

# Welcome to Palm Sunday Worship!

April 13, 2025



**First Presbyterian  
Church**  
of Pittsburgh



**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am**

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*\*Please stand as you are able*

**Prelude:** *Variations on “Coronation”*

arr. Janet Linker (b. 1938)

Ryan Croyle, *organ*  
Drew Fennell, *trumpet*

**Time of Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Daniel B. Merry, *Interim Senior Pastor*

**\*Responsive Call to Worship**

Rev. Merry

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

**People: Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**People: That the King of Glory may come in!**

Leader: Who is the King of Glory?

**People: The Lord God of Hosts, He is the King of Glory!**

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: The Lord’s name be praised!**

**All: Let us together worship the Lord on this Palm Sunday!**

**\*Hymn:** *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”* (located in this bulletin)

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Merry

Forgive us, O God, that as Jesus journeys toward a cross, our preference runs toward parades and palms and noisy celebrations. Forgive us that we turn away from Golgotha with its rusted nails and twisted thorns. Forgive us that we are more willing to be instructed than redeemed. Have mercy upon our brief faith that fades with a world of troubles, with enthusiasms that easily fizzle, with hopes we parade but do not pursue. Tear us away from purposes that drain our blood and sweat, so that our blurred eyes may catch the splendor of that noble vision which fed the soul of Christ.

**Time of Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

## Children's Message

Rev. Merry

*(Children ages preschool – 2nd grade are invited to attend Children in Worship on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor balcony at this time. Children are to be picked up immediately after service in the chapel behind the high pulpit.)*

**\*Hymn:** "Shout to the Lord" (located in this bulletin)

### Scripture Reading: Mark 14:1-15

**14** Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. <sup>2</sup> "But not during the festival," they said, "or the people may riot."

<sup>3</sup> While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. <sup>4</sup> Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? <sup>5</sup> It could have been sold for more than a year's wages<sup>[a]</sup> and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.

<sup>6</sup> "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>7</sup> The poor you will always have with you,<sup>[b]</sup> and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. <sup>8</sup> She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. <sup>9</sup> Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

<sup>10</sup> Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. <sup>11</sup> They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over. <sup>12</sup> On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

<sup>13</sup> So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. <sup>14</sup> Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>15</sup> He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon:** "Why Did He Do It?"

Rev. Merry

### \*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

**W**e believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

## Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

**O**ur 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

**Call for the Offering** (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

### **Anthem: "Prepare the Royal Highway"**

music by Allen Pote (1984), hymn by Frans Mikael Franzen, Finnish poet/theologian (1772-1847)

*1 Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory  
Foretold in sacred story:*

*Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's Word!*

*2 God's people, see Him coming:  
Your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before Him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!*

*3 Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too should bring.  
All lands, bow down before Him!  
All nations, now adore Him! (Refrain)*

### **\*Doxology (tune Old 100th)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Merry

**\*Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"** (*located in this bulletin*)

### **\*Invitation, Charge and Benediction**

### **Postlude: "Grand Choeur Dialogué"**

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)

Ryan Croyle

*Congratulations to Noah and Mary Kathryn Praamsma on their wedding yesterday and we extend our gratitude for the beautiful flowers generously donated for the lower pulpit.*

## Shout to the Lord

A E A G Esus E

A E F#m

My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none  
My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref -

E D A/C# D

like — you. All of my days, I want to praise  
- uge and strength, let ev - ery breath, all that I am,

1 A/E F#m G D6 Esus E

the won - ders of your might - y love.

2 A/E F#m G D6 Esus E

nev - er cease to wor - ship you.

*Refrain*      A                      F#m                      D                      D/E

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands: for -

A                      F#m                      Dmaj7                      Esus                      E

pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise to the King.  
ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.

F#m                      1 D

Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the  
Noth - ing com - pares to the prom -

E                      F#m                      E/G#

sound of your name.

2                      D                      E                      A

- ise I have in you.

## Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

A<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup> D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na the lit - tle chil-dren sang;  
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,  
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

Fm E<sup>b</sup> D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup><sub>sus</sub> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.  
 the vic - tory palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.  
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven, our King.

E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,  
 The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

A<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup> D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup><sub>sus</sub> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>  
*descant st.3*

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.  
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

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## All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

G D D7 G

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall.  
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - sored from the fall,  
 3 Let ev - ery tongue and ev - ery tribe on this ter - res - trial ball,  
 4 Oh, that with all the sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

D G D G D/F# Em A D

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all.  
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.  
 to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song and crown him Lord of all.

G D7 G C G/D D7 G

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
 To him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song and crown him Lord of all!

## Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

### Join Us for Holy Week Services!

April 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM – Good Friday Tenebrae

April 20, 2025, at 10:45 AM – Easter Resurrection Celebration

### Annual Congregation/Corporation Meeting – This Sunday After Worship

The annual meeting will be held this Sunday immediately following worship in the Chapel for the purpose of electing a slate of officers for the coming year.

**Birthday Blessings to:** Olga Stanko, Jen Fleming, Jeff Kagarise, Miriam Delo, and Morgan Swann

### Thank You! – Eternal Legacy – LCCC Spring Celebration

Thank you to all who attended, donated towards the raffle basket items, and/or supported the annual Ligonier Camp and Conference Center Spring Celebration fundraiser. We are thrilled to announce that Deacon Charlie Claudon was honored with the 1 Peter 4:10 Award. Congratulations, Charlie!

### First Church Staff

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#### VOLUNTEER SOUND/ VIDEO TECHNICIANS

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Doug Williams  
Dan Conner  
David Charlton  
Brian Vertz

### Visiting Us Today or Giving Online?



**PASTOR EMERITUS**  
Rev. Thomas M. Hall II

### Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get a sticker for your parking ticket at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). Scan both sides of the ticket at the payment booth at the **Oliver, Mellon Square, and Smithfield** garages to pay \$1 for parking.