

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY.

MARCH 28, 2021

Cover Art

Barb Knuckles

Installation Art

Hidi Gardner, Molly Kelley, Lauren McElhaney

Welcome

Call to Worship

From Luke 19:28-40

Leader

Jesus and his disciples were now going up to Jerusalem and as they came to Bethpage at Bethany, at the Mount of Olives which looks over the valley and onto temple mount of Jerusalem, Jesus 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 and brought the colt to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on it, they set Jesus on it.

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road and as he began to descend from the Mount of Olives with the temple in sight, 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,

All

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

Leader

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

Opening Hymn

"The Lord is King!"

All

**The Lord is King! Lift up your voice,
O earth and all ye heav'ns, rejoice!
From world to world, the joy shall ring,
"The Lord omnipotent is King!"**

**Sing his praise, sing his praise,
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days;
Sing his praise, sing his praise,
All your days, all your days.**

**The Lord is King! Who then shall dare
Resist his will, distrust his care,
Or murmur at his wise decrees,
Or doubt his royal promises?**

**Sing his praise, sing his praise,
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days;
Sing his praise, sing his praise,
All your days, all your days.**

**The Lord is King! Bow down you must;
The Judge of all the earth is just;
Holy and true are all his ways;
Let every creature sing his praise.**

**Sing his praise, sing his praise,
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days;
Sing his praise, sing his praise,
All your days, all your days.**

**Sing his praise, sing his praise,
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days;
Sing his praise, sing his praise,
All your days, all your days.**

words Josiah Conder, 1824; music Nathan Partain, 2003

Prayer of Adoration and Preparation

Prayer of Confession

Based on Psalm 139:23-24; Romans 8:9-17; James 4:1-2

Leader Children of God, in this season of Lent,
let us ask the Lord to search us and know our hearts.

All **Father, uncover what is offensive in us,
so that you may lead us in the path of everlasting life.**

Leader We have an obligation to live according to the Spirit.

All **Yet, we can see how we live according to the flesh:
When a problem comes up, our first thought is, "How do I solve this?"
rather than bringing it to God and seeking him.
We act like there's nothing more than this world,
so we quarrel and scheme to get what's ours.**

Leader Because we live by the flesh, we live in fear.

All **Fear that we'll be exposed and thus rejected,
Fear that we won't be loved, that we can't be loved,
Fear that we're on our own, abandoned as orphans,
Fear that our good won't measure up,
Fear that our wrong will find us out.**

Leader Spirit of God, lead us through confession and repentance,
away from the flesh and fear,
to the holy and kind heart of our Father.

Lenten Hymn

“Bring Christ Your Broken Life”

All

**Bring Christ your weariness, receive his rest;
Weep out your blinding tears, upon his breast;
His love is wonderful, his pow’r is great,
And none who trust in him, will he ever forsake.**

words Thomas Chisholm, 1935; music Joseph N. Partain, 2009

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

Based on Psalm 103:13-14; Romans 1:4; 8:1-17; Luke 4:1; Hebrews 9:14

Leader Children of God, hear the gracious heart of your Father:

All **Our Father shows tender compassion to us his children,
because he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.**

Leader So, he sent his Son to take on flesh, like us in every way, for our sin.

All **Full of the Spirit,
our older brother Jesus lived our life for us.
Through the Spirit,
he offered himself as the sacrifice in our place.
In the Spirit,
God raised him from the dead to power and authority.**

Leader Because you are in Christ, this very same Spirit now lives in you!

All **The Spirit brought us into the family.
He confirms to us, “Yes, you are God’s adopted child.
You really do belong here.”**

Leader His Spirit gives us life now to put to death the misdeeds of the body.

All **And his Spirit will raise our bodies to give us everlasting life.**

Song in the Gospel

“A Child of God”

All **I’m a child of God, and love is my freedom;
I can ask anything of my Father the King.
I’m an heir, I’m adopted, and my brother is Jesus;
I’m a child of God, and my soul is at peace.**

Nathan Partain, 2011

Song in the Gospel

“The Wonderful Grace of Jesus”

All

**The wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin?
Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.**

**The wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching to all the lost,
By it I have been pardoned, saved to the uttermost,
Chains have been torn asunder, giving me liberty;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.**

**More patient than my fight, more faithful than my doubt,
Persistent though I run, O how his grace abounds!
Broader than my sin, deeper than my shame,
Stronger than my evil, O praise Jesus name!**

**The wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching the most defiled,
By its transforming power, making him God’s dear child,
Purchasing peace and heaven, for all eternity;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.**

**More patient than my fight, more faithful than my doubt,
Persistent though I run, O how his grace abounds!
Broader than my sin, deeper than my shame,
Stronger than my evil, O praise Jesus name!**

**The wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin?**

words by Haldor Lillenas, 1918; chorus and music by Nathan Partain, 2011

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Scripture

Romans 8:14-17

Reader

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

Sam Haist

Living in Fear vs. Resting in Love

Community Group Questions

- 1) In v. 14, Paul connects being led by the Holy Spirit with our identity as God's children. How does that language strike you? What do you think it means to be a "child of God?" How do you react to the idea of God as our "Father"?

- 2) Experientially, what is being God's child supposed to feel like? Take a moment to look at Matthew 3:13-17. What might Jesus' experience of sonship tell us about our own? How might God's words about Jesus apply to us? And what would change about the way we looked at God if we knew he looked at us this way?

- 3) More often than we'd like to admit, the way we think, live, and relate to others (whether God or other people) is motivated by some kind of fear. Fear of what others think of us. Fear of what God thinks of us. If Paul's words are true, how might experiencing this kind of love free us up to live and relate to others with joy and self-forgetfulness?

Call to Communion

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel to receive Communion with us. We will be coming forward for the distribution of Communion. Please use the hand sanitizer. You will receive the bread into your hands and take a cup from the tray. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Wait to eat the bread and drink the wine until we all do so together, once we are back in our seats. Children who have been interviewed by the elders are able to share in Communion.

Communion is a time of connection with the Lord Jesus and with each other. Feel free to sing with the band during Communion. The ministry of prayer is also a way we live together as a community of believers and seekers. Please take the time to pray on your own, or with someone else in the pews (in a socially distanced way).

Prayers

Prayer for Guidance to Truth

God, I don't know how I feel about what I have heard today but I want to trust that you are good, that you are loving, and that you are just. I want to know if you are the true God. If you are there, would you guide my soul to the truest truth. I don't want to be tricked or believe a lie. I don't want to believe in something just to make me feel better. Please God, lead me to the truth.

Prayer of Belief and Repentance

Jesus, I believe that you are who you say you are: the Son of God and the savior of broken people like me. I need forgiveness. I need to be made new and to start over again. I now turn away from all I have been doing. I turn away from my self-centered life. I turn my whole heart toward you. I believe that when you were crucified, you took all of my evil and somehow you gave me all of your beauty. I invite your Holy Spirit to live in me. I do not want to live for myself any more. I want you to lead my life. I want to know you and to receive your love for me. Please teach me and protect me and guide me. I am yours. I ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Doubt and Faith

God, I don't really believe all of this, but there is a part of my heart that knows there is truth and goodness here. I am confused by the fact that there are so many things that I don't understand or that make me angry about you. There are also so many things that fill my heart with hope and many things that draw me to you, and I want to put my trust in you. God, you say I can come to you and ask for anything, so if you are real, please give me the faith I need to believe. Give me the desire to continue to seek after you. Keep my heart from self-deception. Protect me from any evil misleading or binding spirits. Calm my fears. Soften my cynicism. Be patient with me, and if you are God, please don't let me go, but instead let me know that you are real. I have a little faith, help me in my doubt.

Closing Hymn

"It Is Well"

All

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

It is well, with my soul;
 It is well, with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well, with my soul;
 It is well, with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin - O the bliss of this glorious thought! -
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well, with my soul;
 It is well, with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;
"Even so," it is well with my soul.

It is well, with my soul;
 It is well, with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well, with my soul;
 It is well, with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

words Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; music Philip P. Bliss, 1876

Community Life

Good Friday, April 2nd

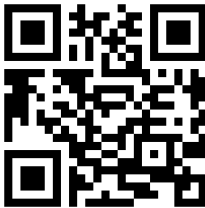
Two evening services at 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Easter, April 4th

Services at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 a.m.

Mini-Conference with Rebecca McLaughlin, April 11th

If you'd like to join our church-wide day of prayer and fasting on Good Friday, text "fasting" to 317-699-8511 to receive prayer prompts throughout the day, or sign up using the QR code below.



Doxology

All

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Benediction

Contact Us

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Worship, Hospitality, and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org

year to date giving:
\$399,907.22

2021 budget:
\$ 2,487,554

Congregational Giving

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|----------------------------|----|--------------|
| Mar 21 st | \$ | \$22,159.78 |
| Mar Total | \$ | \$178,960.70 |
| Mar Budget | \$ | \$207,296.17 |

