Sunday, March 24, 2024 9:30 am Palm Sunday

REFLECTION

"Throughout Mark's story, as Jesus moves toward Jerusalem, he travels in the same direction as other pilgrims but moves at a pace and purpose that is his own. What about us? Are we moving as if in a dream, carried along half awake at the pace of the pilgrims traveling in more or less the same direction as we are? Can we step out of the stream and pause, either to meet the brokenhearted ones in our communities, to bear witness to their sorrows, or to share our own heartache?"

Rev. Yvette Schock

PRELUDE

"Ride On, King Jesus"

Traditional Spiritual

CALL TO WORSHIP (Outside)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

Triumphant and victorious is he,

Humble and riding on a donkey,

On a colt, the foal of a donkey.

PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM:

John 12:12-16

PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH:

HYMN NO. 196

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

1. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. *Refrain*

2. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. *Refrain*

3. To thee, before thy passion, they sand their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*

4. Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! *Refrain*

OPENING SENTENCES

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism.

Because of Christ's love, we believe this good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN'S PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 752 "Dona Nobis Pacem"

DONA NOBIS PACEM

Dona nobis pacem, pacem. Dona nobis pacem.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Page 640 OT

SPECIAL MUSIC

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Gilbert Martin

GOSPEL READING

Mark 11: 1-11

Page 44, NT

SERMON

"Entering in Love Under the Shadow of Death"

Rev. Chris Houtz

HYMN NO. 215 vs. 4

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

WONDROUS LOVE

4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Palms"

Jean Baptiste Faure/arr. Barbara Kinyon

A BLESSING FOR THOSE TRAVELING TO MONROVIA, LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA

African Dream Academy Mission Trip

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

INVITATION TO GIVING

God has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require? **To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.** Let us bring our offerings to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 220

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

REDHEAD 76

- 1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power; your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2. Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;O the wormwood and the gall!O the pangs his soul sustained! Shun no suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
- 3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice compete; "It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4. Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay: all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Bless the Lord"

Taize

POSTLUDE

"The Royal Banners Forward Go"

Wilbur Held

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Chris Houtz, Pastor, Head of Staff
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music
FPC Chancel Choir
FPC Handbell Choir
Ray Liptak, AV Engineer—Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer

Ray Liptak, AV Engineer—Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer Matthew Califf & Michael Sperrazza, AV Team



The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God....
....in honor of the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell and
Chris and Tonya Houtz, by Dick and Bonnie Houtz

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit