



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Palm Sunday
March 29th, 2026

Quotes for reflection:

It is on Palm Sunday that we are able to see the fullness and completeness of Gospel restoration: we see Christ as the true tree of life.

—Martin Bucer

Everyone who lined the streets of Jerusalem that day so long ago had a different reason for waving those palms. Some were political activists; they'd heard Jesus had supernatural power, and they wanted him to use it to free Israel from Roman rule. Others had loved ones who were sick or dying. They waved branches, hoping for physical healing. Some were onlookers merely looking for something to do, while others were genuine followers who wished Jesus would establish himself as an earthly king. Jesus was the only one in the parade who knew why he was going to Jerusalem—to die. He had a mission, while everyone else had an agenda.

—J.I. Packer

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves: the King opens His gates and welcomes us into His courts.

Gospel Invitation—Nehemiah 8:9-10

This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep. Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Sung Response—Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates, Vs. 1

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 2/2 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

Lift up your heads, ye migh-ty gates; be-hold, the King of_ glor - y waits;

The King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sav-ior of_ the world is here!

Text: George Weissel, 1642, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855;
Music: TRURO, Thomas Williams, 1789.

Call to Worship—John 12:13; Zechariah 9:9-12

Pastor: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

All: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!

Reader 1: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King is coming to you.

Reader 2: He is righteous and bears salvation; He is humble and mounted on a colt,
the foal of a donkey.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Reader 3: 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.

Pastor: As for you, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I will set you
free. Return to the stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I
will restore you.

All: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Pastor: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Congregational Hymn—All Glory, Laud, And Honor

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Tenor parts, while the Alto and Bass parts provide harmonic support with chords and occasional moving lines. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each corresponding to a pair of staves. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final two lines. The music concludes with a final cadence on the last line of the third system.

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to Thee, Re - deem - er, King,
The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore Thee went;
Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

To whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
Our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore Thee we pre - sent:
Who in all good de - light - est, Thou good and gra - cious King!

Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
To Thee be - fore Thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to Thee, Re - deem - er, King,

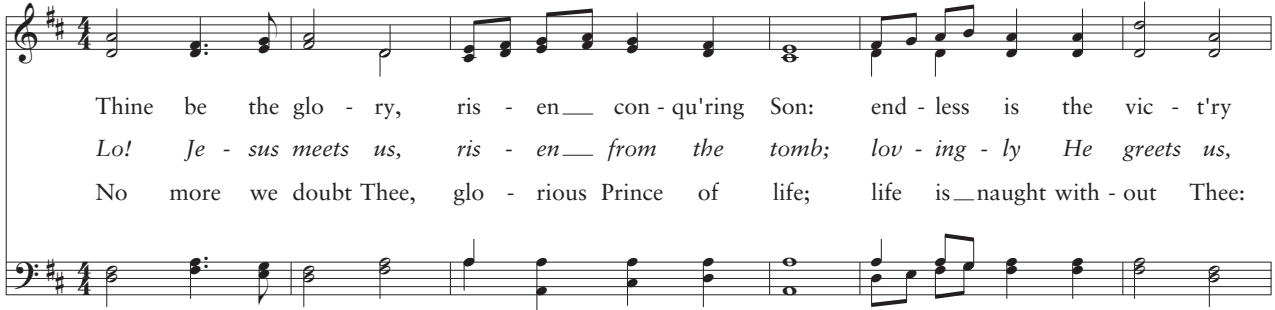
Who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed one!
To Thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
To whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820, tr. J. M. Neale, 1854;
Music: ST. THEODULPH, Melchoir Teschner, c. 1615.

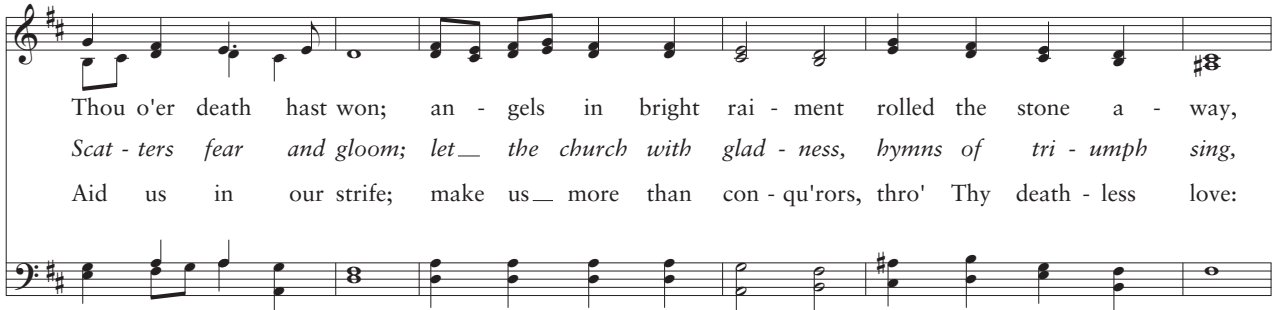
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts.

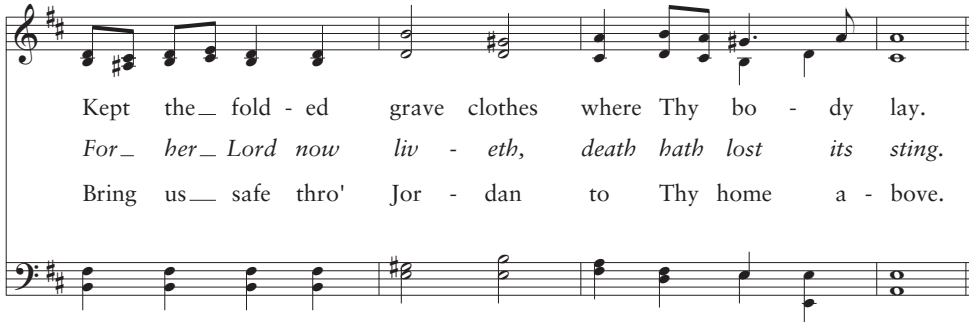
Congregational Hymn—Thine Be The Glory



Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en___ con - qu'ring Son: end - less is the vic - t'ry
Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en___ from the tomb; lov - ing - ly He greets us,
No more we doubt Thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is___naught with - out Thee:



Thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
Scat - ters fear and gloom; let___ the church with glad - ness, hymns of tri - umph sing,
Aid us in our strife; make us___ more than con - qu'rors, thro' Thy death - less love:

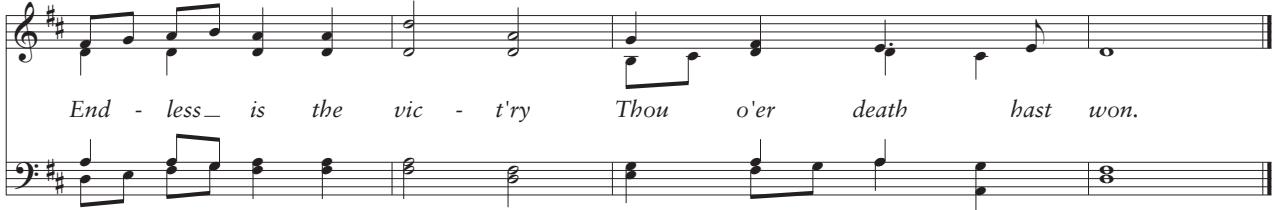


Kept the___ fold - ed grave clothes where Thy bo - dy lay.
For___ her___ Lord now liv - eth, death hath lost its sting.
Bring us___ safe thro' Jor - dan to Thy home a - bove.

Refrain



Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en___ con - qu'ring Son:



End - less___ is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

Text: Edmond Budry, 1884, tr. R. B. Hoyle, 1923; Music: MACCABAEUS, from *Judas Maccabaeus*, George Frideric Handel, 1747.

Baptism of Winifred Neville, daughter of Connor and Raven Neville

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 60:1-5

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—At The Name Of Jesus



At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
In your hearts en - throne Him; there let Him sub - due
Broth - ers, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



Ev - 'ry tongue con - fess — Him King of glo - ry now;
From the lips of sin - ners un - to whom He came,
All that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;
With His Fath - er's glo - ry, with His ang - el train;



'Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call Him Lord,
Faith - ful - ly He bore — it spot - less to the last,
Crown Him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
For all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on His brow,



Who from the beg - in - ning was the might - y Word.
Brought it back vic - to - rious when from death He passed.
Let His will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
And our hearts conf - ess Him King of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1870; Music: KING'S WESTON,
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925.

Sermon Text—Acts 28:1-16

After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta.² The native people showed us unusual kindness, for they kindled a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold.³ When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand.⁴ When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.”⁵ He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm.⁶ They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

⁷ Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days.⁸ It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him.⁹ And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured.¹⁰ They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

¹¹ After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of Alexandria, with the twin gods as a figurehead.¹² Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days.¹³ And from there we made a circuit and arrived at Rhegium. And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli.¹⁴ There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome.¹⁵ And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.¹⁶ And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Sing Hosanna

WOMEN

MEN

Sing Ho - san - na to the Lord.

Sing Ho -

san - na to the Lord.

Sing Ho - san - na.

Sing Ho - - -

san - - - na.

Sing Ho - san - na.

Sing Ho - san - na to the Lord.

CCLI #2844402 © 1974 New Song Creations;
Text and Music: Linda Stassen, 1974.

Sermon—*Unto the Uttermost Parts*

—Pastor Emeritus, George Grant

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The people of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Confession of Sin—Nehemiah 1:5-11

Pastor: O Lord God of heaven, You keep covenant with those who love You and keep Your commandments. Let Your ears be attentive and Your eyes open to the prayer of Your servants.

All: We confess that we have sinned and acted corruptly. We have not kept Your commandments, Your statutes, and Your laws.

Pastor: We remember the words You spoke to Moses that if we were unfaithful, You would scatter us among the peoples.

All: But Lord, remember Your promise that if we return to You and keep Your commandments, You will gather us again and dwell among us.

Pastor: We are Your servants and Your people whom You have redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.

All: Lord, be attentive to the prayer of Your servants who fear Your name. Grant us mercy and give us success today.

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Agnus Dei

UNISON



O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. ____



O Lamb of _ God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. ____



O Lamb of _ God, that takes a - way the sins of the world,

Slightly Faster

WOMEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace.

MEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy _ peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI,
Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

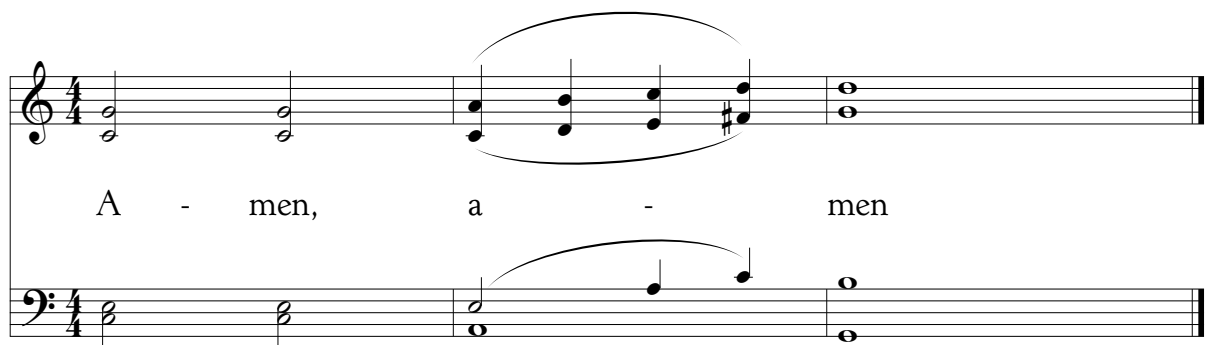
Assurance of Pardon—Nehemiah 1:5; 9:17; Mark 12:30

O Lord God of heaven, You keep covenant with those who love You. You are a God ready to forgive, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Therefore, let us love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.

Sung Response—Twofold Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18th century.

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM

God feeds the faith of His people by giving them a meal. As God fellowships with them in faith, His people pledge their obedience to God and their love for one another.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God:

The Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;
The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

UNISON

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.____

WOMEN

MEN

We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

We praise You, we bless_ You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA,
Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.

Congregational Hymn—And Let This Feeble Body Fail



And let this fee - ble bod - y fail, — and let it faint and die;
In hope of that — im - mor - tal crown I now the cross sus - tain,
I suf - fer through my wear - y years till my dear Je - sus come,
I see a world of saints so bright who reap the pleas - ures there;
Give joy or grief, give ease or pain, take life or friends a - way,



My soul shall quit the mourn - ful vale, and soar to worlds on high;
And glad - ly wan - der up and down, and smile at toil and pain;
To wipe a - way His ser - vant's tears, and take this pil - grim home;
They all are robed in spot - less white, and con - qu'ring palms they bear.
But let me find them all a - gain in that e - ter - nal day.

Refrain



And I'll sing hal - le - lu - jah, and you'll sing hal - le - lu - jah, —



And we'll all sing hal - le - lu - jah, when we ar-rive at home.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1759, alt. 2023; Music: HALLELUJAH, William Walker, 1835,
arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2023.

Congregational Hymn—We Will Glorify



We will glo - ri - fy the King of kings, we will glo - ri - fy the Lamb;
Lord Je - ho - vah reigns in Maj - es - ty, we will bow be - fore His throne;
He is Lord of heav - en, Lord of earth, He is Lord of all who live;
Hal - le - lu - jah to the King of kings, Hal - le - lu - jah to the Lamb;
Ho - san - na to the King of kings, Ho - san - na to the Lamb;



We will glo - ri - fy the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am.
We will wor - ship Him in right - eous - ness, we will wor - ship Him a - lone.
He is Lord a - bove the u - ni - verse, all___ praise to Him we give.
Hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am.
Ho - san - na to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am.

CCLI #2844402 ©1982 New Spring;
Text and Music: Twila Paris, 1982.

GOD’S PEOPLE GRATEFULLY RESPOND WITH THEIR PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS, AND PRAISE

Praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship, moving our faith from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings. Offering boxes for both tithes and alms are located in the foyer.

Pastoral Prayer

Corporate Prayer—*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.

Congregational Hymn—Crown Him With Many Crowns

Crown Him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on His throne.
Crown Him the Lord of life, tri - um - phant o'er the grave,
 Crown Him the Lord of love, be - hold His hands and side,
Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 Crown Him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time,

Hark! How the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mus - ic but its own.
Who rose vic - tor - ious from the — strife for those He came to save.
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glor - i - fied.
From pole to pole, that wars may — cease, and all be prayer and praise.
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing — spheres, in - eff - a - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
His glor - ies now we sing, who died and reigns on high;
 No an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierc - èd feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou has died for me;

And hail Him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
He died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 But down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
Fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 Thy praise and glor - y shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1852; Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benedictory Hosanas—Revelation 7:9-12

Pastor: I looked, and behold, there was a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes. And they all had palm branches in their hands.

All: They cried out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Pastor: And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God.

All: They said, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Sung Response—Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates, Vs. 3

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in 2/2 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics. The lyrics are: "O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the rul - er_ is con - fessed" and "O hap-py hearts and hap - py homes to whom this King in_ tri-umph comes!". The score ends with a double bar line and a final chord.

O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the rul - er_ is con - fessed

O hap-py hearts and hap - py homes to whom this King in_ tri-umph comes!

Text: George Weissel, 1642, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855;
Music: TRURO, Thomas Williams, 1789.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Waving palms together on Palm Sunday is always one of the sweetest moments of the church year. Though our sermon series on the book of Acts continues, nearing its conclusion, the service this morning will feature many of the great hymns of the faith that walk us through Christ's passion. We'll sing hymns like *All Glory, Laud And Honor*, which narrates the events of Palm Sunday, and *And Let This Feeble Body Fail*, which uses the imagery of a palm waving procession. In *Sing Hosanna* and *We Will Glorify*, we'll join with the crowds of disciples shouting "Hosanna." *Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates* uses imagery found in Psalm 118, one of the traditional passages from the Old Testament that anticipates Jesus' triumphal entry. *Thine Be The Glory* and *At The Name Of Jesus* both describe His victory over death, while *Crown Him With Many Crowns* celebrates Him as the risen Lamb seated on His throne in Heaven. The lowly prophet that entered the city on the back of a donkey, and was subsequently humbled and pierced for our sakes, is the Lord of all the universe. We remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem while looking forward to the promised day when He comes again with His Father's glory and His angel train.

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: We, Us, Malta, Honored, Syracuse, Brothers, Courage, Rome

Keystone Verses: On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. (Acts 28:15)