



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

Rev. Gregory Daly: Minister of Word & Sacrament

Rev. Carmen Llanos: Minister of Community Development

Music Director: Randy Vancourt

Road to Jerusalem: Shower Curtain Productions

March 28, 2021 – 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 (Mantas y Palmas)

Words & Music: Rubén Ruíz Avila

trans. Gertrude C. Suppe

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*Filled with excitement, all the happy throng
spread cloaks and branches on the city streets.
There in the distance they began 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 songs breaks out:*

*“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 Mississauga's of the Credit and Scugog. What we now know as Scarborough is 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. It is now our time to share in the care and maintenance of the land. Part of that discussion is the work of reconciliation and we seek to be mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.



Candle Lighting

Loving God, there are so many choices before us. Choices offered by our friends, our families, our culture, our own past. Some of them encourage the well-being of the earth, ourselves and our neighbours; others are destructive. Help us to distinguish between them. May we learn from the choices of Jesus and embody compassion, justice, and inclusion in all we say and do. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

VU 123

Words: Jennette Threlfall

Music: traditional 18th-century German melody

*Hosanna, loud hosanna
the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang;
to Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
he 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!*

Prayer for Grace



*God of donkeys and people, 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)



Mark 11: 1-11

New Revised Standard Version

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The teacher needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then

they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

This is the Gospel message for us to shout today.

Hosanna

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.

Road to Jerusalem - Written by Beth Moore

Hymn

All Glory, Laud and Honour

VU 122

Words: Theodulph of Orleans ca. 820

Translated by John Mason Neale

Music: Melchior Teschner

*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

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

Words: © 2000 Lynn Bauman
from *Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the Psalms as Poetry*
Music: Linnea Good © 2003 Borealis Music

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide, (repeat 3 times)
Open wide! (repeat 3 times)
The gates are open wide!

So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide, (repeat 3 times)
Open wide! (repeat 3 times)
The gates are open wide!

Benediction & Commissioning



Postlude

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Music: John Darwall

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Other Materials for Today

Fresco in the parish church of St. Martin at Nohant-Vicq, France. (1135-1140)

The frescoes in the parish Church of St. Martin constitute one of the most extensive and best preserved ensembles of Romanesque monumental painting in central and southwestern France. The single painter who executed the frescoes commanded a vigorous and powerful style...the painter's distinctive manner of generating forms is accompanied by unusual interpretations of narrative subjects...The scene of the Entry [into Jerusalem] is...divided into two parts. The representation of Christ mounted on an ass and greeted by excited youths is contained in the upper register of the south wall. The fortified city of Jerusalem, its gates crowded with youths whose mouths are open in song is isolated as a separate image.