



Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian U.S.A.)



PALM
SUNDAY

Preparation for Worship

“Think occasionally of the suffering of which you spare yourself the sight.”

~Albert Schweitzer

Prelude

All Glory, Laud and Honor

David Paxton

Choral Introit

May I Be Empty

Call to Worship

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

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Leader: Lo, your king comes to you;

People: triumphant and victorious is he,

Leader: humble and riding on a donkey,

People: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Prayer of Adoration

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Matt. 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

*Processional Hymn 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Please be seated after the hymn.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Together let us pray:

Everlasting God, in your tender love for the human race, you sent your Child to take our nature, and to suffer death upon a cross. In your mercy, enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Response 227**

Jesus, Remember Me

Sing twice

***The Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Please greet your neighbors saying, "Peace be with you" or "Peace of Christ."

All children from preschool through fourth grade are invited to meet their teachers in the Narthex and go to their classes.

Prayer of Illumination

Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 26:14 - 26:75

Pew Bible Page 29

***Hymn 314**

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

Scripture Reading

Matthew 27:1-66

Pew Bible Page 31

Leader: Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

Russell Kane, Robert Petker

Sermon

"Setting a Guard"

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

Sung Response 601

Amen

***Affirmation of Faith**

"Credo for Christians"

**I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things,
Spirit that enlivens all beings.**

**I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.**

He was born through love,

He lived for love,

He suffered for love,

He died for love,
But love never dies.
I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,
that I may be compassionate toward all beings,
that I may live and serve in community with others,
that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,
that I may praise and enjoy God forever. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our 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,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Or "Mother" or "Parent"

Welcome and Next Steps

Minute for Mission

Let Our Light Shine Capital Campaign

Elder Alan Hohlfelder

Offertory Invitation and Offering

***The Doxology: Hymn 606, 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow** Old Hundredth
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.

*For a gender-neutral version, use hymn 607.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn 221

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Benediction

Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor

JS Bach

Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to stay and listen.

***If you have a prayer request, please write it on the white prayer request card located in your pew.
You may place it in the offering plate located in the narthex to be printed next week.
Prayer concerns will remain in the bulletin for three weeks unless otherwise requested.***

Prayers are requested for:

Jim and Beverly Burke, William Casey, Vicki Fischer, Nancy Green, Amy Jones, Alex Lorber
Joan McAnulty, Dave McVay, Barb Oram, Nancy Starr, Resa Walsh