

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 118)*

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
All: God's steadfast love endures forever!
One: The stone that the builders rejected
All: Has become the chief cornerstone.
One: This is the day that the Lord has made;
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
One: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
All: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
All: God's steadfast love endures forever! Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" GtG 196

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)**

(continued...)

3. **To thee, before thy passion,
they sang 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)

Words: Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 820; trans. John
Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior
Teschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come before you, Great Redeemer and Reconciler, with joyful praise and in fervent prayer. You have befriended us even though we have betrayed you. You have brought us back even though we have sold out to other gods and loyalties. Forgive us, gracious Lord. Convict us of the error of our ways. Convince us of the reality of your love and mercy. And conform us to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from II Corinthians 5 & Luke 2)*

One: "God was in Christ reconciling the world to God, not counting their trespasses against them."

All: Through the death of Christ we are given new life and new opportunity to live as the children of God.

One: This is indeed "good news of great joy for all the people." So rejoice and be glad!

All: For in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

(From your seat, a brief sign of peace may be shared: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, etc.)

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS Luke 19:29-40
Luke 22:39-46

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Passion of the Palms” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” GtG 221

1. **O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down;
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory,
what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.**

2. **What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
was all for sinners' gain:
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor,
and grant to me thy grace.**

3. **What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever;
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
out-live my love to thee.**

Words: Latin, 12th or 13th cent.; trans. James Waddell

Alexander, 1830, alt.

Music: PASSION CHORALE, Hans Leo Hassler, 1601;

harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1729

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God of giving and of grace...
All: ...hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**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.**

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

Dear God, we thank you that in Christ you came to love and care for us. We thank you that in Christ you call even now and invite us to join you in the transformation and renewal of life and the world. Accept the offering of these gifts and our lives to the furtherance of your purposes here on earth. Make of us a people dedicated to you and your way. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “My Jesus, I Love Thee” (*Verses 1-2*)

**1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

Words: William R. Featherstone, 1862
Music: GORDON, Adoniram J. Gordon, 1876
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

One: ...And let the gathered people of God say...
All: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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