

**Sixth Sunday in Lent**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**March 24, 2024**

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Sue Vornholt

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**PRELUDE** *"All Glory, Laud and Honor"*

arr. Kristina Langlois

Karen Mohr

**RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Our Shared Life and Service

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship  
and service.

**Thanks be to God!**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the gifts of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also, with you.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: People of God, do not be afraid, for your Savior is  
coming,

**A: riding on a donkey, daring to raise the branches of  
liberation.**

L: Shout your hosannas in the street and in the  
sanctuary.

**A: Hosanna in the highest! Our Savior has come to set  
us free!**

L: Palm branches and praise mark this day with hope.

**A: Hosanna, come and save us!**

**HYMN** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna""*

**#213 NCH** Jennette Threlfall

**1 "Hosanna, loud hosanna,"  
the little 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,  
the simplest and the best.**

**2 From Olivet they followed  
amid a cheering crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving,  
and chanting clear and loud.  
The one whom angels worship  
rode on in lowly state,  
and glad to see the children,  
slowed down the donkey's gait.**

**3 "Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song is ours,  
We hail our great Redeemer  
and sing with all our powers;  
"Hosanna, Christ, we praise you  
with heart and life and voice.  
Hosanna! In your presence  
forever we'll rejoice!"**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE** (All)

**God of our hosannas, it would be all too easy to  
embrace a vision of you as entering Jerusalem with  
all the pomp and circumstance and violence that  
power provides. And yet, that is not your way and we  
confess that we often whisper with the ways of fear  
rather than shout of your liberation for all people.  
Help us to lay our lives at your feet and welcome you  
with shouts of joy. Amen.**

**WORDS OF GRACE**

Dear Ones, embrace this word with courage. Leave  
your fear behind, for it does not have the last word  
and does not have to be the donkey you ride in on.  
God offers you the way of hope, humility, and  
hosannas. Rest in the assurance that you are forgiven  
and embraced in God's tender arms of love. Amen.

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Give voice to God's love and peace; those around us need to hear the Good.

**ALL: The Peace of God be with you.**

All are invited to greet one another with such words as "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response: "And also with you."

## **PRAISE RESPONSE**

(sung twice)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

Palm Parade

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

**Old Testament**

**Gospel Lesson**

**John 12:12-16**

<sup>12</sup>The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup>Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: <sup>15</sup>"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" <sup>16</sup>His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

**SERMON** "The Jesus Parade" Pastor Sue

**HYMN** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

**#216 NCH** Trans. J.M. Neale

**1 All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, O Christ we sing,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews  
with palms adorned your way;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
we offer you this day.**

**2 O Promised One of Israel,  
of David's royal line,  
the one called "God's beloved,"**

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

**3 As you received their praises,  
receive our prayers today,  
whose justice and whose mercy  
and sovereignty hold sway.  
All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, O Christ, we sing,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring!**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

P Almighty God, you desire that all people would be saved and come to know the truth. Empower us by your Spirit to be witnesses for our King. Help us to grow in faith through the study of your Word so that we are prepared to answer those who ask about our beliefs. Do not let us fall silent when we have the opportunity to witness to our Savior. Help us to proclaim repentance and forgiveness in Jesus' name.  
Gracious Lord,

**C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, our Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem during the last week of his earthly ministry. He came as a humble King to take up his final steps to the cross. Help us to follow in his steps as your humble servants and living examples of your love in the world.  
Gracious Lord,

**C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, today we call out "Hosanna, save us now!" We know and believe that Jesus is our King. Through his redeeming death and his triumphant resurrection, he has saved us and brought us into his kingdom. He calls us to follow in his footsteps, to walk in love and to forgive as we have been forgiven.

Gracious Lord,

**C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, Peter boasted of his loyalty but failed and denied his Lord, yet his Lord died for his sins and for ours. For Jesus' sake, you forgave Peter and you have forgiven us. As Simon Peter was called to feed your sheep, you have called us to serve your people in love. Empower us by your Spirit to serve you by serving others.

Gracious Lord,

**C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, so many of your people, the sheep of your flock, are suffering through illness, depression, and anxiety, through grief and loss. Have mercy on them and heal them according to your will. Lead us to serve them in love, to help them in their need and to bring them the comfort of your Word.

Gracious Lord,

**C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

P Amen.

One: Let us pray as Christ Our Savior has taught us.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

### **THE OFFERING SERVICE**

Invitation to Generosity

-The laying down of palm branches in the street is an expression of the hope of God among a desperate people. Today we are invited to lay down our treasure as an outpouring of our gratitude for God's act of salvation in Jesus Christ. Let us give with shouts of hosanna on our lips.

Offertory

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done:  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (All)

**God of the great shouts of hope, just as you received the voices of the crowd upon your entry into Jerusalem, receive these gifts as an expression of our joy and gratitude. Take our voices and our offerings and use them to proclaim your salvation to all people. Amen and Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN** *"Lord, Make Me More Holy"*

**#75 NCH**

African-American spiritual

**1 Lord, make me more holy,  
Lord, make me more holy.  
Lord, make me more holy,  
until we meet again:  
Holy, holy, holy,  
until we meet again.**

**2 Lord, make me more faithful,  
Lord, make me more faithful.  
Lord, make me more faithful,  
until we meet again.  
Faithful, faithful, faithful,  
until we meet again.**

**3 Lord, make me more humble,  
Lord, make me more humble.  
Lord, make me more humble,  
until we meet again.  
Humble, humble, humble,  
until we meet again.**

**4 Lord, make me more righteous,  
Lord, make me more righteous.  
Lord, make me more righteous,  
until we meet again.  
Righteous, righteous, righteous,  
until we meet again.**

### **BENEDICTION**

People of God, raise your branches high. Sing with shouts of joy. For Jesus has not only entered the city of Jerusalem, but into the hearts of those who are willing to walk in his ways. Go forth not in fear, but in the courage and hope of God our Creator, Jesus our Brother, and the Holy Spirit our Liberator. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### WELCOME

We welcome you to our service of worship!  
We are glad that you have joined us in-person,  
through the internet or on the radio.  
We pray that you will hear God's call, seek to  
follow Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **RADIO BROADCAST**

**11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN  
98.5FM and 1370AM**

YouTube link for Sunday, March 24, 2024  
<https://youtube.com/live/Tk3a95eClfM>

This week's radio broadcast  
is sponsored by Pat & Wally Garbisch  
in celebration of  
Wally's 87<sup>th</sup> birthday.



#### **Coffee fellowship after worship**

Sign up now on the back bulletin board for  
hosting future weeks.

Mar 24 – Janice & Emile Miller

Mar 31- EASTER – no fellowship

Apr 7 – Rodman's

Apr 14 – Bonnie Shaw

Apr 21 – Mission & Outreach Comm.

Apr 28 – Susie Karl

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sunday, March 24th – Worship

- **10 AM** Deacon – Janice Miller  
Greeter(s) – Leslie & Steve Buchholz  
Usher(s) – Bonnie Weyer, Ray Weyer

### Tuesday, March 26th –

- **1 PM – Marge Goetsch Bible Study –**  
\*will meet in the lounge of church

### Thursday, March 28th –

- **7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service**  
at UCC

### Friday, March 29th –

- **7 PM Good Friday Worship Service**  
at Calvary

Please order your  
Easter Lilies by  
**Monday, March**  
**25<sup>th</sup>**. The cost is  
\$17.00 – please  
make your **checks**  
**out to UCC**. You  
may dedicate or  
honor a lily to  
someone of your  
choosing.

See Janice in the office for details.

