March 28, 2021

GUIDE FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

Words to Ponder

“Jesus chose and cultivated an inner circle of disciples for special guidance, preparing them to succeed him. Their recorded imperfections show us the willingness of Jesus to trust that the Spirit can show itself through fragile human vessels. After a period of formation he dared to call these disciples friends rather than servants, exhorting them to go and bear fruit that abides.”

Prelude

“The Call

The story of Palm Sunday tells of how people removed their cloaks and spread them out in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem.

The cloak we wear every day to face the world is both the persona we wish to present, and our defense against the elements. We are holy vessels, broken, yet determined to be made whole. As we come to worship may we be willing to lay down our defenses and disguises, at the feet of the One who sees us as we really are.
And then, set free for worship,  
may we offer our praises  
with open hearts and lives.  
Hosanna!

Gathering Song  
“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!” #213 vv. 1 & 3

Gathering Prayer  
From Psalm 51

O Gracious One,  
as we journey together during this Holy Week before us,  
have mercy on us, according to your steadfast love.  
For you have placed your truth in our inner being,  
holy vessels of your miraculous creation.  
You have given us all we need to be whole.  
Therefore, teach us the wisdom of the heart.  
Forgive all that binds us in fear,  
that we might radiate love.  
Cleanse us that your light might shine from within us,  
and help us transform weakness into strength.  
Look not at our past mistakes but on the aspirations of our hearts.  
Create in us clean hearts, O Gracious One,  
and put a new and right spirit within us.  
Amen.

Children’s Time  
Betsy

Moment for Mission  
One Great Hour of Sharing  
Emily Kuttenkuler

Music for Reflection  
“To the Morning”  
by Dan Fogelberg

Scripture Reading  
When they had gotten close to Jerusalem, near the two villages of Bethphage and Bethany and the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his followers ahead of them.

Jesus: “Go to that village over there. As soon as you get into the town, you’ll see a young colt tied that nobody has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it back to me. If anybody stops you and asks what you’re doing, just say, “The Lord needs it, and he will send it back right after he’s done.”

Everything happened just as Jesus had told them. They found the colt in the street tied near a door, and they untied it.

Bystanders: What are you doing?
They answered as Jesus had instructed and were allowed to take it, so they brought the colt back to Jerusalem, piled garments on its back to make a comfortable seat, and Jesus rode the animal toward Jerusalem. As they traveled, people cast their cloaks onto the road and spread out leafy branches, which they had brought from the fields along the way. People walked ahead of them, and others followed behind.

People (shouting): “Hosanna! Rescue us now, Lord! Hosanna!
Blessed be the One who comes in the name of the Eternal One!
And blessed is the kingdom of our father David, which draws closer to us today!
Hosanna in the highest heavens!”

To the sound of this chanting, Jesus rode through the gates of Jerusalem and up to the temple. He looked around and saw that evening was coming, so he and the twelve went back to Bethany to spend the night.

Message

“Examen”

Prayers of the People/Lord’s Prayer
Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom 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 kindom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Song of Response

“Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole”
Amelia, Lloyd, vocalist

Thanksgiving to God

Breathing in God’s Blessings

Blessing and Commissioning

Sending Forth Song

“Woyaya”

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Sources:

Words for Reflection are from Tilden Edwards in Spiritual Director, Spiritual Companion: Guide to Tending Souls, 2001, loc 136.

Call to Worship is adapted from Ann Siddall, and posted on the website of the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre. http://www.stillpointsa.org.au/

Gathering Prayer is an excerpt from Psalm 51 in Psalms for Praying by Nan C. Merrill, 2007.
"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

1 “Ho-san-na, loud ho-san-na,” the lit-tle chil-dren sang;
2 From Oli-vet they fol-lowed a-mid a cheer-ing crowd,
3 “Ho-san-na in the high-est!” That an-cient song is ours.

through pil-lared court and tem-ple the love-ly an-them rang;
the vic-tor palm branch wav-ing, and chant-ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re-deem-er and sing with all our powers:

To Je-sus, who had blessed them close fold-ed to his breast,
The one whom an-gels wor-ship rode on in low-ly state,
“Ho-san-na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil-dren sang their prais-es, the sim-plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil-dren, slowed down the don-key’s gait.
Ho-san-na! In your pres-ence for-ev-er we’ll re-joice!”
“Woyaya”

We are going, heaven knows
We will get there, heaven knows

where we are going,
how we will get there,
We'll know we're there.
We know we will.

It will be hard we know, and the
road will be muddy and rough, but we'll get there

heaven knows how we will get there, We know we will.

D.C. Wo-ya-yal

Wo-ya-yal

repeat ad lib
Wo-ya-yal

F last time slower

Wo-ya-yal

Wo-ya-yal

Wo-ya-yal