



PALM SUNDAY

7 Days to Resurrection

THIS IS THE DAY THAT
THE LORD HAS MADE!

LET US REJOICE
AND BE GLAD!

HOSANNA!

Bellflower UMC

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

ENTRANCE 

All Glory, Laud and Honor

GREETINGS¹

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

CALL TO WORSHIP²

Give thanks to God for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever! Hosanna!

We give thanks to God who answers us,
for God is our saving help!

The stone the builders rejected is now the cornerstone!

Hosanna!

Our salvation is at hand!

It is marvelous to behold! Hosanna!

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad! Hosanna!

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

Come save us, Lord! Hosanna!

Give thanks to God for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever! Hosanna!

OPENING PRAYER³

Today, God, we rejoice with Christians everywhere that there was at least one day when Jesus received the recognition he deserved.

We rejoice, knowing that his triumphal entry means that truth cannot remain hidden and that good hearts everywhere recognize truth when it appears.

¹ Cover Art: "Blank Calendar page icon" by Jackaranga, CC BY-SA 4.0,

² Adapted from Psalm 118, *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* and *Common English Bible*. © 2023 Discipleship Ministries.

³ Written by Safiyah Fosua, *The Africana Worship Book Year A* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 227.

We persist in hope with people on many continents, in many circumstances who are waiting for the day when their truth can be told.

We persevere with them in faith knowing that the same God who could have commanded the rocks to shout truth in Jerusalem will not allow truth to be suppressed and good people to be crushed forever.

Amen.

HYMN 

64. Holy, Holy, Holy!

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

118:1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

118:2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

*Let all God's people say ... **His steadfast love** ...*

*Let the kids say ... **His steadfast love** ...*

*Let the left side say ... **His steadfast love** ...*

etc

HYMN 

139 (v1-4). Praise to the Lord

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

118:21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

118:22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

118:23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

118:24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

HYMN

This Is The Day


PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

118:25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

118:26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.

118:27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

118:28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

HYMN  139 (v5). Praise to the Lord

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

RESPONSE 

Hear our prayer, O Lord ...

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Incline Thine ear to us,
and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

SERMON

CONFESSION & PARDON⁴

We confess that we are not so different from those who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday yet later shouted 'Crucify him!' or remained silent in the face of injustice.

**We have betrayed you too, Lord Jesus
by our sins both secret and known.**

**Yet you died for people like us, and you rose on the third
day that we might be redeemed.**

**For the sake of your glory,
do not hold our sins against us.**

**Jesus Christ, our King of glory,
we have not been outspoken for you.**

**We have not called for your death,
but neither have we shouted of your greatness,**

⁴ Confession © 2023 Discipleship Ministries; Assurance written by Rev. Grant Barclay and posted on the Church of Scotland's *Starters for Sunday* website.

nor expressed delight in the salvation you have won for us.

**Help us to see your glory, draw us closer to you
that we may become more faithful and more joyful
servants of the King.**

The Psalmist says:

But I trust in you, O Lord, I say 'You are my God.'

My times are in your hands;

deliver me from my enemies

and from those who pursue me.

Let your face shine on your servant;

save me in your unfailing love."

In Christ, God hears; God answers; God sets us free.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING & PEACE

DOXOLOGY - #95 🎵🎵

GREAT THANKSGIVING - #12

LORD'S PRAYER - #895

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - #11

JESUS' PASSION

Matthew 26, 27 (selected verses)

Were You There? 🎵🎵

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday (BF Christian Church)	6pm 4/6
Good Friday Worship (Mt Vernon)	7pm 4/7
Saturday Outdoor Sunset Service (Mt Vernon)	7pm 4/8
Easter Sunrise Service (Mt Vernon)	6am 4/9
Easter Sunrise Service (Bellflower)	7am 4/9
Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt (Bellflower)	8am 4/9
Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt (Mt Vernon)	9am 4/9
Worship (Bellflower)	9am 4/9
Worship (Mt Vernon)	10:30 4/9

Bellflower UMC spreads God's love within our church family and throughout our communities and world using our prayers, our gifts and our service; thus to become a shelter of love and a community of compassion..

To learn more, visit facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (309-722-1500, rob@methodist.cc).