

Traditional Worship Service

Palm Sunday: Songs of
Loudest Praise

March 24, 2024

Wandering Heart: Figuring
Out Faith Like Peter

Length
in mins

5:00 **Prelude**

1:30 **Live Stream Startup**

3:00 **Introit**

"Palm Sunday Introit," Chorale & Kid's Choir

5:00 **Welcome & Announcements**

1:00 **Call To Worship**

Liturgist: Cody Anderson

One: Sing songs of loudest praise!

ALL: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs that are unashamed.

ALL: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs without being afraid.

ALL: Hosanna!

One: Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

ALL: Hosanna!

One: Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

3:00 ***Hosanna Loud Hosanna***

Procession of Palms
#278 UMH, vs. 1-3

1:00 **Call to Confession**

Liturgist:

The Gospel of John tells us that crowds gathered to praise Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, singing and shouting with confidence.

After describing the crowd, however, the Gospel writer zooms in on the disciples and tells us that while the crowds shouted praise at Jesus, the disciples were confused. The text says, "the disciples did not understand what was happening" (John 12:16).

A lot of our lives may look like this: either we understand God's presence in our lives and want to shout it from the rooftop—or we're standing on the side of the parade missing our chance to sing.

That is why we need the prayer of confession. Because life happens fast, and without a doubt, we have stood where the disciples stood. So let us pray, for we don't want to miss our chance to sing:

1:00 **Prayer of Confession**

ALL: Holy God, we want to run into the streets and sing your praise!

We want to be bold and unashamed of this good-news Gospel.

However, too often we find ourselves standing against the wall.

Too often we stay quiet.

Too often we let others carry the song.

Forgive us for the moments when we could lead the parade but instead find ourselves standing on the sidelines.

Show us which songs are ours to sing.

Show us which parades are ours to lead,
and then give us the courage and conviction to do both.

With hope and honesty we pray, Amen.

**Length
in mins**

1:00 Words of Forgiveness

Liturgist:

Friends, no matter where you are on the parade route—whether you are waving palm branches through the streets or standing against the wall, quiet and cautious—Jesus marched for you. Jesus' love, his striving for justice and mercy, it was for you.

You are included in this story and nothing can ever change that.

So hear these words and trust them deep in your bones:

We have reason to sing, for Jesus Christ loved you yesterday. Jesus Christ loves you today. And Jesus Christ will love you tomorrow. You are forgiven, claimed, and sent to serve. Go out and sing. Go out trusting these words. Amen.

3:30 Cantata - song

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," (Instrumental), Jennifer Arnold, Cello & Piano

3:00 Cantata - reading

We move from Jesus entering Jerusalem triumphantly on Palm Sunday to his last 24 hours. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper this coming Thursday, where the bread and the cup became reminders of who Jesus truly was.

Hear these words from Matthew 26:36-45 (CEB) that follow that last meal:

36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane. He said to the disciples, "Stay here while I go and pray over there." 37 When he took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, he began to feel sad and anxious. 38 Then he said to them, "I'm very sad. It's as if I'm dying. Stay here and keep alert with me." 39 Then he went a short distance farther and fell on his face and prayed, "My Father, if it's possible, take this cup of suffering away from me. However—not what I want but what you want."

40 He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "Couldn't you stay alert one hour with me? 41 Stay alert and pray so that you won't give in to temptation. The spirit is eager, but the flesh is weak." 42 A second time he went away and prayed, "My Father, if it's not possible that this cup be taken away unless I drink it, then let it be what you want."

43 Again he came and found them sleeping. Their eyes were heavy with sleep. 44 But he left them and again went and prayed the same words for the third time. 45 Then he came to his disciples and said to them, "Will you sleep and rest all night? Look, the time has come for the Human One to be betrayed into the hands of sinners.

2:00 Cantata - song

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" Cello, Choir & Congregation, vs. 1-2

3:00 Cantata - song

"Search Me, O God (A Psalm of Humility)," Cello & Choir

**Length
in mins**

3:00 Cantata - reading

We move from the garden to the courtyard outside where the guards had taken Jesus to the high priest. This is from the rest of Matthew 26:

57 Those who arrested Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest. The legal experts and the elders had gathered there. 58 Peter followed him from a distance until he came to the high priest's courtyard. He entered that area and sat outside with the officers to see how it would turn out.

62 Then the high priest stood and said to Jesus, "Aren't you going to respond to the testimony these people have brought against you?"

63 But Jesus was silent.

The high priest said, "By the living God, I demand that you tell us whether you are the Christ, God's Son."

64 "You said it," Jesus replied. "But I say to you that from now on you'll see the Human One sitting on the right side of the Almighty and coming on the heavenly clouds."

65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He's insulting God! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, you've heard his insult against God. 66 What do you think?" And they answered, "He deserves to die!"

69 Meanwhile, Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant woman came and said to him, "You were also with Jesus the Galilean."

70 But he denied it in front of all of them, saying, "I don't know what you are talking about."

71 When he went over to the gate, another woman saw him and said to those who were there, "This man was with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

72 With a solemn pledge, he denied it again, saying, "I don't know the man."

73 A short time later those standing there came and said to Peter, "You must be one of them. The way you talk gives you away."

74 Then he cursed and swore, "I don't know the man!" At that very moment the rooster crowed. 75 Peter remembered Jesus' words, "Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times." And Peter went out and cried uncontrollably.

3:00 Cantata

"My Jesus I Love Thee" Cello, Choir & Congregation, vs. 3-4

3:00 Cantata - song

"Behold The Lamb," Cambiata

2:30 Cantata - song

"Far Reaching Is The Father's Love," Cello, Choir & Congregation

**Length
in mins**

3:00 Cantata - reading

On Good Friday, we will consider how far reaching God's love is as we hear of the trial before Pilate and Jesus' punishment.

Hear these words from Mark 15:

2 Pilate questioned Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"
Jesus replied, "That's what you say."

3 The chief priests were accusing him of many things.

4 Pilate asked him again, "Aren't you going to answer? What about all these accusations?"

5 But Jesus gave no more answers, so that Pilate marveled.

6 During the festival, Pilate released one prisoner to them, whomever they requested. 7 A man named Barabbas was locked up with the rebels who had committed murder during an uprising. 8 The crowd pushed forward and asked Pilate to release someone, as he regularly did. 9 Pilate answered them, "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" 10 He knew that the chief priests had handed him over because of jealousy. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas to them instead. 12 Pilate replied, "Then what do you want me to do with the one you call king of the Jews?"

13 They shouted back, "Crucify him!"

14 Pilate said to them, "Why? What wrong has he done?"

They shouted even louder, "Crucify him!"

15 Pilate wanted to satisfy the crowd, so he released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus whipped, then handed him over to be crucified.

16 The soldiers led Jesus away into the courtyard of the palace known as the governor's headquarters, and they called together the whole company of soldiers. 17 They dressed him up in a purple robe and twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on him. 18 They saluted him, "Hey! King of the Jews!" 19 Again and again, they struck his head with a stick. They spit on him and knelt before him to honor him. 20 When they finished mocking him, they stripped him of the purple robe and put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

21 Simon, a man from Cyrene, Alexander and Rufus' father, was coming in from the countryside. They forced him to carry his cross.

22 They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means Skull Place. 23 They tried to give him wine mixed with myrrh, but he didn't take it. 24 They crucified him. They divided up his clothes, drawing lots for them to determine who would take what. 25 It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. 26 The notice of the formal charge against him was written, "The king of the Jews." 27 They crucified two outlaws with him, one on his right and one on his left.

33 From noon until three in the afternoon the whole earth was dark. 34 At three, Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "Eloi, eloi, lama sabachthani," which means, "My God, my God, why have you left me?"

35 After hearing him, some standing there said, "Look! He's calling Elijah!" 36 Someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, and put it on a pole. He offered it to Jesus to drink, saying, "Let's see if Elijah will come to take him down." 37 But Jesus let out a loud cry and died.

38 The curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. 39 When the centurion, who stood facing Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "This man was certainly God's Son."

5:00 Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

1:00 Offering Our Gifts to The Lord - Breakthrough Prayer

Lent Breakthrough Prayer:

O God, in the wandering times of our lives, open our eyes to the needs of those around us and help us to find your voice in the ways that we can serve others. Set our feet upon your foundation of love, use our gifts and us gathered here to be a beacon of your hope, and help us to leave a legacy of faith and hope that will reach generations to come. In Jesus' name. Amen.

4:00 Offertory

"Let The Rocks Cry Out," Choir

1:00 Doxology

*****#95*****

**Length
in mins**

10:00 Message

Scripture: no additional scripture
Title: Songs of Loudest Praise
Preacher:

3:00 *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

#300 UMH, vs. 1-3

1:00 Benediction

2:00 Postlude

66:00
