

**A CELEBRATION OF GRADUATION AND COMMUNION  
with Prayers for Palm/Passion Sunday**

**PRELUDE**      **"Jesus, Name Above All Names"**      **TFWS #2071**

**WELCOME**      **Grace Wallace, COSSO Coordinator**

**INTRODUCTION**      **Rev. Dr. Rebeka Maples, COSSO Spiritual Formation Director**

**GREETING**

The Lord be with you,

**and also with you.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**OPENING PRAYER (Palm/Passion Sunday)**

**We praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have saved us, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day, Jesus entered the holy city and those who saw him spread their garments and palm branches along his way. Help us, Lord, to see our palm branches as signs of victory, as we praise him and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. Amen**

**HYMN**      **"When Morning Gilds the Skies"**      **UMH 185**

**CONFESSION**

Ever-living God, even as the hosannas echo around us, we acknowledge the times we have been reluctant to walk in your way. We confess we have resisted your call to live in community as servants to one another.

**O God of glory, form in us the humility and patience, the kindness and suffering that reflect your love, so the world will know that you are our God and we are your people. Through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior, we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

Our hope is in Christ alone. He calls us to himself, heals our brokenness and makes us whole.

When we turn to him, we have assurance of forgiveness by his grace and love.

Thanks be to God.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118:1-2,19-29**

**Read by Pastor Nate Eckert, graduate**

**SCRIPTURE**      **Philippians 2:5-11**

**Read by Pastor Larry Embury, graduate**



## **PRAYER**

*We offer our virtual blessings as a sign of our connection in the body of Christ; please send your blessings in the Chat box which will be sent to the graduates.*

**COS Coordinator:** Our congratulations and prayers go with you all. Your certificates will be sent to you. Let us pray together:

**Gracious God, we thank you for calling faithful servants to be Local Pastors in your Church. We humbly place these graduates in your care. Give them courage, patience, and vision, and bless them with caring communities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Director:** And now, remember your call. Preach the Good News. Shepherd the flock of Christ. And in all things, give God the glory, now and always.  
In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare that you have graduated from the Course of Study.

*Please unmute to cheer as we congratulate our graduates.*

## **GRADUATION HYMN**

**“Here I Am, Lord” (verses 1, 3)**

**UMH 593**

*From Oct 2025 Course of Study Worship*

## **CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION**

*adapted from Reformed Worship, "A New Commandment"*

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give God thanks and praise.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is our joy and our peace, at all times and in all places to give thanks to you, almighty and everlasting God, through Christ, our Lord.

We praise you for creating this world and all who live in it.

When we wander far from you, you are still there and you save us.

Therefore, we praise you for redeeming this world and your people by making your covenant with us. Through your saving love you sent prophets and ordinary people to carry your blessing into all the world that we might live as your beloved. In Jesus, all your covenant promises are fulfilled. We acknowledge Christ Jesus to be our Lord. And so, we join with your people of all ages and proclaim with joy:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord Jesus Christ, on the eve of your death,  
you washed the feet of your disciples and gave yourself as food and drink.  
Today we join with the church throughout the world,  
seeking to obey your commandment to love and serve each other  
in community with compassion and justice.

Now, in this meal you have given to us:

**Your death we proclaim.**

**Your resurrection we declare.**

**Your coming we await.**

**Glory be to you, O Lord.**

### **BLESSING THE ELEMENTS**

Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray. Unite us, by this bread and drink, with our Lord Jesus Christ and with each other as members of his body.

**Give us life at this sacred banquet  
and joy in humble service.**

Strengthen us for work in your kingdom that we may live in the power of Christ's lordship until that day when we shall feast with him in heaven.

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy. Amen.**

Savior Christ, whose compassion is beyond measure, hear the prayers we offer now in the silence of our hearts for the world and its people and for those whom we have concern this day:

*(silent pause)*

### **BREAKING THE BREAD**

The bread we break is a sharing as one body, in the body of Christ.

*(we break and eat the bread)*

The cup we drink is a pouring out of God's love.

*(we lift and drink from the cup)*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Stay with us Lord, for we have received your holy feast and desire to follow your new commandment, to love others as you have loved us. Amen.**

**HYMN**

**"Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"**

**UMH 438**

## **BENEDICTION**

Beloved, as we move into the holiest week in the church year,  
May God bless you with the insight to know the way of Jesus,  
the courage to hold firm to the way of Jesus and all the saints,  
and the strength to follow the way of love that never fails:  
**to love one another as he has loved us. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**     **“What a Mighty God We Serve”**

***Worship and Song #3016***

## **SOME SOURCES:**

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Reformed Worship, "A New Commandment,"

<https://reformedworship.org/resource/new-commandment>.

UMC Book of Worship.

UMC Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/journeys-end-a-new-start/palm-passion-sunday-year-a-lectionary-planning-notes/palm-passion-sunday-year-a-liturgical-resources>.