

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 14, 2019

Rev. Rosemary McMahan, Interim Pastor

Elder Greg Vogel, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude

"Hosanna to the Son of David"

Dr. Gilbreath

We Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

Pastor's Welcome (Please sign the friendship roster.)

Good News Reading: John 12: 12-16

Call to Worship

Elder Vogel

One: Rejoice greatly, O CHILDREN of Zion!

All: *Shout aloud, O CHILDREN of Jerusalem!*

One: Lo, your king comes to you;

All: *Triumphant and victorious is he,*

One: humble and riding on a donkey,

All: *on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

One: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: *Hosanna in the highest!*

*Hymn of Worship

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!"

#197

Please pass your prayer cards to the aisle for pickup.

Call to Confession

One: Jesus, our Lord, we shout hosannas to praise you. With eager hands, we place our cloaks and palms on the path before you. Yet, Lord, we confess that the mouths that seek to praise you often deny or defy you. And we confess that the hands that seek to serve you often remain shut. Lord, hear us as we confess:

Prayer of Confession

On this Sunday, O God, we remember how quickly we change and how fickle we are, how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next. We go from shouting "Hosanna! Save Us!" to "Crucify Him" through many of our thoughts, actions, and inactions. Forgive us, O God, when we are half-hearted believers. Forgive us, O God, when we do not stand up for justice. Forgive us, O God, when we forget and grow weary. Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into Your vision of new life. Amen.

Hymn of Response

"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord" V.1

#707

Assurance of Pardon

One: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: For Christ came into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through him should be saved.

One: Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children.

All: And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Hosanna! Amen!

*Gloria Patri

#581

Anthem

"On That Day When He Rode Into Jerusalem"

Choir

We Proclaim the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Vogel

"The Passion of Jesus Christ According to Mark" (see insert)

Message

"On the Road with Jesus: The Final Stretch"

Rev. McMahan

We Respond to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. This we believe.

Prayers of the People (debts/debtors)

Offertory

"I'd Rather Have Jesus"

Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology

#606

*Prayer

We Go Into the World

*Hymn of Sending

"The Old Rugged Cross"

See Screen

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. McMahan

Postlude

"At the Cross"

Dr. Gilbreath

*All that are able are invited to stand.

Bold italic type indicates our shared response.

To Our Visitors & Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of this congregation where everyone is welcome as God's child. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship or by email or phone. There is a place for you here, and we are delighted to have you with us today.

From Pastor Rosemary:

Prayer for Holy Week

Lord Jesus, we have journeyed with you these past five weeks, mindful of the pain that lay ahead and the sacrifices you endured for us, simply out of love. Where we have not followed faithfully, we ask forgiveness. Where we have taken your grace—and its cost—for granted, we ask forgiveness. Where we have left you to journey alone, we ask forgiveness.

In this week called "holy," please help us to make it so by taking the time to remember your walk to the cross. Help us to remember how you were arrested—out of love for us; how you were ridiculed and tortured—out of love for us; how you were nailed to a cross, alone and in anguish—out of love for us. Help us to make the time to let the truth of your walk touch our hearts so that we can, indeed, experience Easter Sunday with renewed joy, amazement, and commitment. Help our love be transformed into yours. Amen.

Please join us this Thursday at 6:30 pm to remember the Lord's last supper and to share in communion with him.

Easter Worship is at 10 am on April 21. Bring family and friends to celebrate Resurrection!

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The Lesson: The Passion of Christ adapted from the Gospel of Mark

Narrator: On the first day of the Days of Unleavened Bread, the day they prepare the Passover sacrifice, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations so you can eat the Passover meal?"

Jesus: "Go into the city. A man carrying a water jug will meet you. Follow him. He will show you a second story room, swept and ready. Prepare for us there."

Narrator: After sunset, he met the Twelve there. As they were at the supper table eating, Jesus said,

Jesus: "I have something hard but important to say to you: One of you is going to hand me over to the conspirators, one who is at this moment eating with me."

Narrator: Stunned, they asked, "It isn't me, is it?"

Jesus: "It's one of the Twelve, one who eats with me out of this same bowl."

Narrator: In the course of the meal, having taken bread and blessed it, Jesus broke it and gave it to them. Then he said:

Jesus: "This is my body, broken for you. Whenever you eat together like this, remember me and my sacrifice of love for you. And this cup is my blood, God's new covenant, poured out for many people, including you. I'll not be drinking wine again until the new day I drink it in the kingdom of heaven, but when you do so, drink in memory of me. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table."

Anthem: "Thirty Pieces of Silver
Jesus Before the Sanhedrin Choir

Narrator: At dawn's first light, after Jesus' betrayal by Judas and his arrest, the high priests, with the religious leaders and scholars, arranged a conference with the entire Jewish Council. After tying Jesus securely, they took him out and presented him to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate: "Are you the 'King of the Jews'?"

Jesus: "If you say so."

Narrator: The high priests let loose a barrage of accusations.

Pilate: "Aren't you going to answer anything? That's quite a list of accusations."

Narrator: Still, he said nothing. Pilate was impressed. It was a custom at the Feast to release a prisoner, anyone the people asked for. There was one prisoner called Barabbas, locked up with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the uprising against Rome. As the crowd came up and began to present its petition for him to release a prisoner, Pilate anticipated them:

Pilate: "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you?"

Narrator: Pilate knew by this time that it was through sheer spite that the high priests had turned Jesus over to him. But the high priests by then had worked up the crowd to ask for the release of Barabbas.

Pilate: "So what do I do with this man you call King of the Jews?"

Congregation: "Nail him to a cross!"

Pilate: "But for what crime?"

Congregation: "Nail him to a cross!"

Narrator: Pilate gave the crowd what it wanted, set Barabbas free and turned Jesus over for whipping and crucifixion. The soldiers took Jesus into the palace and called together the entire brigade. They dressed him up in purple and put a crown plaited from a thorn bush on his head. Then they began their mockery:

Congregation: "Bravo, King of the Jews!"

Narrator: They banged on his head with a club, spit on him, and knelt down in mock worship. After they had had their fun, they took off the purple cape and put his own clothes back on him. Then they marched out to nail him to the cross. The soldiers brought Jesus to Golgotha, meaning "Skull Hill." They offered him a mild painkiller (wine mixed with myrrh), but he wouldn't take it. And they nailed him to the cross.

They divided up his clothes and threw dice to see who would get them. They nailed him up at nine o'clock in the morning.

The charge against him - THE KING OF THE JEWS - was printed on a poster. Along with him, they crucified two criminals, one to his right, the other to his left. People passing along the road jeered, shaking their heads in mock lament:

Congregation: "You bragged that you could tear down the Temple and then rebuild it in three days - so show us your stuff! Save yourself! If you're really God's Son, come down from that cross!"

Narrator: The high priests, along with the religious scholars, were right there mixing it up with the rest of them, having a great time poking fun at him:

Congregation: "He saved others - but he can't save himself! Messiah, is he? King of Israel? Then let him climb down from that cross. We'll ALL become believers then!"

Narrator: Even the men crucified alongside him joined in the mockery. At noon the sky became extremely dark. The darkness lasted three hours. At three o'clock, Jesus groaned out of the depths, crying loudly,

Jesus: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Narrator: Some bystanders who heard him said,

Congregation: "Listen, he's calling for Elijah."

Narrator: Someone ran off, soaked a sponge in sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Congregation: "Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Narrator: But Jesus, with a loud cry, gave his last breath. This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Good News Reading: John 12: 12-16

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord--the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

○ *Refrain:*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.

2. Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary.

○ *Refrain:*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.

3. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

○ *Refrain:*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.