



March 28, 2021
Palm Sunday

GATHERING		Heather Hinton
GREETING		Darren Cushman Wood
ANNOUNCEMENTS		Sunil Kotian
EASTER OFFERING	Denise Soltis, Executive Director, Umoja Partnership	
PRELUDE	<i>All Glory, Laud and Honor</i>	arr. G. F. Kauffmann
CALL TO WORSHIP		Darren Cushman Wood
	Leader: Hosanna to the Son of David!	
	People: Hosanna in the highest!	
	Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.	
	People: Hosanna in the highest!	
	Leader: Let us go with Christ in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.	
CHORAL INTROIT	<i>Osanna in Excelsis</i> Hosanna in the highest!	G.P. Palestrina Chancel Quartet
OPENING HYMN	<i>Who Is He</i> <i>Who is he who comes in triumph? Who is he who comes to die, comes in peace and comes in power, hidden One now lifted high? Jesus, Jesus, Lord, Messiah, mighty Master of the grave! See him ride, the King of glory! God himself has come to save!</i> <i>See him there in humble splendor. Hear them shouting all around. Joy explodes in wild procession. Praise is now the victor's crown. "Glory, glory in the highest!" like the angels hear them sing, dancing 'round the Long-awaited – once their hope, and now their King.</i> <i>Rise and join the glad procession! Hear them passing by again – all the ransomed, all his children, marching to Jerusalem! Look ahead – the gates of splendor! Hear the everlasting hymn! Open wide your hearts in worship! Let the King of glory in!</i>	
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Aida Haddad

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God gives me the right words to encourage the weary.
Each morning the Lord awakens me eager to learn God's teaching;
God made me willing to listen and not rebel or run away.
I let them beat my back and pull out my beard.
I didn't turn aside when they insulted me and spit in my face.
But the Lord God keeps me from being disgraced.
So I refuse to give up, because I know God will never let me down.
My protector is nearby; no one can stand here to accuse me of wrong.
The Lord God will help me and prove I am innocent.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Benedictus

from *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*

K. Jenkins
Kurt Fowler, cello;
Chancel Quartet

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini, Hosanna in excelsis.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

Darren Cushman Wood

Leader: Tell the Lord how thankful you are,
because God is kind and always merciful.

People: Let Israel shout, "God is always merciful!"

Leader: Open the gates of justice!

People: I will enter and tell the Lord how thankful I am.

Leader: Here is the gate of the Lord!
Everyone who does right may enter this gate.

**People: I praise the Lord for answering my prayers and saving me.
The stone that the builders tossed aside
has now become the most important stone.**

Leader: The Lord has done this, and it is amazing to us.
This day belongs to the Lord!
Let us celebrate and be glad today.

**People: We will ask the Lord to save us!
We will sincerely ask the Lord to let us win.**

Leader: God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: We praise you in the house of the Lord.

Leader: The Lord is our God who has given us light!
Start the celebration!
March with palm branches all the way to the altar.

**People: The Lord is my God!
I will praise God and proclaim my gratitude.**

Leader: Tell the Lord how thankful you are,
because God is kind and always merciful.

People: "God is always merciful!"

***What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.***

***What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sunil Kotian

Leader: Cry out to the Lord, 'Hosanna'—Lord, save us!
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and will save us.

**People: Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus Christ
entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King
by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way.
Today, we lay down our sins and renounce all other loyalties.
Restore the joy of our salvation,
give us courage to follow him to Calvary, and
grant us grace to share in his everlasting life. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news!
Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,
that we might be dead to sin
and be alive to all that is good.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Glory to God. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN FOR JOYCE FLIGHT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LENTEN DOXOLOGY

***Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love
in Christ into our hearts. Amen.***

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 11:1-10; 15:1-5

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What

are you doing, untying the colt?’ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

‘Hosanna!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

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. Pilate asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ He answered him, ‘You say so.’ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, ‘Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.’ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

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

SERMON

Good Power: The Power to Die

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #297

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

***Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.***

***Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.***

***I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Prelude in E Minor

F. Chopin

The white carnation is in celebration of the life of Joyce Flight who passed away on March 23.

Today's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Sunil Kotian, *Pastoral Intern*
Aida Haddad, *Liturgist*
John Hague & Jack Haefling, *Audio Visual*
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*
Chancel Quartet:
Kate Roberts, Amy Cuomo,
Nathanael Hein & Ron Berry

Palm Sunday Festival

Sunday, March 28, 3-5 p.m.
North Church Parking Lots
Donkeys, palm branch waving, hymn singing,
live music, and more.

Maundy Thursday Service

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Pre-registration required