



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

Minister of Word & Sacrament: Rev. Dr. Ellen Redcliffe

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Soloist: Kayin Paul

Road to Jerusalem: Shower Curtain Productions

April 10, 2022 – Palm Sunday



WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Hosanna To the Living Lord

Music: Alan Gray

Call to Worship

The crowds have gathered along the way

We gather to cheer and celebrate!

Who are you cheering for?

We are cheering for Jesus!

What are you cheering?

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Why are you cheering?

Jesus is the Messiah who will save us from Roman oppression!

Then let's join the parade and cheer for Jesus!

Hosanna in the highest! Let us worship with joy!

Response

Filled With Excitement

Rubén Ruiz Ávila

Filled with excitement all the happy throng
 Spread cloaks and branches on the city streets
 There in the distance they begin to see
 Riding on a donkey comes the Son of God

From every corner a thousand voices sing
 Praises to Him Who comes in the Name of God
 With one great shout of acclamation
 Loud triumphant song breaks forth
 Hosanna, hosanna to the King
 Hosanna, hosanna to the King
 Hosanna, hosanna to the King
 Hosanna, hosanna to the King

Life & Work of the Church

Welcome to online worship



Land Acknowledgement

As we prepare for worship, we take a moment to acknowledge the sacred land on which Birchcliff Bluffs United Church stands. It has been a site of human activity for many thousands of years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit and Scugog. The lands where Birchcliff Bluffs United Church sits are part of the Williams Treaty lands. Today, the meeting place around Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on this territory and we seek to be mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.



Candle Lighting

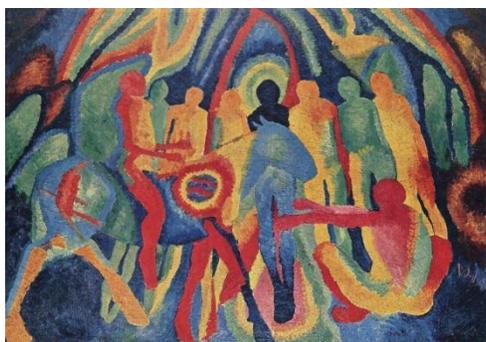
The time is drawing near. Jesus is preparing to enter Jerusalem. How will we greet him? Will we follow him all the way to the Cross? The power of Jesus is that he lived what he taught, even when it led to his death. He lived with an abiding awareness of God, radiating the light of God in all he said and did. But that light was too much for the world. There are forces today, as there were in ancient Judea, that conspire to put it out. Where are we in this drama? What are we willing to risk to follow Jesus?

Opening Hymn**Hosanna, Loud Hosanna****VU 123**

Hosanna, loud hosanna the happy children sang;
 through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang;
 to Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
 the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,
 the victory palm branch waving, and singing clear and loud;
 the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
 content that little children should on his bidding wait.

'Hosanna in the highest!' That ancient song we sing,
 for Christ is our Redeemer; earth, let your anthems ring.
 O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
 and in his humble presence eternally rejoice!

Opening Prayer

God of palm branches and parades, we gather to celebrate your presence in our lives and in our church community. We celebrate the courage and wisdom of Jesus. We open ourselves to the grace of your Spirit. May it move us, inspire us, and enliven our faith today – and all days. Amen

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**Sung Prayer for Illumination**

Prepare the Way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord. Make a straight path for him, make a straight path; prepare the way of the Lord. (VU 10)

**Luke 19:28-40****New Revised Standard Version**

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ 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. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² So those who were sent departed

and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now 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, ³⁸ saying,

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

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

This is the Gospel message for us to shout today.

Hosanna!

Road to Jerusalem - Written by Beth Moore

Narrator: A road leads to Jerusalem
 We'll travel it today.
 With Jesus, we'll arrive with joy
 On the first Palm Sunday.

But while we shout hosannas
 Dark clouds are gathering.
 Not everyone will celebrate
 The coming of God's king.

Our Easter journey will begin
 With Jesus' ministry.
 His preaching and his miracles
 Cause fear and jealousy.

To tell the Easter story we
 Will visit those he knew.
 Their lives were not exceptional,
 They were like me and you.

So listen as they speak to us
 And think of what they say.
 How different would this story be
 If Jesus lived today?

Scene: The home of Jesus in Nazareth

Mary, mother of Jesus: In Nazareth, Jesus grew up,
Our home was quite happy.
He played with friends and liked to help
Joseph with carpentry.

Joseph and I thought we should go,
Jerusalem to see,
Jesus was twelve, for Passover,
He'd come on this journey.

We visited the great Temple,
Made offerings and prayed.
Then left for home in a big crowd,
We didn't know he'd stayed.

We turned back thinking he was lost.
Imagine our surprise!
We found him in the Temple court
Debating with rabbis.

He said, "Do you not understand
My father's work is here?
I must study the sacred texts
For my time's coming near."

We went back home to Nazareth.
I pondered what occurred.
God's chosen him to change the world,
His message will be heard.

Scene – beside the River Jordan

John the Baptist: God's gift to my old parents,
An angel named me John.
He said I would prepare the way
For a new age to dawn.

I lived rough in the desert,
Made clothes from camel hair.
Locusts and wild honey
Became my daily fare.

When cousin Jesus was thirty,
God called him to begin.

I was John, the Baptizer,
Destined to baptize him.

I said I was not worthy,
He said it must be done.
A dove flew down as he emerged,
A voice said "You're my son".

He went into the desert,
Resisted Satan's lure.
His work for God would now begin
More trials to endure.

I would not live much longer
King Herod condemned me.
But his baptism and my work
Led to his ministry.

Scene – Home in Nazareth

Mary, mother of Jesus: Joseph died, Jesus grew up,
A wedding feast was laid.
When wine ran out I said "It's time
For you to offer aid."

He told the steward to bring jugs
Of water to the hall.
He changed it to the finest wine,
There was lots for us all.

Everyone was so surprised.
They said "How can this be?"
But I knew God had given him
A special ministry.

God gave him special powers to
Heal sickness and the blind.
It's now time to fulfill God's plan,
He'll soon leave me behind.

Scene: The shoreline of the Sea of Galilee

Peter: Fishing had been my livelihood,
And all my family's too,
Andrew and I thought this would be
What we would always do.

Then Jesus came down to the shore,
The Sea of Galilee,
He said, "You're called to fish for souls,
Please come and follow me."

"We can't leave Father" Andrew said,
"With us gone, he's alone.
He's getting old, this is hard work,
He can't fish on his own."

But Jesus said, "He'll find some help,
I need you to help me.
The world must change to be a place
Of peace and harmony."

So we put down our fishing nets.
We felt compelled to go.
He said his way would bring new life,
God's love for all to show.

Ten more disciples joined Jesus,
He was our guide and friend,
We travelled with him for three years,
Until his tragic end.

Narrator:

Jesus began to preach and heal,
He taught God loves the poor.
He said, "Love God and yourself,
Your neighbour even more."

Upon the Mount of Olives he
Said "Blessed are the meek.
God blesses those who show mercy,
And help those who are weak."

He taught that God still loves us when
Like sheep we go astray.
Prodigal sons are welcomed home
With joy and a feast day.

He spent three years in Judea,
Disciples at his side.
Through parables and miracles
His fame spread countrywide.

Scene: A Hillside

Young person 1: We heard Jesus was in the hills,
The news spread far and wide.
He'd preached and healed for several days
Throughout the countryside.

We told our mother we must go,
We'd heard this man was great.
She gave us lunch in a basket,
And said, "Don't be too late."

We ran as fast as we could go,
Then sat down on the hill.
Jesus spoke all about God's love
And following God's will.

But then his friends came up to him.
"Send them all home", they said.
"There are five thousand people here
Expecting to be fed."

Jesus told them to find some food
And give it to the crowd.
They said they had no money and
No food to pass around.

Young Person 2: Then someone started to call out
"Did any of you bring food?"
The crowd began to grumble and
Get in an angry mood.

Though fearful, we went up and said
"We brought a lunch with us.
It's just two fishes and five loaves
But we'll share them, Jesus."

With Jesus' blessing, food was shared.
Nobody left hungry.
Then Jesus came and touched our hands
And said to sis and me:

"Thank you for bringing us your food
And giving it to me.
You worked a miracle today

Through generosity.

For miracles are not God's work,
They don't come from above.
They happen when people like you
Show others God's great love."

We raced back home, filled with such joy.
He changed our lives that day.
We now know God works through us all
And Jesus points the way.

Narrator:

As Jesus taught and healed the sick,
The news spread rapidly.
A paralytic stood and walked,
He helped the blind to see.

He challenged Sabbath rules for being
Mired in hypocrisy.
The Sabbath is for us, not God
Observe it graciously.

The talk about him caused a stir,
Some saw him as a threat.
Raising Lazarus from the dead
Caused fear and wonderment.

Scene: Home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Martha – sister of Lazarus: Mary and I were desperate.
Lazarus, our brother, was ill.
The Doctor could not find a cure,
He was thin and lying quite still.

We sent a message to Jesus,
"Lazarus is now very sick.
We fear that our brother is dying,
To see him you'll need to come quick."

Jesus was far away teaching,
His good friend he wanted to save.
But he was too late in arriving,
Lazarus was dead in his grave.

Jesus stood by his friend's tombstone,

And wept with a grief quite profound.
 He prayed to God for his healing,
 Our neighbours all crowded around.

Then Jesus said, "Roll the stone back".
 He called, "Lazarus, live again".
 With great amazement we watched as
 Back to life our dear brother came.

We all rushed in to unbind him,
 We helped him walk out of his grave.
 We were so grateful to Jesus,
 For our brother's life he did save.

Mary, sister of Lazarus:

The news is spreading far and wide
 Of what Jesus has done.
 People keep coming to our house
 To see the risen one.

The Chief Priest even sent envoys
 "He is a threat" they said.
 "A charlatan this man must be,
 No man can raise the dead."

We told him Jesus is no fraud,
 He preaches love and peace.
 But they said that his growing fame
 Is causing great unease.

Jesus must go to Jerusalem
 For the Passover meal.
 As he and his friends travel there
 Their danger's very real.

The Chief Priest and authorities
 Dread an insurrection.
 He has the power to move the crowd
 And stir up dissension.

We fear for what's awaiting him,
 They want to curb his powers.
 The next days before Passover
 May be his final hours.

Scene: Palm Sunday - Road leading into Jerusalem

Jesus: Jerusalem! I first went there
When I was still a boy.
Father said we'd go for Passover!
This news filled me with joy.

That night I had a vivid dream.
I learned about God's plan.
That God expected much of me
When I became a man.

The Temple Rabbis would teach me
Isaiah's prophecy.
And I would be the one foretold.
This was my destiny.

I learned I must teach all the world
Of God's abundant love.
That God is found in human hearts,
Not somewhere up above.

God said my life would be quite hard,
I'd have a lot to bear.
But through my trials I would know
God always would be there.

Returning to Jerusalem,
I feel not joy, but fear.
This Passover will be my last.
My time is coming near.

Scene – Street in Jerusalem

Andrew, disciple of Jesus: Passover in Jerusalem.
Jesus said this was the year.
We knew there would be great danger.
We were all filled with much fear.

But as we approached the city
The crowds just kept on growing.
Waving palms, crying Hosanna,
He was greeted like a king.

He rode in on a small donkey
Like it was a giant steed

And he was a conquering hero
Being honoured for great deeds.

The priests and scribes were watching.
We knew they'd be alarmed.
The crowds who cheered him were a threat
To those who want him harmed.

Pharisee: The Pharisees and Sadducees
Will often disagree
About what Torah readings mean
And their theology.

But we are in agreement that
Jesus has got to go.
The crowds that come to hear him teach
Just seem to grow and grow.

They say five thousand gathered,
He fed them fish and bread.
His miracles are clever tricks,
The people are misled.

He calls us hypocrites when we
Speak loudly when we pray.
He says God watches how we live,
Not our public display.

He says the coins a widow gives
Are her great sacrifice,
But gifts we give don't cost us much
Despite their higher price.
People said he raised the dead.
Our envoys went to see.
The man whose sisters said he'd died
Seemed fine as he could be.

His entry to Jerusalem
Brought out a massive throng.
They cried Hosanna and threw palms.
This has gone on too long.

Sadducee: He won't observe our Sabbath Day
He says we've silly rules.
He heals, picks corn and tells stories
That make us look like fools.

“A man was robbed while travelling,
 Beaten and left to die.
 A Levite and a priest saw him
 But they just passed on by.

A heathen from Samaria
 Did what they failed to do.
 He took him to an inn to heal
 And paid for his care too.”

His rampage in the Temple was
 A treacherous event.
 He threw our money changers out
 And said we should repent.

We’ve spoken to the Romans,
 They say they’re worried too.
 But until he commits a crime
 There’s nothing they can do.

We have to find a way to end
 His popularity.
 We’ll try to bribe some of his friends
 For their complicity.

Scene: Pilate’s Residence

Pilate: These Pharisees and Sadducees
 Are always on my case.
 They hope we’ll do their dirty work
 So they can all save face.

They’ve come to call on me again
 About this Jesus guy.
 They say we ought to arrest him
 But I cannot see why.

I say to them “So what’s his crime?”
 They say, “He stirs the crowd,
 He’ll cause a big uprising,
 That should not be allowed.

“His miracles are just cheap tricks,
 Five thousand were not fed.
 He claims that he has healed the sick

And even raised the dead.”

“That’s all quite strange but not a crime”

I said, “so give me more”.

“He trashed the Temple yesterday”

The Chief Priest said, then swore.

“The unrest here is growing fast,

It will affect you too.

We’ll arrest him on a pretext

Then hand him off to you.

“You know we cannot crucify,

Only Rome can do that.”

I told them “Bring him in to me

So we can have a chat.”

Rome expects me to keep the peace

New tensions to avert.

I have to placate these leaders.

I’ll do whatever works.

Scene: The upper room

John, disciple of Jesus: He led us to the upper room

To share our Passover meal.

He washed our feet like a servant

To me it seemed quite surreal.

He broke some bread and said “Eat this,

My body, broken for thee.

This cup of wine, my blood poured out,

Do this to remember me.”

He took a sop and told Judas

To take it, then go and flee.

“This night”, he told us, “Judas is

The one who will betray me”.

We wept and said this could not be,

Peter said we’d stand and fight.

Jesus said, “You’ll deny me thrice

Before the cock crows tonight.”

He went out into the garden

He said he needed to pray.

My heart was broken on that night
My dear friend stolen away.

Scene – The Garden of Gethsemane

James: After Judas had hurried out
I rose with a heavy heart.
Jesus' words echoed in my mind,
How this night he must depart.

We went out into the garden,
Some of us were asked to stay.
He said "Your love will sustain me,
Please stay awake while I pray."

He knelt and in an anguished voice
Cried "Please take this cup away".
But then he said, more quietly,
"But your will be done today."

I must have slept for as I woke
I heard him calling my name.
"Could you not stay awake one hour?"
I listened to him with shame.

Just then there was a great turmoil,
People shouting, weapons drawn.
I heard John say, "They've come for him"
What could be going on?

Judas came into the garden,
Leading priests and a large guard.
He went to Jesus and kissed him.
Then Jesus looked at him hard.

He said "Judas, you've sold your soul,
Your life has come to this.
For thirty pieces of silver,
You'd betray me with a kiss."

The priests and guards bound Jesus' arms,
He went with them peacefully.
Judas was left there all alone
Now doomed by his treachery.

Judas: I went to town to buy some food

Some priests stopped me and said:
 “We want to talk to you today,
 We think you’re being misled.

“You know that from the Romans
 Jesus can’t set us free.
 He criticizes what we teach
 And our authority.

“You keep the purse, you know how he
 Wastes money on the poor,
 Consorts with prostitutes and claims
 Our rules apply no more.

“You only need to tell us where
 We can make an arrest.
 A quiet place without a crowd
 And we will do the rest.

“We know you feel bad doing this
 Because he is your friend.
 But bad means can be justified
 To achieve a good end.”

The money that they paid to me
 Seemed worth it to me then.
 But now I see how wrong I was
 To betray my close friend.

My name will live in infamy,
 Jesus they’ll crucify,
 I cannot go on living now,
 By my own hand I’ll die.

Narrator: Judas was so filled with shame
 The coins he tried to repay.
 Potter’s field was bought with them.
 Judas hanged himself that day.

Soldiers took Jesus away
 His fate was pretty clear.
 Peter followed where they went
 Although filled with great fear.

Scene: A Courtyard outside the Chief Priest’s House

Peter: They took him to the Chief Priest's house.
I went into the courtyard.
A servant stopped when she saw me
And stared at me very hard.

She said, "I think you are his friend,"
"I don't know that man" I lied.
"You were with him in Galilee"
Another servant replied.

"You've got it wrong, I don't know him"
I continued to explain.
A third time they accosted me
And I denied him again.

But then I heard the rooster crow.
I left, weeping bitterly.
I knew that I'd betrayed his trust
By being so cowardly.

I know I could not save his life.
He said that it was God's plan.
But I'd have stayed close by his side
If I were a braver man.

The last three years were wonderful
Jesus raised such hopes in me.
But now our dream's been shattered so
We'll return to Galilee.

Scene: Pilate's Residence

Pilate: The Chief Priest has come back again
He says they got their guy.
They brought him in for sentencing,
Kept shouting "crucify".

I asked him if he'd really said
He was King of the Jews.
He said, "Those are your words, but I
Don't deny that they're true."

I asked him "What is truth?" but he
Refused to answer me.
He said "My life is in God's hands
And what will be, will be."

I told the priests I'd let him go.
 "You must kill him" they cried.
 They said, "We want Barabbas freed
 And Jesus crucified."

So I gave in, and soldiers came,
 I sent him for flogging.
 With purple robes, a crown of thorns
 They mocked him as a king.

I washed my hands before them all
 To show my innocence.
 The crowd jeered at this crass gesture
 It just seemed to incense.

I did what seemed expedient,
 Knowing it wasn't right.
 Immoral acts don't wash away,
 They haunt my dreams each night.

Scene – Home in Nazareth

Mary, mother of Jesus: I stood with Mary Magdalene
 As he was crucified.
 Completely devastated,
 I wished that I could die.

He called down from that evil cross
 Asked John to care for me.
 Still thinking of all those he loved
 Despite his agony.

I couldn't bear to watch him die
 But felt I couldn't leave.
 My wondrous son who loved the world
 I will forever grieve.

He cried out, "Father, how can you
 Forsake me on this day?"
 I felt a profound helplessness
 That's never gone away.

The soldiers cast lots for his clothes,
 They all disgusted me.
 Then he cried out "it is finished"

And his soul was set free.

John took me home to Nazareth
I later learned, with joy,
That God had raised him to new life,
My dear beloved boy.

Scene – Garden near Jesus’ tomb

Mary Magdalene: Jesus had changed my life so much,
From sin he had freed me,
To ease my grief I wished to go
And anoint his body.

I found out where to find his tomb,
Two women went with me.
But the stone had been rolled away
And the tomb was empty.

We saw two men in shining clothes.
They saw our grief and said,
“He lives, so you won’t find him here,
God’s raised him from the dead.”

We ran and found the disciples,
Told them “His body’s gone”.
They went although they doubted us.
First to arrive was John.

He showed Peter we’d told the truth,
The shroud and cloths lay there.
They went and told the disciples
Filled with grief and despair.

I stood outside the tomb and wept
Then someone spoke to me.
I turned and saw the gardener
And said “Where can he be?”

He said, “Mary” and I knew him,
I cried out “Rabboni”
He said, “Tell my friends that I live
And soon they will see me.”

I went and told them what he said,
They still could not believe.

Fearful, they stayed in a locked room
Where they could hide and grieve.

I never saw Jesus again,
But he is with me still.
He lives on in my heart I know
With love they could not kill.

Scene – The upper room

Thomas: James and John said they took refuge
In an upper room that was locked.
Jesus entered through the closed door
And he and the disciples talked.

I said “I can’t believe that’s true.
We saw him being crucified.
I won’t believe unless I see
The scars on his hands, feet and side”.

One week later, we all were there,
Talking about what was to be.
Jesus came into the upper room
He greeted us, then said to me:

“Thomas, come touch my hands and side,
Have faith and believe I still live.”
I touched his wounds, still not yet healed,
Felt joy that my doubts he’d forgive.

He then said words I won’t forget,
“You’ve faith from what your eyes reveal.
More blessed are those who believe
When they have not seen that I’m real.”

I learned that day that I could trust
What I could not touch, hear or see.
Faith is found when we open our hearts
To God’s sacred mystery.

Scene – A Road

Cleopas: We left Jerusalem and walked,
Down the road to Emmaus.
We talked of our great sadness at
The death of our friend Jesus.

A stranger joined us and we talked.
He showed to my friend and me
That Jesus' death had been foretold
In scripture and prophecy.

Our hearts were burning with great joy
When we stopped to rest that day.
He was going to continue on
But we asked if he would stay.

We sat down for a meal with him
He gave thanks for God's virtue.
We knew him when he broke the bread
Then he vanished from our view.

We know that Jesus isn't dead,
He's travelling with us still,
He walks with us and shares our meals
And helps us follow God's will.

Narrator: The stories of Jesus being seen
By those who loved him true
Offer lessons important for
The lives of me and you.

Jesus called Peter from the shore,
They'd fished all night in vain.
He said, "Switch to the other side
Then drop your nets again."

Then their nets overflowed with fish,
So he taught us that day,
Don't be discouraged if you fail,
Just try another way.

His last words to his disciples
Are our great commission.
"Spreading my message to the world
Is your divine mission".

For Jesus the Jerusalem Road
Brought joy, fear and despair.
He looked to his friends for support
And trusted God was there.

We all must walk life's rocky roads,
 Face challenge and feel fear.
 The Easter message assures us
 Christ's spirit is still here.

Hymn

All Glory, Laud and Honour VU 122

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
 to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
 our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
 to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
 to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
 great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
 to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering

Prayers of the People

You are on your way to Jerusalem, precious teacher.
 You are one your way to suffering and to death
 for the sake of our freedom and our salvation.
 This is mystery and wonder.
 Our hearts overflow into songs of praise.
 "Hosanna!" We cry with the crowds.
 "Blessed are you who comes in God's name!"

Yet, you puzzle us: you puzzle us with your suffering love
 that is more powerful than our brokenness;
 you puzzle us with your freely chosen humility that brings blessings in our weary places;

you puzzle us with your forgiveness that summons us beyond our hurt.

Liberating Saviour, you make us uncomfortable so that you can lead us into more life and deeper wonder;
so that God can take who we are and break us open, and bless us and give us to the world.

Grant us grace to welcome this restlessness, that we may live by the power of your Spirit, and in your name.

We pray together, sharing the words you taught us, saying...



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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

And On This Path

MV 8

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide (x3)
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide (x3)
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

Benediction & Commissioning

As you travel your road to Jerusalem:
find your voice and listen to what God will do.
Find each other and reach out in care and support.
Go into the world and be amazed,
As you find God; who is with us on the journey, today and always.
Amen

Postlude

Rejoice, The Lord is King

Music: John Darwall

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**Other Lectionary Readings
Year C – Palm Sunday
Sunday April 10, 2022**

Psalm 118:1-2 New Revised Standard Version

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Psalm 118:19-29 New Revised Standard Version

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it. ^[a]

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. ^[b]
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar. ^[c]

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.