveling over the Mount of Olives. The Lord sent two disciples ahead into the village of Bethpage to find an animal to ride. They found the unbroken colt of a donkey, just as Jesus had said they would. When they untied the colt, the owners began to question them. The disciples responded with the answer Jesus had provided: “The Lord needs it”. Amazingly, the owners were satisfied with that answer and let the disciples go. “They brought the donkey to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it”.

As Jesus ascended toward Jerusalem, a large multitude gathered around Him. This crowd understood that Jesus was the Messiah; what they did not understand was that it wasn’t time to set up the kingdom yet—although Jesus had tried to tell them so. The crowd’s actions along the road give rise to the name “Palm Sunday”: “A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road”. In strewing their cloaks on the road, the people were giving Jesus the royal treatment—King Jehu was given similar honor at his coronation. In the book of John, he records the detail that the branches they cut were from palm trees.

On that first Palm Sunday, the people also honored Jesus verbally: “The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David!’ / ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’ / ‘Hosanna in the highest heaven!’”. In their praise of Jesus, the Jewish crowds were quoting Psalm 118:25-26, an acknowledged prophecy of the Christ. The allusion to a messianic psalm drew resentment from the religious leaders present: “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke your disciples!’”. However, Jesus saw no need to rebuke those who told the truth. He replied, “I tell you . . . if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out”.

Some 450 to 500 years prior to Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem, the prophet Zechariah had prophesied the event we now call Palm Sunday: “Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! / Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! / See, your king comes to you, / righteous and victorious, / lowly and riding on a donkey, / on a colt, the foal of a donkey”. The prophecy was fulfilled in every particular, and it was indeed a time of rejoicing, as Jerusalem welcomed their King. Unfortunately, the celebration was not to last. The crowds looked for a Messiah who would rescue them *politically* and free them *nationally*, but Jesus had come to save them *spiritually*. First things first, and mankind’s primary need is spiritual, not political, cultural, or national salvation.

Even as the coatless multitudes waved the palm branches and shouted for joy, they missed the true reason for Jesus’ presence. They could neither see nor understand the cross. That’s why, “as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, ‘If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies . . . will not leave one stone on another, because you did not

recognize the time of God's coming to you". It is a tragic thing to see the Savior but not recognize Him for who He is.

Allow these words from The Gospel According to Mark bring revelation to the historical account of Palm Sunday.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethpage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.