

Setauket Presbyterian Church and Grace Presbyterian Church  
The Wilderness Journey from Palms to Passion  
Palm Sunday ~ April 5, 2020

Gathering Music

Welcome

Palms Processional Hymn no. 196 *All Glory, Laud & Honor*

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;  
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.  
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.  
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

Call to Worship

On Palm Sunday so many years ago, the people saw Jesus and asked,  
Who is this?

In worship, we respond. In worship, we declare:

Jesus is a miracle worker and healer.

Jesus is a teacher and preacher.

Jesus is our light in the darkness.

Jesus is our source of love.

Jesus is our path in the wilderness.  
So may we lay down our hearts like they laid down their coats.  
Let us worship Holy God.

Scripture Reading                      Sunday                      Matthew 21:1-11

Opening Litany                      "Who is this?"  
Who is this?

I heard he was a carpenter's son.  
I heard he was from Nazareth.  
Can anything good come from Nazareth?  
Who is this?  
I heard he knew John the Baptist.  
I heard he was related to John the Baptist.  
I heard he can heal people.  
Do you think he can heal me?

Who is he?  
I heard he talks to gentiles.  
I heard he talks to children!  
And women!  
And tax collectors!  
Seriously, who is this?

I heard he's the Son of David.  
I heard he's the Son of Man.  
I heard he's the one we've been waiting for.  
I heard he was born of a Virgin.  
I heard he was born in a stable.

Who is this?  
Why is he riding a donkey?  
How does he have so many followers?  
Do you think Caesar knows that a man from Nazareth has been welcomed with such a large parade?  
Who is this?

I don't know who he is, but I've heard he's gracious and kind.

I heard he fed five thousand.  
I heard he survived the wilderness.  
I heard he helped the blind man see.  
Do you think he sees me?  
I heard he walked on water! Is that even possible?  
I heard he can save us.  
I heard he can save all of us.

Who is this?  
Who is this?

Scripture Reading                      Tables Turned                      Matthew 21:12-13  
Dramatic Reading                      Monday                      The woman in the temple  
Prayer of Confession

Confess with me:

**God—for all the things we try to hide from you, forgive us. Amen.**

Scripture Reading            Authority Questioned            Matthew 21:23

Dramatic reading            Tuesday            A Pharisee

Scripture Reading            Anointed            Matthew 26:6-13

Dramatic Reading            Wednesday            The woman with the alabaster jar

Offering

Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, when we hide away our treasure in cupboards for ourselves—forgive us. Inspire us to be as gracious as the woman with the alabaster jar. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

Scripture Reading            Betrayal            Matthew 26:14-16

Dramatic Reading            Wednesday            Judas

Scripture Reading            Thursday Evening            The Last Supper

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading            The Garden            Matthew 26:36-47

Dramatic Reading            Thursday Night            A disciple in the garden of Gethsemane

Solo    Hymn no. 215                            *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Closing Litany                            "Who is he?"

**Who is he?**

On Sunday he was everything—the center of the parade, the center of our attention. His arrival was holy and unexpected and beautiful.

**Who is he?**

On Monday he turned the world upside down. He flipped the tables while he flipped the script. I've never seen anything like it before.

**Who is he?**

On Tuesday he was a teacher. But he wasn't like the other teachers. He sat and they sat. He spoke and they listened. What they don't know is he hasn't earned his place.

**Who is he?**

On Wednesday he pulled me from the wilderness. He gave me the gift of new life, so I gave him all that I had. People may have stared and talked, but newness does that to people.

**Who is he?**

On Wednesday he was nothing more than a man worth thirty pieces of silver.

**Who is he?**

On Thursday he was the body broken for us, the blood shed for us.

**Who is he?**

On Thursday he was betrayed. He was arrested. He was treated like a convict. On Thursday he was alone, and I was asleep.

**Who is he?**

It's the question everyone is asking.

Benediction

The cross,  
**we will take it.**

The bread,  
**we will break it.**

The pain,  
**we will bear it.**

The joy,  
**we will share it.**

The Gospel,  
**we will live it.**

The love,  
**we will give it.**

The light,  
**we will cherish it.**

The darkness,  
**God shall perish it.**

*Liturgy by Sarah Are / A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org  
Benediction from the Iona Community*