



**W E S T M I N S T E R
P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H**
Palm Sunday
5 April 2020 + 10:00 a.m.

Ringing of the Bell

Opening Voluntary

Fanfare

C. S. Lang

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:26a

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!
Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!
Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!
Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!
Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in God's name!
Friends, let us worship together.

Hymn 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Vallet Will Ich Dir Geben

(Refrain)

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosanna ring!

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. (Refrain)

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (Refrain)

Invitation to Confession

Rev. Christian K. Choi

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you chose to join us in our humanity in Jesus Christ and on a journey of love, he entered Jerusalem to die. We come before you, conscious of the way religious words and holy phrases can slip so easily from our lips. What do we know of your choice, your integrity, the depth of your suffering for love of us all? Strengthen us for the choices and journeys before us, individually and as a community. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader:

Friends, believe the good news.

People:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you and those with whom we worship.**
Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Second Scripture 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 Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “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.” 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 The Power of Choice

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Text: “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped...”

Philippians 2:6

Music Lamb of God, Most Holy

Robert Pearsall

Lamb of God most holy
who upon the cross,
the cross did suffer
patient and still and slowly.
Thyself to scorn did offer
Our sins were taken for us.
Else despair reigned o’er us.
Have mercy on us. O Jesus!

Julie Blythe and Amanda Neubauer

The Church at Prayer

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

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.

Introduction to Offering

One Great Hour of Sharing Dedication

O God, you have called us through One Great Hour of Sharing to go into all the world and proclaim the good news. Transform our lives that we might go forth as ambassadors of your justice and peace.

Send us forth, O God, with your mercy and kindness, and grateful hearts for this opportunity to partner with our brothers and sisters in this ecumenical effort to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic causes of poverty.

Send us forth, O God, with open eyes, and grateful hearts for this opportunity to be a part of healing the broken places in our world as we provide support to communities following natural or human-caused disasters.

Send us forth, O God, with open hands and lifted heads as we seek to reflect the respect, kindness and humility of our Redeemer. Amen.

Hymn 223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hamburg

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Charge and Benediction

Voluntary

Vocalise

Sergei Rachmaninov

IN MEMORIAM

Coreen Collier 04/02/1926 – 03/27/2020
United with Westminster 03/22/1964

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff

Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life

Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

Dale T. Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts

Lyle VanDeventer, bass

Julie Blythe, alto

Amanda Neubauer, soprano

Bob Fox, Videographer