

A Reflection ~ One Hour

All sing the refrain "O Lamb of God" (previous page; seated)

THE PASTOR'S PRAYER

followed by THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 35-hymnal)

Hear these words from the Gospel of Matthew (27:33-37)

And they came to a place called Golgotha which means Place of a Skull. They offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head, they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Offertory "Were You There?" arr. S. Mitchell-Wallace

Lawrence Clemens, trumpet



***Take Up Your Cross (all read the bold)**

We believe in God, maker of all things, source of all life.

**Our life is in God,
and in God we are one with all creation.**

*We follow Jesus Christ,
in whom salvation has come to us.
He bids us take up our cross and follow him.*

**In his life, ministry, death and resurrection,
he has shown us
that in losing our lives, we will find them.**

*We live by the power of the Holy Spirit
as members of the Church, the Body of Christ.*

**We devote ourselves to
the reality of resurrection,
and the mystery of eternal life.**

***HYMN 223 - "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"**

***BENEDICTION**



*All are welcomed to the Fellowship Hall for coffee & conversation (left of the sanctuary)
and to return on Maundy Thursday for the Sacrament of Holy Communion, 7:00 pm
and a Celebration of the Resurrection next Sunday at 10:00 am*



Wycliffe

Presbyterian Church

March 25, 2018
PALM~PASSION SUNDAY
Rev. Garrett Bugg, pastor

Wycliffe Ringers "All Glory, Laud and Honor" C. Dobrinski

CALL TO WORSHIP (all read the bold)

*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!*

Matthew 21:1-11 (all read the bold)

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you'll find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.'" This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "tell the daughter of Zion, look!, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey."

The disciples did as Jesus had directed; they brought the donkey and colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him, and those that followed, shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

**"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL WITH PALMS

"Hosanna in the Streets!"

Pepper Choplin

Hosanna! Hosanna! He is the King of Israel. Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! I heard he can raise the dead. Is it true? Oh yes! I saw it. He called out to an open grave and from the dead a man he raised! I heard that he calmed a storm, is it true? Oh yes, I saw it. He called out to the angry waves, 'Peace be still,' and we were saved. He comes to save! Hosanna!

Children's time with the Pastor

***HYMN 197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (stand as you are able)**

**Share the Peace of Christ with those around you*



A Reflection ~ Power & Praise

After the procession,
the palms, the cloak-strewn road,
the hosannas and the blessed is he who comes,
he goes to the temple.

He doesn't teach. He doesn't preach.
He doesn't confront or challenge.
It's night, and Jesus is alone in this place of memories.

He will come back tomorrow, Mark tells us,
and turn over tables and drive out the buyers and sellers,
castigate people for turning this house of prayer into a robbers' den.

And soon he will die.

But for now, in this holy place, he peers into sacred space
inhabited and haunted by his own story.

Perhaps he sees Mary and Joseph carrying an infant son,
Simeon singing about salvation
and a light for revelation,
with Anna joined in praise.
Perhaps he sees the 12-year-old
who conversed with temple teachers,
or the tempter who tried to lure him
into flinging himself from the pinnacle of this place.

Perhaps in this place
where Jesus is alone-but-not-alone
they gather about him
reminding him why he has come,
calling him to remember
and offering their blessings for the days ahead.



A CALL TO CONFESSION (all read the bold together)

We stand at the gate, O God, hesitant and uncertain,
unwilling to answer your invitation to join this journey to the cross;
forgive us.

Help us embrace the joy and the pain that comes from following you,
that comes from loving others;
accepting ourselves.

Grant us the courage to join you in the procession;
the self-lessness to lay our cloaks before you;
the freedom to lift our palms to praise your glory;
and the knowledge that, by your grace, we are forgiven.

Refrain

All sing O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the
ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre-cious
blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE & PARDON and all say: **Thanks be to God.**

Hear these words from the Gospel of Matthew (Chapter 26) ~ all read the bold

One of the twelve, Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said
“What will you give me if I betray him to you?”

They paid him thirty pieces of silver, and from that moment on,
he began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, the disciples did as Jesus directed and prepared
the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve,
and while they were eating, he said, **“One of you will betray me.”**

They became greatly distressed and began to say, **“Surely not I, Lord?”**

But he said, **“the one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.”**
“Surely not I, Rabbi.” But Jesus replied, **“You have said so.”**



While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it
he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, **“Take, eat; this is my body.”**
then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,
**“Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is
poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”** And when they
had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

All sing the refrain above - **“O Lamb of God”** (remain seated)

The story from Matthew continues ~

Then Jesus went to a place called Gethsemane and asked the disciples to wait while he prayed,
and going a little further, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, **“My Father, if it is possible,
let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.”** He returned to the disciples
and asked, **“Are you sleeping? Could you not wait one hour with me?”**

And suddenly a large crowd with swords and clubs surrounded him, from the chief priests
and the elders of the people. They took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, who found no
false testimony against him, so they bound him and led him to Pilate.

