

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

April 13, 2025

Welcome to worship
this morning!

Bulletin Cues:

Bold indicates
congregational response,

* indicates please stand, if able

WELCOME AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Were You There*
CPC Jubellation Handbell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On this day, Jesus marched
**in between the city walls
and the Temple,
in between joyful Hosannas
and doubtful whispers,
in between oppressive poverty
and greedy power,
in between rampant fear
and hope unfurled.**

On this day, Jesus marched in between what had been and what could be.

So may we meet Christ in that liminal space.

May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in between!



OPENING HYMN GTG 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

to Refrain

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, we are truth-tellers in the prayer of confession. We are honest about the fact that we are works in progress. We tell the truth of our lives. We lay it all out before God.

But this moment of prayer isn't just about us. In the prayer of confession we also reveal who God is, and our God is merciful. Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

So let us pray, knowing that God's truth will always mean grace for us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great Creator, forgive me

**when I speak before listening,
when I speak over my neighbor,
when I speak with barbed words.**

Creator God, forgive me

**when I listen to society,
when I listen to my friends,
when I listen to the news,
but I do not listen to you.**

Creator God, forgive me

**when I shout out, but do not shout your name,
when I listen, but do not listen for your voice.
Forgive me.**

Create in me a heart like yours.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, whether or not you stuck to your Lenten goals this year, whether or not this is your first time in church or your thousandth time, whether or not you know to speak to God or listen for God's voice, God listens to you. God is merciful. God is abounding in steadfast love. There is nothing you could do or leave undone that could keep God from loving you.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.
Not a day goes by that we ever walk alone. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speaking God, Most days we are inundated with noise. Some of it is good— laughter, music, storytelling. Some of it is hard— arguments, slurs, the sound of bomber planes. Every day we live between silence and shouting, rotating through quiet and noise. So in the midst of this messy middle, help us to hear what is yours. Help us to hear your song, your story, your good news. Help us to hear your voice, your Spirit, your will. And show us how to release the rest. We are listening. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Lenten Carol
By Stephen Walters

*Do you see how he rides through the city gates as a king,
With his head held high?*

*Do you see in his face any sign or trace
That he knows he will soon have to die?
Surely, he would have known in his special way
That they sought him to crucify;
Yet he rides unafraid through the sun and shade
As "Hosanna!" the people cry.*

*Do you see how he goes to Gethsemane
As the night winds begin to blow?
Do you see him on his knees near the olive trees
As he prays for God's true will to know?
There are none who would blame him
for staying free of a death so painful and slow;
Yet he knows he must see to his destiny, to his Calvary he must go.*

*Do you see how he stands in the judgment hall
As a captive with head bowed low?
Do you see how he fails to reply when assailed
With blunt questions whose answers he knows?
Could it possibly be that his lot was cast
to have failed as Savior and King?
Yet we see in his eyes not the least surprise
When they say he must faced death's sting.*

*Do you see how they take him outside of town
To the hill to be crucified?
Can you stand there and hear ev'ry taunt and jeer?
Do you see how he painfully dies?*

*Yet, if all that he said when he walked this earth
Would be treasured and held as wise,
There is no way to doubt that the truth will out;
Even now he prepares, Even now he prepares,
Even now he prepares to rise!*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:28–40

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

We proclaim Christ crucified— the wisdom and power of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Tim Gerarden


RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Through the grace of God, we have gifts in abundance and pour them out like perfume from a flask, not for our sakes, but to worship the One who lavishes love on the world.

An offering plate is placed near the back of the room to receive your offerings and is available before, during the hymn of the day and shortly following the service.

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
3 “Ho - san - na in the high - est!” That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joyce.

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts— and use our lives— to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor, and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus
 as we pray for the world he came to save, saying: Have mercy, O God; **hear our prayer...**

As we pour out our hearts in prayer, O God,
 lead us to pour out our lives in service to you—
 ever seeking your will, ever following your way;
 all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your 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 let us not be led into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 198 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

As you leave this place,
may you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God,
and therefore, you contain multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.
God is with you in the mountains,
in the valleys,
and everywhere in between.
Believe that good news, and go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

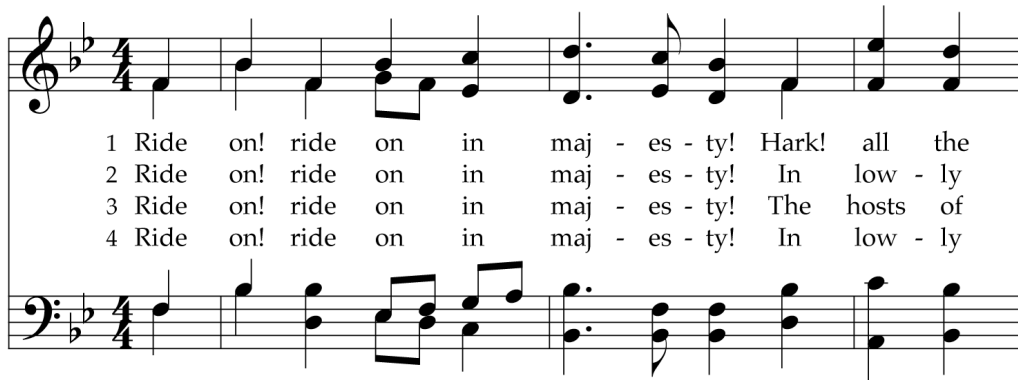
Liturgy, Poetry and Prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



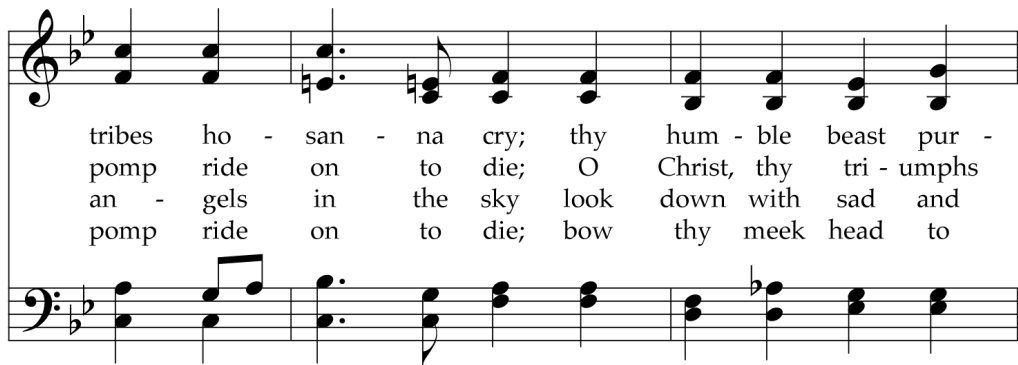
You are invited to bring flowers on Easter Sunday!
Any spring flowers are just fine... if you choose to
bring an Easter Lily, please remove the stamens in
the center of the flower as that helps those that are
allergic to them.

Maundy Thursday - April 17
soup and bread 6 pm
worship 7 pm
Easter Sunday - April 20, 9:30 am

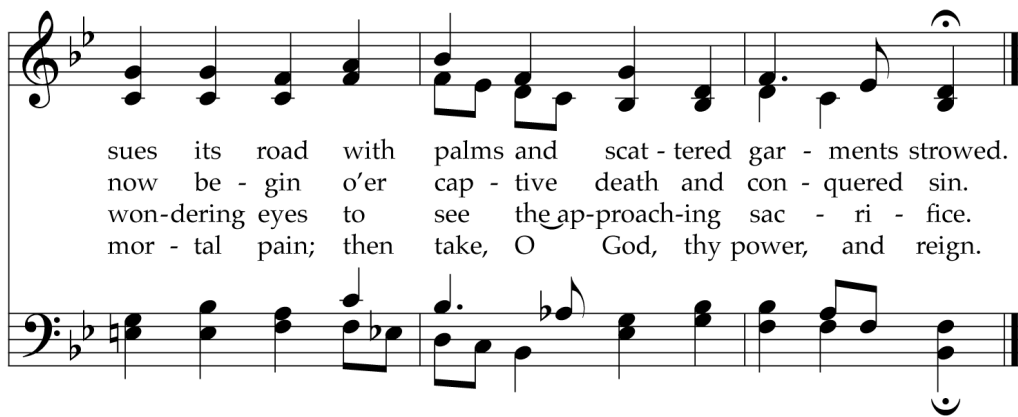
Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! 198



1 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the
2 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
4 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur -
pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs
an - gels in the sky look down with sad and
pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to



sues its road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
won - dering eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
mor - tal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.



PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

everything [in] between shouting & silence

If You Really Listen...

In the city you'll hear horns, the clatter of the subway,
mothers calling to their children, saying, *"Take my hand before we cross the street."*
You'll hear church bells, Salvation Army bells,
people asking for spare change, while others ask for directions.
You'll hear the whistle from the traffic cop,
the exhaust from the bus,
that *a train is arriving in two minutes.*
You'll hear mothers selling fresh mango,
theater kids selling tickets,
and religious groups selling ideas.
But even with all that shouting,
even with all that noise,
the birds still sing.
Against all odds,
thanks be to God,
the birds still sing.

On Sunday, April 27, Holly Fifield from The Landing in downtown Rochester will be our special guest and speaker. Holly is the Vice-Chair and Co-Founder of The Landing. Don't miss this fun day! There will be a special coffee hour after worship. "We look forward to visiting with you on April 27th and sharing some updates and dreams for the future."



Spring Fling will be Sunday, May 4th after worship. Plan to spend part of the day at CPC doing cleanup and repair projects around the church! Many hands make light work! After the work is done, stay for a bite to eat!



PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

everything [in] between shouting & silence



I Believe

by Steve Prince

Inspired by Luke 19:29-40

Pen and ink on paper

It is said that the true confession that flows from one's heart and lips and professes that they are a sinner and desire to be healed, is essentially the key to unlocking one's salvation. Amid a sometimes turbulent and chaotic world, if we enter with faith and Christ in our hearts we shall be delivered. The figure's hands are lifted in praise as he navigates the flood of life which can be overbearing. He recognizes that the flood of life is symbolic of sin and separation from God. He closes his eyes, humbles himself before God, and he is delivered into a new chapter of his life, triumphant.

—Steve Prince

Prompts for contemplation

- Look closely at the waves. What does the flood of life represent for you?
- Notice the contrast between the house on one side and the man on the other. What emotions or thoughts do these images evoke?
- How does the image of Jesus on a donkey influence your understanding of this scene? What do you make of its placement in this work?
- Notice the abstract shaded area at the top. Does it feel like a cloud, storm, or something else? Does this texture remind you of God's presence?

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open hearted, open minded



Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday

9:30 am **Worship - Onsite and Online**

10:40 am **Nominating Committee Meeting**

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Monday, April 14

9:30 am Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, April 15

12:00 pm Items for the Bulletin are due

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, April 16

9:00 am Prayer Group

6:30 pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal

7:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday

6:00 pm **Soup and Bread Meal**

7:00 pm **Worship - Onsite and Online**

Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday

9:30 am **Worship - Onsite and Online**

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughters Jenny & Elissa

Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline

Jennifer Hall and Sage Hall

Bill and Ronda Marshall and family

Shannon Cisewski

Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

To be added to the prayer list, please contact the office: 507-280-9291 or via email: office@cpcrochester.org.

Serving in Worship Today

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Guest Preacher | Rev. Tim Gerarden |
| Guest Pianist | Judy Kereakos |
| Liturgist | Margie Petersen |
| IT Support | Louis Bouchard & Bruce Felger |

Church Staff

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Music Director | Jennifer Taylor |
| Custodian | Nancy Sanford |
| Office Manager | Stephanie Pasch |