



*The* **FIRST**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**CHURCH**  
*in* PHILADELPHIA

*est. 1698*

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

MARCH 24, 2024

PRELUDE

**Dominica in Palmis**

Jean Langlais

INTROIT

Plainsong

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest!

—*Matthew 21:9*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Laura Colee

\*HYMN 88

**All Glory, Laud, and Honor**

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

\*OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.

**O give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good. His steadfast love endures forever!**

The LORD is God and has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you. You are my God, I will extol you.**

*adapted from Psalm 118:25-29*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION



*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

## WELCOME

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, as we turn our eyes toward Jerusalem this week, we await your triumphant arrival with great anticipation. But even as we join the crowds in shouting Hosanna, Hosanna, deep down we recognize how fickle our hearts can be. We admit that we are much more comfortable with a God of glory than a God of suffering. We admit that we struggle to follow your way, especially since it leads to the cross. Forgive our stubborn resistance to Christ's work and witness in the world. Forgive the way we push others aside for our own selfish gain. Send us your Spirit that we might enter into our communities as you did: gently, humbly, and turning the ways of war and oppression on their head. Forgive us and build us up as we continue to pray...

## KYRIE (573) (*Choir and Congregation*)

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Believe the promise of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### ANTHEM

### Hosanna to the Son of David

Luc Jakobs

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed be He who comes in the name of the Lord, blessed be the King of Israel that comes in the name of the Lord, peace in Heaven and glory in the highest heavens. Hosanna in the highest heavens!

—*Matthew 21:9, paraphrase*

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Zechariah 9:9-12

(p. 869)

### GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 11:1-11

(p. 46)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

PICARDY

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one; as it was in the beginning, now and ever more shall be.

### SERMON

### The Ragtag Parade

Rev. Colee

*Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"*

*Mark 11:9*

### \*HYMN 90

### Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

THE KINGS'S MAJESTY

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from *The Order of St. Columba*

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his forgiveness can never be exhausted. We believe in the renewing, empowering Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. Amen.

**CALL TO OFFERING**

*You may bring your offering forward during the offertory, or place it in the plates after the service. You may also give online; information is available on the card in the pew rack.*

**OFFERTORY**

**Ah, Holy Jesus**

John Ferguson

Che-Hung Chen, viola

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
Who was the guilty, who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus hath undone thee.  
'Twas I Lord Jesus,  
I crucified thee.

—*fragments of the original of Robert Bridges (1844-1930), after Johann Heerman (1585-1647)*

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

**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.

**SERMON**

**What the Crowd Said**

Dr. Mullis

*Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!"*

*Mark 15:14*

\*HYMN 78

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

MARTYRDOM

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 15:1-15

(p. 52)

POSTLUDE

Ah, Dearest Jesus  
(Herzliebster Jesu)

Raymond H. Haan

\* \* \*

“Then, began one of those extraordinary scenes in which the populace sometimes gratified their fickleness, or their better impulses toward generosity and mercy, or which they regarded as some set-off against their swollen account of cruel rage.”

—Charles Dickens  
*A Tale of Two Cities*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH 24, 2024

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Tenebrae Service

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29

Service of Readings & Music

12:00 p.m.

### DEDICATIONS AT EASTER

We continue our tradition of accepting donations and dedications in honor of or in memory of friends and loved ones at Easter. **Please submit dedications by tomorrow, March 25**; forms are available in the narthex and the church office. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia; please note “Easter Dedications” on the check memo. Dedications and donations may also be submitted online via the church website: [fpcphila.org/easter-dedications](http://fpcphila.org/easter-dedications) or emailed to the church office ([office@fpcphila.org](mailto:office@fpcphila.org)).

### LENTEN DONATION DRIVE

The Missions Committee is sponsoring a donation drive to support Philly House, a shelter for men that provides temporary housing and comprehensive services to support transitions to long-term housing. The drive runs through April 7. Visit our website or scan the QR code for a list of needed items and Amazon Wishlist options.



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