



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 28, 2021

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! While we can't be together physically, we are glad to join together for worship online. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

PRELUDE (9:50 am)

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem tells us,

People: that after his celebrated arrival he went into the Temple and looked around at all there was to see.

Leader: As we gather, here, for worship today,

People: may it be with a sense that Jesus has come here too, and is looking around.

Leader: May our eyes be open to see Him,

People: May our hearts be ready to be seen by Him,

Leader: May our worship be worthy of His presence,

People: And may we be transformed so that we see the world through His eyes.

OPENING PRAYER

People: As the people spread their coats and palm branches on the ground to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem, so too we welcome him into our lives this morning. God of Glory, God of Peace, Servant and Creator of us all, reign in our hearts and lives this day and all days, that we might praise your holy name.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of God!

People: Hosanna in the highest!

HYMN

'All Glory, Laud, and Honor'

No. 192

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Jesus said that if he asked the disciples to be quiet then the stones would cry out in their place. Throughout creation there is joy in realizing all that God has done, and all that God *will* do. In our offering we give thanks to God for all that we have received by giving a portion of ourselves in service to God's work. Let us give joyfully, shouting "Hosannah" as we do for all that God has done.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.
This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Luke 19:28-40

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

HYMN

'Majesty, Worship His Majesty'

(scroll down to music)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: Jesus, you set your face toward Jerusalem and walked alongside those who suffer. Be our vision, that we too may walk the way of compassion and extend a hand to those we meet. God of compassion, hear our prayer,

People: And in your love, answer.

Leader: You stopped to heal the sick and tend to those broken in body, mind, and spirit. Be our vision, that we too may be a source of healing to all in need of your grace. God of healing, hear our prayer,

People: And in your love, answer.

Leader: Jesus, you said, "The first shall be last and the last first." Be our vision, that we too may work toward your realm - when the marginalized and oppressed will be raised up and know that they are indeed beloved children of the Holy. God of justice and equity, hear our prayer,

People: And in your love, answer.

Leader: Jesus, you took the time to pray and to be silent. Be our vision, that through our prayers, meditation, and reflection we may draw closer to you and find our way on this journey of faith. God of silence and reflection, hear our prayer,

People: And in your love, answer.

Leader: You entered Jerusalem with peace in your heart. Be our vision, that we too can live as people of peace in the face of the world's many conflicts. May we hold your vision of justice and peace ever before us. God of peace, hear our prayer,

People: And in your love, answer.

Leader: Bless us, O Blessed One, as we enter into the day ahead of us. We will need your power and presence to sustain us as we move through these difficult days together. Spirit of Love and Life, stay close to us.

These and all the prayers of our hearts we offer in faith, as we pray together in the way you taught us to pray saying...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father (Creator) 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

'Hosanna'

by Craig Courtney

sung by Alisa Cassola, soloist

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of the cross, tottering down the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey, You are not the savior we expect. Your power doesn't look like the power we want our God to have. Your wisdom makes no sense to us.

We are happy to join the crowd, waiving branches, but not so sure we want to follow you through this Holy Week: into the temple courts, into the upper room, into the Garden of Gethsemane, to the high priest's house, to the assembly of elders, to Pilate, to Herod, to the place of the Skull, *to the foot of the cross.*

We need you to go with us on this journey. Grant us clear vision, courageous hearts, and persistent steps. Even though we know what this week will bring, we sing: Hosanna, Hosanna! Save us, we beseech you! Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN

'Hosanna, Loud Hosanna'

No. 213 (New Century Hymnal)

(scroll down to music)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

Alisa Cassola, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Siddall, Ann. *Call to Worship for Palm Sunday*, 18 Mar. 2018, re-worship.blogspot.com/2018/03/call-to-worship-for-palm-sunday.html.

²Shilson-Thomas, Annabel. *Pastoral Prayer: Palm Sunday*, 22 Mar. 2017, re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/03/pastoral-prayer-palm-sunday.html.

³Birch, John. *Opening Prayer: Palm Sunday*, 24 Feb. 2012, re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/opening-prayer-palm-sunday.html.

⁴Harader, Joanna. *A Prayer for Palm Sunday*, 22 Mar. 2017, re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/03/a-prayer-for-palm-sunday.html.



Descant

3. Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Ho - san - na!

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or, to you, Re - deem - er, King,
 2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high,
 3. To you be - fore your pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;

Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Our ho - san - nas raise!

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

You heard their prais - es now hear us as we pray.

You are a child of Is - rael, Great Da - vid's great - er son;
 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore you went;
 As you re - ceived their prais - es, now hear us as we pray.

WORDS: Theodulph of Orleans c. 821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1854, alt.
 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861;
 desc. O. I. Crickett Harrison, 1994

ST. THEODULPH
 76.76D

Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press

Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Rule in our hearts to - day.

you ride in low - ly tri - umph, Mes - si - ah, bless - ed one!
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 Since you de - light in good - ness, rule in our hearts to - day.

Majesty, Worship His Majesty

Majesty, Worship His Majesty
Unto Jesus Be Glory Honour And Praise
Majesty, Kingdom, Authority
Flows From His Throne
Unto His Own
His Anthem Raise

So Exalt, Lift Upon High
The Name Of Jesus
Magnify Come Glorify
Christ, Jesus The King

Majesty, Worship His Majesty
Jesus Who Died, Now Glorified
King Of All Kings.
Jesus Who Died, Now Glorified
King Of All Kings.

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

213

Jessette Threlfall, 1873, alt.

Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd.
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Jessette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen
katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784