Welcome to Community Presbyterian Church!

MARCH 24, 2024

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

10:00 A.M.

Welcome to this Sacred Time and Holy Place of Worship.

Quote for Meditation: "Dare to be naive." -Buckminster Fuller

GREETING and PASSING OF THE PEACE Greg Burns

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Chris Scrivens

PRELUDE: "All Glory, Laud and Honor" Genesis Ringers "The Palms"

Organ

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Greg Burns

One: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

All: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

One: Lo, your king comes to you;

All: triumphant and victorious is he, One: humble and riding on a donkey, All: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

* Opening Hymn: #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Greg Burns

O God, you know us well. We are quick to speak of faith, but slow to live it fully. We shout "hosanna" as Jesus approaches, as did the people of Jerusalem many years ago; but we do not want him to come too close -- not close enough to really see ...

O God, you know us well. We are quick to claim faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior; but, like the throng who greeted his entry into Jerusalem, we are fickle, slow to live fully and everywhere as faithful disciples. We know where we fail...

O God, you know us well. We are quick to want the blessings of faithfulness; but, like the Twelve who spent the last week with him, we are slow to accept the pain and suffering of authentic Christ-like living. Forgive our weakness and fear as we each confess to you silently.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Greg Burns

*Sung response: #581 "Gloria Patri"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME: Rev. Chris Scrivens

Children will be dismissed to Sunday School following the children's message.



The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

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Gospel: John 12:12-16 (NT pg. 100) Rev. Chris Scrivens

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One: This is the Word of God.

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Palm Sunday Reflection, ending with a reading of the Passion

Rev. Chris Scrivens

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47 (NT pg. 48)

Musical Reflection: "Ah Holy Jesus"

*HYMN: #220 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LITANY FOR PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

One: Our Redeemer suffered death,

was buried and rose again for our sake.

With love let us adore him, aware of our needs.

Christ our teacher, for us you were obedient, even to death:

All: Teach us to obey God's will in all things.

One: Christ our life, by dying on the cross

you destroyed the power of evil and death:

All: Enable us to die with you, and to rise with you in glory.

One: Christ our strength, you were despised,

and humiliated as a condemned criminal:

All: Teach us the humility by which you saved the world.

One: Christ our salvation, you gave your life out of love for us:

All: Help us to love one another.

One: Christ our Savior,

on the cross you embraced all time with your outstretched arms:

All: Gather all the scattered children of God into your realm.

One: Jesus, Lamb of God,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: grant us peace.

Psalm 118:1-2 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Psalm 118

A Song of Victory

- O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
- Let Israel say,

 "His steadfast love endures forever."

< <u>Psalm 117</u> <u>Psalm 119</u> >

Psalm 118:19-29
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

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

- This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
- I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
- This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.[a]
- Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

 O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!
- Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. [b]

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

- The LORD is God,
 and he has given us light.
 Bind the festal procession with branches,
 up to the horns of the altar. [C]
- You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.
- O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Footnotes

John 12:12-16 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

12 The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!"

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,

sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

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Mark 14-15 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Plot to Kill Jesus

14 It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus^[a] by stealth and kill him, ² for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

The Anointing at Bethany

3 While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. 4 But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? 5 For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. 6 But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. 7 For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. 8 She has done what she could; she has

anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the good news^[] is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

10 Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹ When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

The Passover with the Disciples

12 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, ¹⁴ and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." ¹⁶ So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

17 When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They began to be distressed and to say to him

one after another, "Surely, not I?" ²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread^[d] into the bowl^[e] with me. ²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

The Institution of the Lord's Supper

22 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the^[f] covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Peter's Denial Foretold

26 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, ^[g] for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸ "But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

²⁹ Peter said to him, "Even though all fall away, he I will not."

³⁰ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

³¹ But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

32 They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated. 34 And he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." 35 And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ He said, "Abba, [i] Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want." 37 He came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? 38 Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;[j] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40 And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to say to him. 41 He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

- **43** Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. **44** Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." **45** So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. **46** Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. **47** But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. **48** Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? **49** Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." **50** All of them deserted him and fled.
- **51** A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, ⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Jesus before the Council

53 They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest, and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.

57 Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, 58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.' " 59 But even on this point their testimony did not agree. 60 Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" 61 But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" 62 Jesus said, "I am, and

'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.' "

for the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? for You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. for Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

Peter Denies Jesus

66 While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the female servants of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock

crowed. ^[m] ⁶⁹ And the female servant, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and you talk like one." ^[m] ⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." ⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

Jesus before Pilate

15 As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ² Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." ³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Pilate Hands Jesus Over to Be Crucified

6 Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷ Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸ So the crowd came and

began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.

Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" 10 For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. 12 Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" 13 They shouted back, "Crucify him!" 14 Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" 15 So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

16 Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰ After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

The Crucifixion of Jesus

21 They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father

of Alexander and Rufus. ²² Then they brought Jesus^[g] to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

25 It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷ And with him they crucified two rebels, one on his right and one on his left. ^[1] ²⁹ Those who passed by derided ^[S] him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Messiah, ^[t] the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

The Death of Jesus

until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ¹³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him

down." ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion who stood facing him saw that in this way he^[w] breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" [X]

40 There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome, ⁴¹ who followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him, and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

The Burial of Jesus

Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead, and summoning the centurion he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵ When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ Then Joseph wrapped it in the linen cloth and, taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

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All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: grant us peace.

Go to Dark Gethsemane



The composer intended this tune for "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (no. 438), but its solemn tone and small range make it an effective setting for this series of somber vignettes portraying what Christians can learn from Christ: to pray, to bear the cross, to die, and to rise.

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One: Jesus, Lamb of God,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: grant us peace.

One: Eternal God,

as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life.

For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior.

All: Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING -

Greg Burns

OFFERTORY: "Hosanna to the Son"

J. Lindh

Choir with Bells

*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #708

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYER REQUESTS

Greg Burns

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

Rev. Chris Scrivens

Rev. Chris Scrivens

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.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: #198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

*BENEDICTION Rev. Chris Scrivens

*Please rise in body or in Spirit.

Participating in today's Worship and Fellowship are . . .

Minister: Reverend Christopher W. Scrivens

Lay Assistant: Greg Burns

Director of Family Ministries: Elder Carolyn Bearlepp

Music Director: Matt Petrozelli Guest Organist: Vicki Kopacka

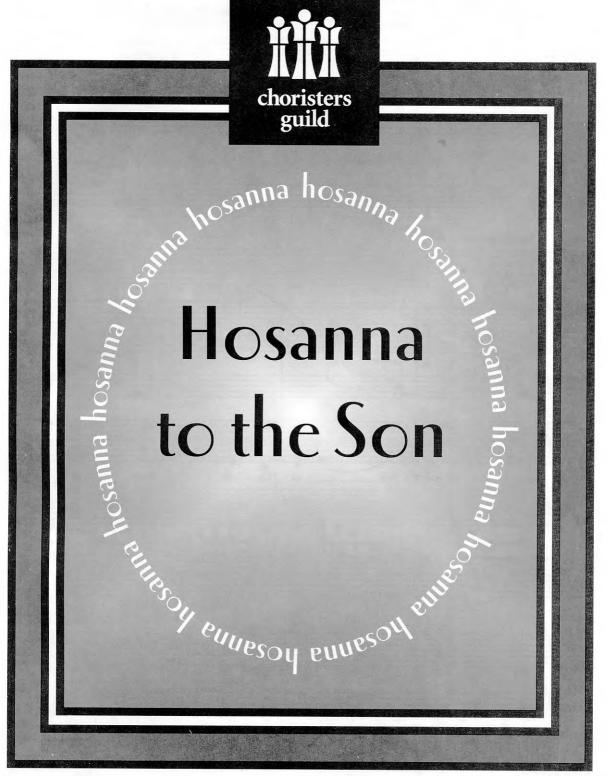
Ushers: Dan and Deacon Jerilynn Harris

Fellowship & Refreshments: Elder Nancy Pappas and Barbara Misar

Welcome to our In-person and virtual Worship Service. Our church members are asked to introduce themselves to any visitors or members they do not know and introduce visitors to us.

Our flowers this morning are given to the glory of God.

Unison with keyboard and optional handbells (3-4 octaves)



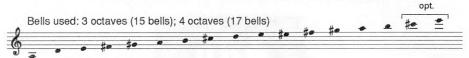
Published by Choristers Guild www.choristersguild.org

Community Presbyterian Church Box 148 Chester, N.J. 07930

to Linda Adams

Hosanna to the Son

Unison voices with keyboard and optional handbells (3-4 octaves)





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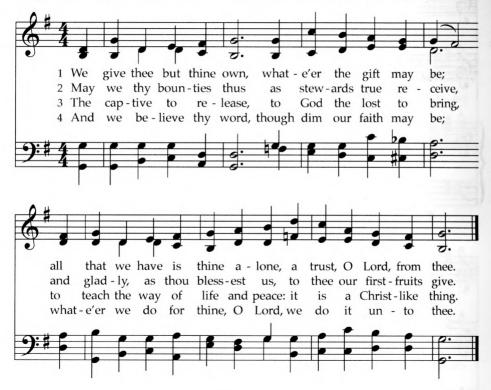


CGA-606





708 We Give Thee but Thine Own



One: Eternal God,

as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life.

For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior.

All: Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING -

Greg Burns

OFFERTORY: "Hosanna to the Son"

J. Lindh

Choir with Bells

*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #708 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Greg Burns

PRAYER REQUESTS Rev. Chris Scrivens

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

Rev. Chris Scrivens

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.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: #198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

*BENEDICTION Rev. Chris Scrivens

*Please rise in body or in Spirit.

Participating in today's Worship and Fellowship are . . .

Minister: Reverend Christopher W. Scrivens

Lay Assistant: Greg Burns

Director of Family Ministries: Elder Carolyn Bearlepp

Music Director: Matt Petrozelli Guest Organist: Vicki Kopacka

Ushers: Dan and Deacon Jerilynn Harris

Fellowship & Refreshments: Elder Nancy Pappas and Barbara Misar

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198 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!



This 19th-century Palm Sunday text is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century.

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COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Chester, New Jersey 07930

The Rev. Christopher W. Scrivens, Pastor Office Telephone: (908) 879-5091 E-Mail Address: office@cpcchester.org www.cpcchester.org