

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, MARCH 28th, 2021**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God Ministry of Pastoral
Care & Worship: Pastor Peggy Bartlett Cell: 905-317-5275
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Hagersville- 905-768-5863 Springvale- 905-768-1501

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REGIONAL COUNCIL PRAYER CYCLE

Port Rowan

Palm and Passion Sunday

“Where did He come from? Where was He going? Who is this Jesus?”

PRELUDE & WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATION

MISSION FOR MISSION – “Stewardship is a spiritual practice. How do stewards of the gospel prepare the way for Jesus?”

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we offer these gifts and those already given through PAR. May they be used to joyfully proclaim your vision through Mission and Service Fund and hope for our world. Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE: Mark 11:1-11

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Scripture Reading Mark 11:1-11
New International Version

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!^[a]” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”^[b]
¹⁰ “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”
“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”
¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let all creation shout!

P: Let us wave the palm branches high. Jesus is coming!

L: He comes in humility to claim God’s own.

P: May he claim us this day and heal our hearts!

L: Behold your king comes to you; he is just, he brings salvation, he brings peace. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

HYMN: #123 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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

2. From Olivet they followed amid the shouting crowd,
the victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and loud;
Messiah, God's anointed, rode there in humble state,
'Hosanna, in the highest!' rang out their praises great.

3. 'Hosanna in the highest!' that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
Oh may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in God's joyful presence eternally rejoice!

OPENING PRAYER

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high. We get caught up in the excitement of the parade. Jesus sits astride a donkey, a beast of burden bearing a most precious gift. Let the joy fill your hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas. Praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been touched. Prepare our hearts to worship today for the shouting will die out and the time of trial will still lie ahead. Soon there will be a deathly quiet on the land. Soon the Savior will give his life for us. Amen

ANTHEM

PALM SUNDAY LITANY

(based on Luke 9:51, Matthew 16:24-25)
"Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem."

**Our Lord is on a journey,
and the way leads through opposition and misunderstanding.**

Jesus invites us to follow him.

**This journey leads through the shadows of betrayal,
the night of Gethsemane, the afternoon darkness of Golgotha.**

"Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'"

Our Lord is on a journey. May we have the grace to follow this Christ, and to give to him our very lives. For in giving away our lives, we find them, and in dying we live.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 22:14-23

¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table.

¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with

you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.^[a] ²¹ But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²² The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!" ²³ They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Word was spreading... people were talking... Jesus drew his friends close to him. The disciples talked and ate. They were spending time together and sharing the Passover meal together as friends do.

Then Jesus stood up and... The room became quiet....

Full of love he took a loaf of bread, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Full of love, he took a cup of wine as he said,

"This cup is poured out for you showing you a new way and God's promise in me." Full of awe and wonder the friends ate the bread and shared the cup.

They had been fed with stories and prayers, words and deeds, and now this most special bread and wine.

Word was spreading

And now we are to be feed with this wine and this bread on this Palm Sunday as we remember what followed that night as Jesus share this meal with his friends.

Come share this meal, as we enter this Holy Week, we move with Jesus into the last days of his ministry. We prepare for the ultimate sacrifice of love.

COME TO THE TABLE, YOU ARE INVITED BY JESUS....

COMMUNION IS SHARED

POST COMMUNION PRAYER - SHARED

L: WE have shared this meal with you lord, a meal that reflects the last supper you shared with your disciples. Now we are finished and the time has come. To enter a week that is hard to understand at times.

P: God, hold us, as we walk too, through, on, into this world's darkness. (Pause.)

L: God of passion, we kneel with you, praying, into the night, while the world conspires against you, and tries to put an end to love. (Pause.)

P: God, kneel with us, as we pray too, into this night, as forces gather behind our words, and betray love's future. (Pause.)

L: God of the day and night, who lives through it, we follow, holding your cup, trusting your will, though the shadows seems so long. (Pause.)

All: God, who lives through us, follow on, help us hold your cup, and keep trusting, Jesus, through the deep night. ((Leader will continue the prayer and followed by Lord's Prayer)

POST COMMUNION HYMN: #470 For the Bread Which you have Broken

1 For the bread, which You have broken;
For the wine, which You have poured;
For the words, which You have spoken—
Now we give You thanks, O Lord.

2 By this promise that You love us,
By Your gift of peace restored,
By Your call to Heaven above us,
Hallow all our lives, O Lord.

READING: "The Betrayal" based on Luke 22: 28-53
Love has moved out. The room is silent. The table is left:
broken bread still sitting there, wine half finished, herbs and lamb
scattered across the table.

In the distance you can hear footsteps moving through the olive grove,
Whose they are we do not know. The room hangs, suspended in time,

cushions scattered, crumbs across the floor, a basin and a towel sit by the door.

There is a rustle of leaves among the trees, a brushing of garments caught on branches, the sound of knees breaking twigs as they kneel.

The room is cold, full of questions. The air is deep with the smell of betrayal and panic, of accusations and unfinished stories.

But something deeper is gone, and gone forever: a presence, a hope.

Footsteps sound on their way past the house out of the city. The room is dull. Shadows stretch across unfinished bread and half-drunk wine, a breeze from the empty window fills the space, and crumbs roll and tablecloth flutters, as the wind moves around the emptiness of the room; a ghostly presence, filling the space, haunting love.

There is a gathering of noise, shouts, and silence. From the room can be heard distant muttering. The trees capture the sounds and clasp the moment of betrayal.

Suddenly, all at once, the wind changes direction, the silence breaks, there is a cry somewhere in the city, the sounds are drowned out by the clinking of silver coins and a disciple betrays his teacher. and a kiss is traced on a carpenter's cheek. The shouts are driven out by the stomping of boots, the cords that bind our Savior as he is brought to the hall of judgment.

THE CHRIST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

CLOSING HYMN: In the Garden

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of His voice,
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing. **R**

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Though the night around me be falling,
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling. **R**

BENEDICTION

The road has been long. You have seen much on this journey, but it is not time to quit. The most important part of this journey has begun. This time next week the world will be different, but the journey has to be travelled. Go now in the shadow of the promise, with the God who has already travelled and will travel again, the same path, in the name of love. It is a violent and disturbing week: the heart will be torn out of the universe, but the promise is that it will beat again. Go, and all heaven's peace be with you.

CHORAL AMEN

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Coming Events

Friday, April 2nd 2021: Good Friday Service at Hagersville United Church at 10:30 am.

Thursday, April 8th, 2021: Ham & Scalloped Potato Supper at Springvale United Church from 4-6pm. This year we will only be offering takeout! Cost is \$15/person and includes ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, applesauce & pie. Please call Shirley at 905-981-5455 to preorder your tickets by April 1st.