



March 24, 2024 – Livestream
Palm Sunday

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

arr. K. Kosche

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come with your branches, songs and hosannas!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Leader: Rejoice and shout, O daughter of Zion, your king comes to you.

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Leader: Awake to the day of triumph of our Savior!

Rejoice for this day that leads to the cross!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, whose love endures forever.

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #278

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

***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.***

***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.***

***"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!***

CAROLERS' ANTHEM

Little Grey Donkey

N. Sleeth

Jim Caraher, piano; Denise Page Caraher, conductor

Little gray donkey ho. Do you know just who it is you carry on your back? 'Tis no ordinary load, no mean

or common pack, you are blessed of all beasts to carry into town, Christ the Lord of Galilee; He wears no earthly crown.

Little gray donkey ho. Once you were a simple beast of poor and lowly state, Christ himself has chosen you and honored is your fate. Though your path with palms is spread, make haste upon the way. You were destined here to ride on this triumphal day.

Little gray donkey ho. Yonder is a grassy hill, it's known as Calvary, up against the cloudless sky, a barren cross you see. Little gray donkey, little gray mare, don't hide your head in shame, for you bear the Lamb of God and Jesus is His name.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jim McDonald

**Eternal God,
whose word silences the lies of the powerful,
quiet within us every voice but your own.
Speak to us through the suffering and death of Christ
that by the power of your Spirit
we may follow the way of Jesus. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Romans 5:6-11

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But this proves God's love for us: while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of the Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Voices of Praise

C. Courtney

Sung in English, Swahili and Spanish

From the heart of the crowd come the voices of praise, praise to the King!

Out of every tribe come the voices of praise. O praise to the King! Hosanna!

Utukufu na heshima nguvu hosana! ~ *Glory and honor, power, Hosanna!*

Cantan, "Gloria y honor y poder!" Cantan, "Gloria y honor, hosanna!"

They sing, "Glory, and honor, and power!" They sing, "Glory, and honor, hosanna!"

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 31:9-16

Amy Sell

Leader: Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in distress.

Tears blur my eyes. My body and soul are withering away.

People: I am dying from grief; my years are shortened by sadness.

Sin has drained my strength.

Leader: I am scorned by all my enemies and despised by my neighbors—
even my friends are afraid to come near me.

When they see me on the street, they run the other way.

People: I am ignored as if I were dead, as if I were a broken pot.

Leader: I have heard the many rumors about me, and I am surrounded by terror.

My enemies conspire against me, plotting to take my life.

People: But I am trusting you, O Lord; you are my God.

Leader: My future is in your hands.

People: Let your favor shine on your servant.

In your unfailing love, rescue me.

HYMN OF PRAYER #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 that 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.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sunil Kotian

Leader: While we were too weak to save ourselves, Christ died for us,
to destroy our impending demise
and to create our peace with God and one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sins:

People: **Lord Jesus,
you know us better than we know ourselves and you love us to the end.
We have denied you, and we have denied your call to serve others.
We have betrayed you, and we have betrayed your command to love all.
Forgive our disobedience and free us from the bondage of evil,
that our lives may become a living witness to your grace. Amen.**

Leader: The promise is secure:
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #482

Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Amy Sell

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Blessed Redeemer

S. Potts

Up Calvary's mountain one dreadful morn walked Christ, my Savior, weary and worn;
facing for sinners death on the cross, that He might save them from endless loss.

*Blessed Redeemer! Precious Redeemer! Seems now I see Him on Calvary's tree;
wounded and bleeding, for sinners pleading, blind and unheeding, dying for me!*

"Father, forgive them!" thus did He pray, e'en while His lifeblood flowed fast away;
Praying for sinners while in such woe, no one but Jesus ever loved so. [*Refrain*]

O how I love Him, Savior and Friend, how can my praises ever find end?
Thro' years unnumbered on heaven's shore, my tongue shall praise Him forevermore. [*Refrain*]

*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 15:22-39

²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!' ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' ³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Who Do You Say That I Am, Part 6: Jesus the Condemned

Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #286

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

***O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown:
how pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!***

*What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.*

*What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.*

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Prelude in E Minor

attr. J.S. Bach

On Apr 28, the North Church Youth will be participating in TreePlenish 2024 to plant trees all over Indy as part of our Creation Care mission focus this year. Our goal is to plant 100 trees, which will offset the energy consumption of North for one year. There are 3 sapling types available, and it is no cost to you! We will even help plant the tree if you're within the Indy surrounding area. Just follow the QR code to order a sapling now, and share with your family and friends, too! If you're interested in helping us plant the saplings, you can use the same QR code. Signups will run until March 28.



Learn More



<http://tinyurl.com/4ca8buv7>

Throughout Lent, the Justice and Advocacy Team invites us to pray for peace around the world. The olive tree on the altar is a visual prayer for peace. After each service, you are invited to kneel or stand at the altar and offer your prayers for peace.

This week, we offer prayers for ongoing wars in Haiti, Syria, Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia, and the Philippines. The QR Code will take you to the official UMC Justice web site for On-Going Conflicts.

Holy Week Observances:

Wednesday, communion, 7:30am

Maundy Thursday, 7:30pm, chapel

Good Friday, community prayer service, 12:00pm

Good Friday, Dubois' 7 Last Words of Christ, 7:30pm

Easter Sunday, 8:30am communion; 11am

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

Senior Pastor

Sunil Kotian

Pastor of Mission & Outreach

Amy Sell

Minister of Discipleship & Formation

Brandon Wallace

Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Jim McDonald

Liturgist

John Hague and Eric Russell

Audio Visual

Mark Gilgallon

Music Director

Heather Hinton

Organist