First Presbyterian Church of Springfield Order of Worship for Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson Organist: Mike Belote Worship Leader:

Welcome

We Approach God

Call to Worship

Look! Your king is coming—humble and riding on a donkey.

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Lay your cloaks before him, spread palm branches to honor him.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

Raise your voices. Lift your hearts. Rejoice—our Savior comes!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Prayer of the Day

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today we rejoice that he entered Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and palm branches along his way. Those branches are signs of his victory. Help us to follow him in the way of the cross, that dying and rising with him, we may enter your kingdom. We pray through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Glory to God 197

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven road on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blessed presence eternally rejoice.

Call to Confession

"The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). In faith, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Suffering God, the way of the cross is a hard road. It is draining, demanding, and fraught with danger. You call us to stay by your side in the walk toward Calvary, but weariness and fear overtake us. Like the first disciples, we are quick to betray, deny, and abandon you. Forgive us, Lord. Strengthen us by your Spirit for the journey ahead. Give us courage to face the pain and suffering of this world and to respond with compassion. Renew our faith, fill us with hope, and help us trust in your great love that never fails. We pray for the sake of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

God Speaks to Us Through God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Blessed are you, O Lord, King of the universe! You have taught us to read your Word. By your Spirit, open our ears and hearts to receive your message to us today. **Amen.**

Old Testament

Psalm 118:1 - 2, 19 - 29

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment with Young Disciples

New Testament

Mark 11:1 - 11

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Rolling Out the Red Carpet"

The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the *Confession of 1967*, 9.21

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Hymn

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

Glory to God 218

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted?

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone the. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation, thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation, thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Gracious God, At the height of Jesus' ministry, people honored him and shouted your praises. Like them, we want to contribute to your kingdom coming on earth. Thank you for giving us the privilege of sharing in your mission in the world through our congregation's ministries. Accept these tithes and offerings as a sign of our love and gratitude. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

God Sends Us into the World

Hymn

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

O sacred Head, now wounded with grief and shame weighed down,

now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown!

O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!

Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Dr. Anderson