

GATHERING to PRAISE

This is the day our Lord Jesus rode into the Holy City as King. Yet he came to us humbly, riding on a donkey. He came to fulfill his mission: to be obedient to his Father. Even unto death, to death on a cross. For a brief moment, as Jesus entered Jerusalem, God's people recognized their King. They spread their cloaks before him. They waved the palm branches of victory. They cried out praise and they cried out for salvation. On this Palm Sunday, we join the festival. We bless our King and welcome him. Even as Jesus prepares to journey to Golgotha, we call out our encouragement. We cheer him on, for he carries our lives, our fate, on his shoulders.

*Call to Worship

Hosanna to the King of kings! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Behold, our King comes to us, humbly and riding on a donkey. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Our King rides to be enthroned on the rough wood of the cross. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Our King rides to destroy sin by taking it as his own. He rides to conquer death by dying. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
We go with him! Raising the palms of victory, joining all creation to acclaim

n our King. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

PROCESSION OF THE PALMS "Hosanna in the Highest" Please join the children and raise your palm branches proclaiming hosanna!

Scriptural Welcome

Zechariah 9: 9-12 Darin Travis

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off. and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

*Congregational Song of Praise "Sing unto the LORD a New Song"

Sing unto the LORD a new song; sing unto the LORD all the earth. Sing unto the LORD a new song; sing unto the LORD all the earth. The LORD is great, and greatly to be praised; The LORD is great and greatly to be praised!

Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children's Church.

CHORAL OFFERTORY "Who Is This That Comes from Far?" (Isaiah 63: 1), a Southern folk-hymn

Who is this that comes from far with his garments dipped in blood? Strong, triumphant traveler, is he man or is he God? "I that reign in righteousness, Son of God and man I AM. Mighty to redeem your race, Jesus is your Savior's name."

At the Lamb's high feast, we sing praise to our victorious King, Who hath washed us in the tide, flowing from his pierced side. Praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine. Gives his body for the feast; Christ, the victim, Christ, the Priest.

Hail! All hail the King of kings on his throne of sovereignty. By whose will, whose word, all things are, and were, and yet shall be. Come, O come, and for thy throne, King of kings, each heart prepare. Reign triumphant, reign alone, Lord of lords forever there.

PASTORAL PRAYER Jim Solomon



PROCLAIMING the WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall. Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all; Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall, Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all; Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball, To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all; To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

Scripture Romans 12: 3-17

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Sermon

*Hymn of Response

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; Crown thine ancient Church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall! We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all; We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another In all wisdom, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God (Colossians 3: 16).



RESPONDING to the WORD

continues on next panel . . .

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control; Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places, gird our lives that they may be Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set men free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, That we fail not man nor thee, that thee we fail not man nor thee.



BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Blessed be the LORD I AM, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen!

POSTLUDE "Crown Him with Many Crowns" arranged by Ken White

> MUSICIANS: Blake Hanna, trumpet Brandon Wood, trumpet Lauren Braud, French horn Hannah Beloglavc, trombone

VOCALISTS: Cara Waring, Sydney Sorbet, Dedrian Hogan, Jesse Kneisler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome. We are glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please use the Connect Card in our church app (FPCBR in the App Store) or online at *fpcbr.org/connect*. Immediately following worship we have an egg hunt and balloon artist for children in the garden areas and light snacks for the rest of us. In case of inclement weather, children's activities will take place in the basement.

Maundy Thursday Service of Shadows, April 1 at 7 pm. We observe the Thursday before Easter, as a sacred day, remembering that Jesus initiated the sacrament of communion on that night and washed his disciples' feet, giving them the commandment to treat each other the same way. This service in the Sanctuary is suitable for children elementary school aged. Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger.

Holy Saturday: The King Sleeps, April 3 at 11 am. Jesus plunged farther, died deeper and was crushed finer than we can imagine on Holy Saturday. Join us at 11 am in the Sanctuary for this Holy Saturday service.

Easter Sunday, April 4. We'll have our sunrise service in the terraced garden at 6.30 am with a light breakfast immediately following. At 9 am and 11 am, a festive service will occur in the Sanctuary and livestreamed in the terraced garden! Sunday school as usual. No tickets or reservations. We eagerly look forward to the sweet joy of keeping Holy Week and Easter with you!

Women's Ministry Spring Picnic. Join us for our annual Women's Ministry Spring Picnic on Friday, April 16 from 12 pm-1.30 at the home of Connie Miller (6665 Burden Lane). We will gather in fellowship, enjoy an assortment of salads and sweets and be refreshed with God's Word. May we be planted firmly in the "good soil" and GROW up in every way into Christ. The cost is \$10 per person. Register at *fpcbr.org*.

It's On! Men's Skeet Shoot Rescheduled. The Men's Ministry Skeet Shoot has been rescheduled to Saturday, April 17. This year's location is on a beautiful 6,000 acre working sugar cane plantation in Morganza, LA. Prizes will be awarded for shooting and cooking abilities. \$25 per person. Further details and registration online at *fpcbr.org*. Those who previously registered for the cancelled February skeet shoot will be contacted directly by Darin Travis (*darin@fpcbr.org*).

Lake Forest Ranch Camp: We're Going! Kids age 7-12 are eligible to join us at LFR July 18-22. Space is very limited so please let Kendra Bremer know (*kendra@fpcbr.org* or 713.829.0828) if your child plans to attend. Registration and payment must be complete by May 23. Further details at *fpcbr.org/camp*.

Flowers: The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Rev. James and Mary Lee Logan and Frank E. Holloway, Sr., by Eden and Ronnie Logan.

Scripture for Next Week: Matthew 27: 6; John 14: 19b; 2 Corinthians 5: 15

Services are video recorded and livestreamed. All songs used by permission: CCLI license #207235.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD 763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 225.387.0617 | fpcbr.org



PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION March 28, AD 2021 10 am