



TUPC VISION STATEMENT

*We are a diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ **GROWING** together. With the always present power of the Holy Spirit, we share our lives, care for one another, worship, pray, study God's word, and serve both inside and outside the walls of the church.*

*We invite you to come and **GROW** with us.*



Sunday, March 28, 2021

Interim Pastor- Rev Lindsey Carnes

Lay Reader-Barbara Wesley

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Lord Jesus Christ, on the first Palm Sunday you entered the rebellious city where you were to die.

Enter our hearts, we pray, and subdue them to yourself.

And as your disciples blessed your coming and spread garments and branches in your way,

make us ready to lay at your feet all that we have and are,

that we too may bless your coming in the name of the Lord.

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

As the crowds welcomed Christ, acclaiming him as the One who came in the name of the Lord, give us insight not only to recall these events but to discern their meaning for our lives now as we gather to offer you our praise, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn PH#88 All Glory Laud and honor (v.1,4)

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honour
To Thee, Redeemer, King!
To Whom the lips of children
Made sweet Hosannas ring,

1Thou art the King of Israel
Thou David's Royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed One

4Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the praise we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King

Call to Confession

God whose love lasts forever, your only Son took the form of a servant and, not holding on tightly to equality with you, gave himself completely, remaining obedient right to death. Through your Spirit's work in us, help us to think like Christ, so that having his attitude we may share his humility and be with him in his glory.

Prayer of Confession

We confess that we are not so different from those who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday yet later shouted 'Crucify him!' or remained silent in the face of injustice. We have betrayed you too, Lord Jesus by our sins both secret and known. Yet you died for people like us, and you rose on the third day that we might be redeemed. For the sake of Jesus Christ do not hold our sins against us. Jesus Christ, our King of glory, we have not been outspoken for you. We have not called for your death, but neither have we shouted of your greatness, nor expressed delight in the salvation you have won for us. Help us to see your glory, draw us closer to you that we may become more faithful, and more joyful servants of the King.

Assurance of Pardon

The Psalmist says: But I trust in you, O Lord, I say 'You are my God.' My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love. In Christ, God hears; God answers; God sets us free. In Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

PH#91 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! (v.1-4)

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
Hark, all the tribes Hosanna cry.
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strowed

4 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In Lowly pomp ride on to die; Bow Thy meek
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain, then take,
O God, Thy power, and reign.

2. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
in lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
To see the approaching sacrifice.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Illumination Lord who still speaks, in all the clamor of the world none is more true than you and no word is more reliable than yours. Through your Spirit's working in our lives enable us to quieten all these other voices and listen for your Word. Speak to us of our King who draws close in peace and offers life even at the cost of his own; that we might be faithfully, joyfully and clearly his in lives given to your service.

Scripture Mark 11:1-11 Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

1 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!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

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.

Sermon "What Kind of King Do We Expect"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Introduction to the Offering

Thanksgiving God, who is present everywhere and at all times, we praise you that in the events from Palm Sunday to Good Friday as Jesus Christ entered the city, taught in the Temple, broke bread in the upper room and was lifted up on the cross, you opened to us the path to eternal life. Trusting in the One who has come in your name may we serve you in the new life you offer us and walk faithfully in your ways all the days of our lives. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, As the whole city was stirred when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the shouts of the crowd heard above the clamor at market stalls, the eager discussions of the theologians, the ordinary business of life, we give ourselves heart and soul, mind and body, time and wealth to honor Jesus Christ your Son as Lord that those who live and work around us may see him and trust in his redeeming love to your glory.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Things change so quickly. For Jesus, the cheers of the crowd became jeers from those who wanted him condemned. We know in a world of quick and sometimes terrible change, we need to pray continually. We pray to you, Lord of palm-branches and the cross, for you understand us and in love you have promised not to push away any who come to you. So we pray for people who feel pushed away: pushed away from a living faith in Jesus by pressure from friends and family; those who feel pushed away by other people in churches if they do not share the same kinds of ideas, or ways, or clothes; for people who are pushed out by those who want power, whose main love to be noticed, to have control. We pray for your church that all those who trust in Jesus will be made able by your Spirit to follow his humility, to see and imitate his servant life, to welcome and not to condemn.

Help your church to be like Jesus. We pray to you, Lord of palm-branches and the cross, for you know the warm glow of being praised and the loneliness of being hated. We pray for world leaders, quick to stand in the limelight taking decisions which affect everyone in the world but slow at times to do the steady, less glamorous work to which they are called. We pray for world leaders to understand their role to serve the peoples of the world, that posturing will be replaced by practical action to make a difference, and jockeying for position be replaced by genuine efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for those who are weak. In days when food banks are required in our land to feed families who struggle to provide the basics for life, we ask that you will rearrange our priorities and help us to live more like Jesus.

We pray to you, Lord of palm branches and the cross, because you know how quickly life changes to death. We pray for those who have recently lost those whom they have loved. In the shock, confusion, pain and sorrow especially of unexpected loss, we pray for hearts to be open to the comfort of your Spirit, shown through friendship and community and as deep calls to deep. We remember those we know who mourn in these days, who need to be sure of that you invite those in sorrow to turn to you; and we name them before you now...

We ask, God of grace, that you will make us more like some of the crowd: that we will follow Jesus and give him our praise in the way we live; that we will turn away from wrong and evil and stand on the Master's side, that we will be faithful in worshipping the one who has come in the Lord's name through our singing, our worship, our prayers, our attention, in giving our skills, time and means through the days of our lives; and in the offering which we make now. Bless, we pray, all that is given to your glory and the good of many. Through Jesus who is the Savior of all. Amen

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

PH#89 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (v.1-3)

1. Hosanna, loud Hosanna, The little children sang
Through pillared court and temple The joyful anthem rang;
To Jesus, who had blessed them Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best
2. From Olivet they followed 'Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, And chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven Rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children Should on His bidding wait
3. "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

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