



THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
SUNDAY OF THE PASSION (PALM SUNDAY)  
APRIL 2, 2023  
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP  
FBC SANCTUARY  
11:00 A.M.



THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY  
APRIL 2, 2023

*We remember these stories and others so that we may find the courage to march with Jesus and proclaim a word of peace and reconciliation, despite our location among the common folk. After all, Jesus' followers possessed no formal authority to change their world, but neighbor and friend, stranger and distant traveler, children and adults marched into the city gates with Jesus to contest the exclusionary practices that had so long defined their existence.*

- Veronice Miles

Gathering Music

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"  
Teschner/ Arr. Cindy Berry, ©2013 by Alfred Music  
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Introit and Palm Processional

"Hosanna"  
Allen Pote. © 1969 Choristers Guild. Anthem edition 1992. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

\* Call to Worship

Joe Karnes  
Psalm 118

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**People: The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.**

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

**People: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

**People: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

\* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 175 Verses 1 and 3)

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"  
ST. THEODULPH

\* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

*If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.*

\* Hymn of Hosanna (CONG 172, Verses 1)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"  
ELLACOMBE

**Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang through pillared court and temple,  
the lovely anthem rang, To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to His breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.**

*\* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

\*Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams  
Matthew 21.1-11

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Hosanna (CONG 172, vs. 2)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"  
ELLACOMBE

**From Olivet they followed among the joyful crowd;  
the victor palm branch waving, with singing clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.**

Sermon

Rev. Cristina Adams

Hymn of Hosanna (CONG 172, vs. 3)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"  
ELLACOMBE

**"Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing;  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
and in His blissful presence eternally rejoice.**

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"Were You There"  
Arr. Robin Dinda. © 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.  
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\* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

**O God, we confess our distress when afflicted with pain. We often avoid those encounters that will cause us discomfort. It is easier to hide from distress than to be exposed to forms of misery and grief. Yet we believe in Christ, who was sacrificed for all. help us to trust in him when he calls us to bear abuse on his behalf and show more compassion on others for whom pain is so constant.**

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Our assurance of pardon is in Jesus, "who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant...and became obedient to the point of death...on a cross." Through his obedience we are freed from whatever bondage enslaves us.*

Morning Prayer and 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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Prayer Response

"Lord's Prayer"

A.H.Malotte. © 1935 by G. Schirmer, Inc. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

Palms and Passion

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Gospel Reading (please remain seated)

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant  
Matthew 21.12-17

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Invitation to the Table Celebration of the Bread and Cup

"If Thou But Suffer" Georg Neumark / Robert Graham © 1984, Lorenz Publishing Co.  
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\* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 171 Verses 1-3)

"What Wondrous Love is This"  
WONDROUS LOVE

Life of the Church Benediction

Postlude

"Were You There"

Traditional Spiritual/ Arr. Calvin Taylor, © 2007 by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.  
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Please leave the sanctuary in quiet reflection and greet one another in the narthex.

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Joe Karnes Pianist: Dr. Christy Miller*

*Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen*

*Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Brandon Gillette Sound: Jim Lord*

*YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Kylee Johnston Welcome Table: Jenny Purvis*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Local Church: Plymouth Congregational Church*

*American Baptist Churches, USA; Region Exe. Min. Rev. Mike Sisson, serving churches in West Virginia*

*International Ministries Missionaries: Annie & Jeff Dieselberg, serving in Thailand*

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*Palms & Passion: Excerpts from Buechner's Palm Sunday sermon entitled "The Things That Make For Peace" from "A Room Called Remember"*

*\* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*