Peace UCC
April 5, 2020

Prelude “All Glory, Laud and Honor”
Arr. John Carter
Hope Publishing

Welcome

Opening Words
One: We gather together in this place.
Joyful as our palm branches fan the air in praise.
Filling this space with peace.
Waiting with great expectation to see Jesus, eager for a healing touch, a blessing received.

We gather together in this place.
Joyful as our palm branches reach high with hope.
Longing for a calm moment in the midst of pressing worry and hurry, longing for a message of welcome and acceptance on our journey.

We gather together in this place.
Anxious as our palm branches lay still next to us.
Questioning if we are able to walk with Jesus through the week ahead, through anguish, accusations, despair and darkness.

We gather together in this place.
Waving branches of prayer.
Walking toward Easter.
Song “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” Verses 1 & 3
Tune: St. Theodulph

Prayer of Invocation Worship Ways
Hosanna, O God in the highest!
How you come to us in ways we never expect.
A king on a donkey?
A Savior on a cross?
How can we recognize you, with us, among us?
Will your message come through?
Will the palms we wave with joy today
be thrown down tomorrow with doubt?
May your Spirit guide us through this Holiest of Weeks,
beside us, around us, before us, behind us and within us. We pray these things. Amen

Word in Song Darcy Swanson “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty”
John Bacchus Dykes
Hal Leonard Publishing
Sacred Reading
Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying 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. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Holy One needs them.” And they will let them go immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your sovereign is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The 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!’

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” verses 1 & 3
Tune: Ellacombe
Joys and Concerns

Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Prayer:  Come, Holy Spirit, come.
       Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
       Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
       that our eyes might be opened,
       that we might recognize the risen Christ
       in our midst, indeed, in one another.
       Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Pray of Thanksgiving
       Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love
       by bringing us to this meal.
       We go from here renewed in faith,
       renewed in courage,
       and strengthened by your presence.
       Thank you for loving us so tenderly.
       Thank you for challenging us
       to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen

Final Words

Benediction “Peace Be with You” by Christopher Grundy
       Peace be with you
       Peace be with you
       Peace be with you now
       God’s peace to you
       Peace behind
       Peace before
       Peace be all around in Jesus Christ

Postlude "Psalm of Glory"
       Dorothy Wells
       Lorenz Publishing

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