

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Skyler Hayes

CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP'S

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Mark 11:1-11

(Insert)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON "WE WERE THERE: THE CROWD"

Russ Merritt

*HYMN 200 *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 198 *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

If standing is difficult, please remain seated. Larger print bulletins are available.

Ushers
Frankie Bielawski, Sarah Godsey, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams
Acolytes
Mia Esworthy, Skyler Hayes

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

March Twenty-fifth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Eighteen

Palm Sunday

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; John 12:12-16

(Congregants are encouraged to read and reflect upon these passages as they prepare for worship.)

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE PASSING OF PEACE

THE GATHERING HYMN 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (Verse One)

Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang; Through pillared court and temple The joyful anthem rang; To Jesus who had blessed them Close folded to His breast, The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Humble and riding on a colt...

Congregants: we greet you.

Minister: Acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children...

Congregants: we cheer you.

Minister: Moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power...

Congregants: we salute you, Christ our Lord.

Minister: You are giving majesty a new face,

you are giving our world a new hope,

you are giving those who long for redemption

a new song to sing.

Congregants: With them, with heart and voice, we shout "Hosanna!"

Minister: Come, let us sing our hosannas of praise,
and worship our God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**O Jesus, our Redeemer,
like the pilgrims of old Jerusalem,
we are stirred and inspired by your presence.
In you, gentle Savior, we see God on earth.
Walk in our midst this hour, we pray.
Ride into our time together in peace and in power.
Awaken our hearts and nourish our souls.
Increase in us that strength
which is manifested in humble service.
Through your blessed name we pray. Amen.**

* HYMN 196 *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Loving God, in the midst of energy and parades,
the laughter of children and the chaos of procession,
we pause.
We pause to remember that going up to Jerusalem
cost Jesus his very life, on our behalf.
So we come before You to confess
that we are guilty of religious words and holy phrases
that slip easily from our lips
but too often fall flat in our lives.
Forgive us when our faith is shallow, our following timid,
and we have too many excuses for going our own way
apart from the path to which You call us.
Turn us round again, we pray, by Your Holy Spirit.
May Your Spirit be active within us and among us.
May Your Spirit open us anew to Your presence.
May Your Spirit teach us to live new lives
and to be bearers of the seeds of Your good news.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

(Worshippers will share their private prayers with God.)

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive from Hebrews 12)

Minister: "Let us put sin aside, and run our race with perseverance. Christ endured the cross and despised shame, and is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." In his sacrifice, we are saved
People: Praise to God the Father, and His only Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

* RESPONSE HYMN 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (Verse Three)

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, For Christ is our Redeemer, The Lord of heaven our King. O may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice, And in His blissful presence Eternally rejoice.

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING GOD'S WORD

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

¹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever! ² Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷ The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. ²⁹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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.

ANTHEM

Lo, He Comes

John D. Horman

Refrain: Lo, he comes! Sing we "Hosanna!" Lo, he comes, let us sing to the Lord!

Enter his gates with shouts of thanksgiving, into his courts with songs of praise. Come, let us march in glad procession. Loud hosannas now we raise. (Refrain)

Open your heart and welcome the Savior. Join with the song that has no end. This is the day for which we have waited; the coming of our Lord is surely at hand. (Refrain)

THE SECOND READING OF GOD’S WORD Mark 11:1-11

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’ ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!’ ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ ¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Russ Merritt, Transitional Minister Melissa Hudson, Music Director
Susie Tallmage, Secretary Lauren Godsey, Nursery Attendant

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Betty Dixon	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins
Rose Howard	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Jenny Nabywaniec	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	George Wingeier	Holly Woodson
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

Mike Duckworth-(Holly Woodson’s brother-in-law)
Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Class of 2018: Dana Esworthy, Barry Ferrell, Jyke Jones, Stan Lanford, Ann Pace
Class of 2019: Margie Cundiff, John Kabana, Allen Kling, Sarah Plymale, Holly Woodson
Class of 2020: Bob Bielawski, Frankie Bielawski, Lynn Kirby, Bob Newman, Dave Snider