

To Connect: Go to the Community of Faith Facebook page
or dial in at 978-990-5000, access code 654132#

COF Worship, Sunday April 5, 10:30 am

Palm/ Passion Sunday



Opening Music

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

L: Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang!

P: Wait—where are the children? Where are the palms? Where is the parade?

L: We can't wave palms this year, or process. But we can still worship God!

P: Hosanna, save us! God, hear our plea and accept our worship today.

Let us pray: Loving God, our worship space is different, but our hearts are the same.

Strengthen our faith through this time of worship so we can enter another week of quarantine, ready to act as your people even as we stay at home. Help us remember as we worship that we are still your body in the world. Hear us as we pray this O Lord, in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.*

Song: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (5v.)*

*O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.*

*Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ breaks the power of canceled sin,
And sets the prisoner free;
Christ's blood can make the foulest clean;
Christ's blood availed for me.*

*My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.*

*His love my heart has captive made,
His captive would I be,
For He was bound, and scourged and died,
My captive soul to free.*

*So now Thy blessed Name I love,
Thy will would e'er be mine.
Had I a thousand hearts to give,
My Lord, they all were Thine!*

Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess our failure
to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. (Moment of silence.)**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare that, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, you heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Passing of the peace: the peace of Christ be with you all!

Please share the peace by texting someone, or by typing into the comment box, or both!

Special Music

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Isaiah 50:4-9 ⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Song Give Me Joy in My Heart (Sing Hosanna) 4v.

1 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.

Give me joy in my heart, I pray.

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.

Keep me praising till the break of day.

Refrain:

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!*

*2 Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the break of day. [Refrain]*

*3 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Keep me serving till the break of day. [Refrain]*

Repeat v. 1

Gospel Matthew 21:1-11 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This 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.” ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!” ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith—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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Joys and Concerns—*please type into the comments box on the lower right hand sign of the screen, or speak them out loud if you’re on the conference call.*

Prayers of the People

Song: God be with You till We Meet Again

*God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again;
Unseen wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again;
When life's perils thick confound you,
Put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again;
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

Charge and Benediction