



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FENTON

To be a loving community of faith dedicated to helping people know Jesus Christ and grow, share and serve as his disciples.

Palm Sunday

March 28th, 2021 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Palm Sunday Music Presentation

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” - Guest Orchestra

“Concerto in B flat - ‘Andante Allegro’” - Chanah Ambuter

“Pray with Me at Gethsemane” - Dr. Ray Shuster

“Hallelujah! What a Savior” - Piano Quintet

“Badinerie” - Woodwind Trio

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” - John Bogdan & Rebekah Ratza

“Proclaim the Glory of the Lord” - Michelle Carter

“Jesus Shall Reign” - John Bogdan & Rebekah Ratza

“The Power of the Cross” - Guest Orchestra

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” - Dr. Rose Stevens & Rebekah Ratza

OPENING PRAYER

Speak to us words of hope, O King of Heaven. Speak to our hearts so that they might cry out, “Hosanna!” Speak to our souls so that we might praise you. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our fear might be still, our voices might be lifted up and we might know that you are God. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Even as we try to follow Jesus faithfully, we know how we have worn down others by our angry words, how we have wearied loved ones with poor choices. Yet, we also recognize that in every moment of every day, God has been with us with that love which never gives up, that grace which is always offered freely to us. So, let us come with our prayers, to God's heart, so we may enter forgiveness and life anew...

ENCOUNTER (A time for silent and personal prayer...)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Merciful God, as we enter this Holy Week, solemnly gathering for worship and prayer, we turn our hearts toward Jerusalem, to the peace demonstrated for us and offered to us in the words and deeds, in the suffering and death, of Jesus, your anointed One.

Forgive our stubborn resistance to his work and witness; impel us by your Spirit to follow in his way, until we enter with him into the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where we shall ever live to your praise and glory.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

If Jesus claims God as his father, let us boldly claim that we are daughters and sons of our Heavenly Father. Confident in this parental love, let us live into the forgiveness that is offered to us through Jesus' work on the cross. Being forgiven by God we can forgive ourselves and extend graceful forgiveness to others.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Our Light and our Compass for living, shine on us your truth and direct us in your ways. May we know you as King and learn your words so that we might better seek to follow your ways and work in your name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Habakkuk 3:17-18

17 Though the fig tree does not blossom,
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails,
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold,
and there is no herd in the stalls,
18 yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 14:12-14

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. **13** But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. **14** And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

SERMON Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Joy

A MOMENT FOR HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

By your grace,
 God of every moment,
 you sustain the weary with words of hope,
 you heal the brokenness caused by silly choices.
 We pray for those who need your wisdom.

By your grace,
 Brother who stands by us in every moment,
 you choose passion when you could have
 remained in glory;
 you go toe-to-toe with death for us.
 We pray for those who need your rescue.

By your grace,
 Spirit of peace,
 you refuse to forget us like so many around do,
 you offer us strength as we journey through these days.
 We pray for those who need your healing.

By your grace,
 God in Community, Holy in One,
 we discover we can trust you in every moment,
 and so we pray, saying

LORD'S PRAYER**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. Amen.*

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD**OFFERING**

Hosanna! The King is coming! Open up the gates and let the King come in. Let us offer worshipful gifts to the Lord to honor his Glory and Goodness!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We have discovered, in this year of pandemic, that we have more than we ever imagined, and discover we are given opportunities we never saw before to be your grace, your hope, your love in the lives of those around us, as we care for all your children in these days. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #196

All Glory Laud and Honor

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Now let us set aside our palm branches,
And go to serve at God's side
in a broken and fearful world.
Now let us pick up our cloaks
and follow Jesus wherever he leads,
to learn from those the world ignores,
to be touched by grace as we serve them.
Now we will sing songs of wonder,
as we work alongside the Spirit,
sustaining the weary with peace and hope.
Hosanna! The King comes!

POSTLUDE

Living Water
Madeline Gibb