

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Hosanna

Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord. Mark 11:9

Palm Sunday
Sunday, March 24, 2024
10:00 A.M.

119 WEST COMMERCE STREET
BRIDGETON, NJ 08302
PHONE (856)455-0809
WWW.FPCBRIDGETON.ORG

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE "The Palms" J.B. Faure/arr. L. Grant

WELCOME Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING PROCLAMATION Rev. Kaul

PROCESSIONAL PALM HYMN #89 "Hosanna Loud Hosanna"

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

We claim God's salvation in Christ our Savior with the word:

Hosanna, hosanna! An unlikely king, he rides into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey never before ridden **and still we recognize him:** we find God's majesty in this humble man who leads a bunch of ragtag followers! **Let us worship Christ with thanksgiving for his hope-filled entry into our lives.**

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Kaul

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy one, beloved of God,

We rally to your side cheering and waving, caught up in the excitement and the drama of the procession. We join the procession with prophecy and song echoing in our minds: singing of the triumph of God. We cry, "Hosanna! Save Us!" While believing ourselves saved already. In your mercy, forgive us. Forgive our desire for power, and trading one empire with another. Forgive us when we think that we have a privileged place in your kingdom. Forgive us when we would push away those who seek to know you; whom we consider too sinful, too distasteful, to be part of our company. Forgive us when our desire to follow you ends with the joyful procession. Forgive us our failure to follow and to love as you loved. Amen.*(Silent Reflection)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus walked on the earth His ceaseless love and grace assure us of our forgiveness. **We are grateful and thankful.**

Hosanna in the Highest! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

THE LENTEN WREATH

SCRIPTURE READING: John 13:21-30 Lenten Readers

PRAYER

Jesus we are grieved. Judas' betrayal of you still shocks us. We know we could have just as easily been in Judas' place. We worship idols of money, safety, health. We refuse to love our neighbor as ourselves. Thank you for guiding us through this season of Lent. You have led us to see the darkness in our lives. Thank you for loving us. Transform us into a people who love you with all that we have and are. Help us seek first your good, true, and peaceful kingdom, always. Amen.

SONG RESPONSE- #599 "Jesus Remember Me" (sing twice)

ANTHEM "Palm Sunday Procession" Ruth Elaine Schram
Handbells - Debbie H. & Rev. Norlita

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

A TIME TO BE YOUNG

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 Liturgist
A Song of Victory

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. **²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cor-

nerstone. ²³ This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. ²⁷ The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. ²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

DUET "The Holy City" S. Adams/arr. S Decesare
Debbie A. & Jennifer C.

GOSPEL Mark 1:1-11 Rev. Kaul

SERMON "Why Are We Doing This?"

PRAYER AT THE END OF THE SERMON

Ride on Lord Jesus, Upon a colt, over cloaks, under branches
ride on Lord Jesus.

Towards a city, through its gates, past the crowds – ride on
Lord Jesus.

As Hosannas fade and enemies sneer, as danger closes and
friends falter- ride on Lord Jesus.

Showing the way, teaching the truth, bringing life for all. In
the name of the Lord – ride on Lord Jesus.

HYMN #91 "Ride On, Ride On In Majesty"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Liturgist

We believe and trust in God The Father Almighty.

We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, His Son.

We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.

We believe and trust in the Three in One.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY "O Sacred Head" J.S. Bach

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN #92 "Beneath The Cross of Jesus"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

"May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent, one from the other." (*Mizpah Benediction*)

POSTLUDE "Postlude in G Minor" George Blake

TODAY - Palm Sunday



Fill Easter Eggs after worship



Serving Today

LITURGIST- Debbi BG

USHERS- Bruce H., Howard T., Bill F.

COUNTERS - Marie D., Joyce I.

FELLOWSHIP - Darlene F.

FLOWERS - Worship Committee



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Thanks for supporting
our PCUSA mission
offering for Lent



Bring me the colt of a donkey was the master's request. A young donkey was brought to Jesus to carry him to Jerusalem. A week later Jesus was ordered crucified. The little donkey so loved the Lord, that he wanted to help carry the cross, as he was the proper one to carry heavy burdens. But alas, he was pushed away. The sad little donkey waited to say good-bye until all had left. As he turned to leave, the shadow of the cross fell upon his shoulders. And there it has remained, a tribute to the loyalty and love of the humblest of God's creatures.



Can you see it?



Rev. Norlita Kaul, Pastor

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