

An Order of Worship for April 5, 2020

Take a moment to center your heart on Jesus Christ. If you have a candle, light it in your worship space to remind you of God's presence close to you. Also, please color the page with the palm branch as a reminder that today is Palm Sunday.

Read the following passage from Matthew 21:1-11

Matthew 21:1–11 (NRSV)

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Let's go to God in Prayer:

Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed king by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way. Let those branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our Lord, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. In his name we pray. Amen.

Read or Sing He Is Lord:

*He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead
and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord!*

Take a moment to give thanks to God for your blessings this week.

Read or Sing our Doxology Hymn:

*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.
Amen.*

Read John 9:1-11

Read Pastor Matt's Sermon for this week.

Read or Sing Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus:

1. *O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!*

Refrain:

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.*

2. *Thro' death into life everlasting,
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion--
For more than conqu'rors we are!*

3. *His Word shall not fail you--He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!*

Take time to write down any prayer concerns you have for this week. Take time to pray for these concerns. Also, please pray for wisdom and discernment for leaders within the church, and for the health and safety of all of God's children amid this Coronavirus outbreak.

End your prayer time with the Lord's Prayer.

Close your worship today by singing or reading We Sang our Glad Hosannas: (If you are not familiar with this hymn, choose your favorite hymn to close your time with God)

*We sang our glad Hosannas, and waved our
branches high, but some were silent, frowning,
as Jesus rode on by. They sought a royal Savior
but did not understand a king could rule by
loving, instead of by command.*

*We heard an angry Jesus in Temple courts
declare, "Be gone, you moneychangers!
This is a house of prayer." Though many came
for healing and stayed to hear his word, still
others, hostile, plotted and thus his death
assured.*

*We served him at the table with wine,
unleavened bread. "The one who will betray me
now eats with me," he said. His friends would
not believe him, but one by one that night,
as soldiers came to take him, they scurried out
of sight.*

*We saw a suffering Jesus alone, without a
friend, and heard the voices shouting
abuse until the end. We wept as we stood
watching Love's light grow dim and die,
and cried, "Why did this happen?
God, tell us, tell us why!"*