

**REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Serving Absecon - Galloway Township**  
**Rev. Heidi Link – Pastor**  
**Brian Conover - Music Director**

**Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**SUNDAY OF THE PASSION / PALM SUNDAY / 10:00 AM**

*(The minister addressed the congregation from the back of the sanctuary.)*

**\* PROCESSION OF THE PALMS**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray...Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**\* PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL - Mark 11:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and 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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>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.

**\* - Congregation Stands (If for any reason you are unable to stand during the service, please remain seated.)**

## \* THANKSGIVING

*The members of the congregation raise their branches.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of the Lord.**

## \* ENTRANCE SONG

### All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

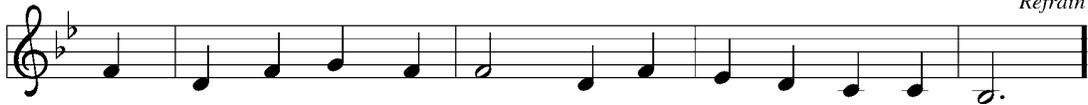


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;  
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;  
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.

*Refrain*



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of the Lord.**

Let us pray... Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING**

*(The Joyful Noise Offering is a collection taken on the last Sunday of the month where the congregation donates its spare change, dollar bills, etc. to a service organization outside of our church.)*

**Refrain: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! (Repeat)**

**Oh, how right it is to give thanks to Him, our creator and our king;  
We sing out our praise to the holy one; We rejoice, we rejoice in our God! (Repeat  
Refrain)**

**PSALM** *Psalm 31:9–16*

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**<sup>10</sup>For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**<sup>12</sup>I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

**<sup>14</sup>But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.  
I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

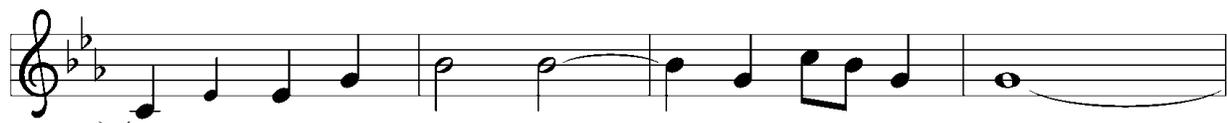
**<sup>16</sup>Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and in your lovingkindness save me."**

**\* HYMN OF PRAISE**

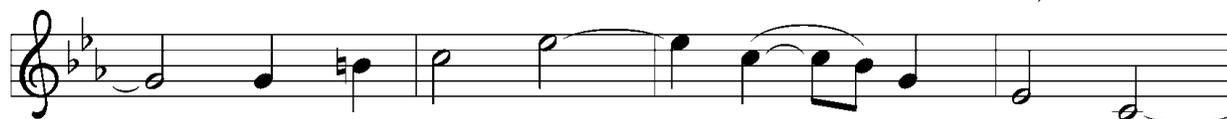
## I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

### **GOSPEL: The Passion According to ST. MARK – Mark 14:1 – 15:47**

*The passion story in Mark's gospel presents Jesus as one who dies abandoned by all. He shows himself to be the true Son of God by giving his life for those who have forsaken him.*

*(The Gospel will be read by members of the congregation. Interspersed with the reading will be verses of the hymn, "Go To Dark Gethsemane", found on the next page.)*

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

### Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

#### \* NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change (*especially*), grant relief from natural disasters (*especially*), and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer (*especially*); grant respite and renewal. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. Hear us, O God.

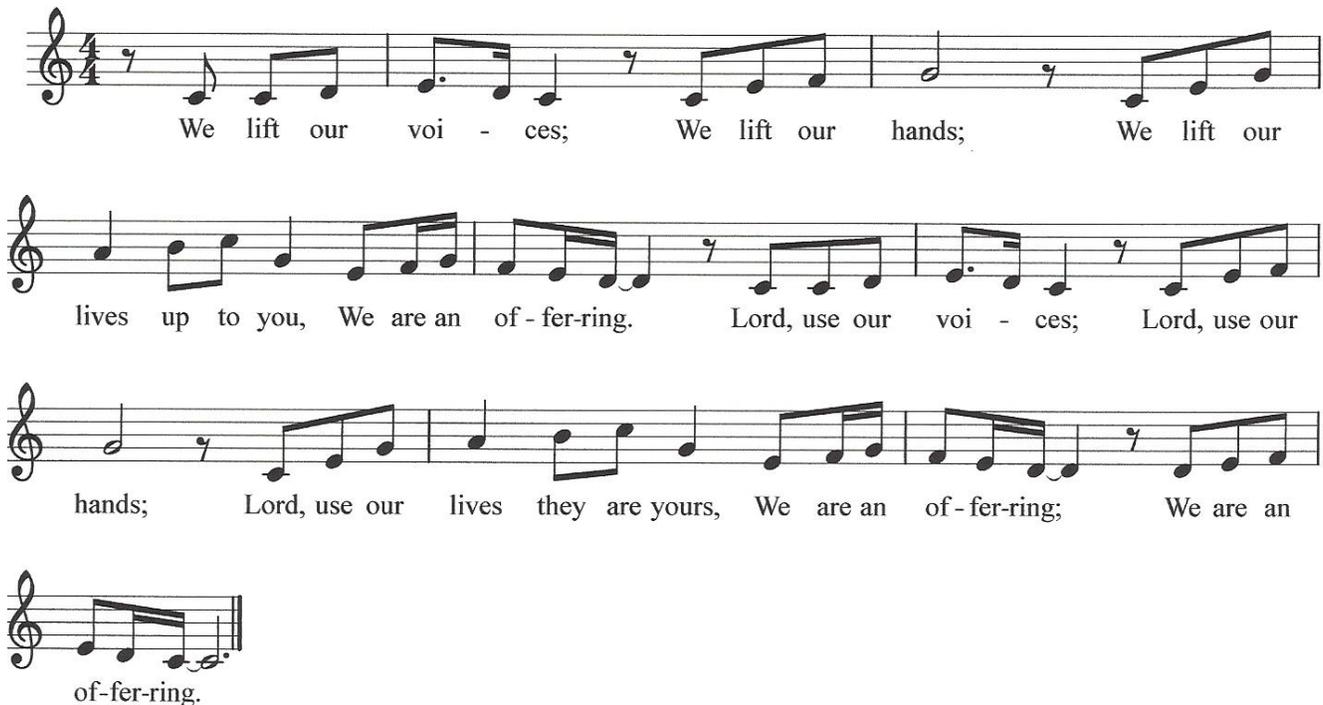
**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## \* OFFERING SONG



We lift our voi - ces; We lift our hands; We lift our  
lives up to you, We are an of - fer-ring. Lord, use our voi - ces; Lord, use our  
hands; Lord, use our lives they are yours, We are an of - fer-ring; We are an  
of-fer-ring.

## \* OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

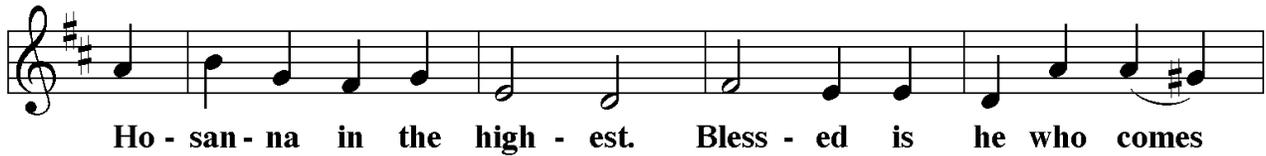
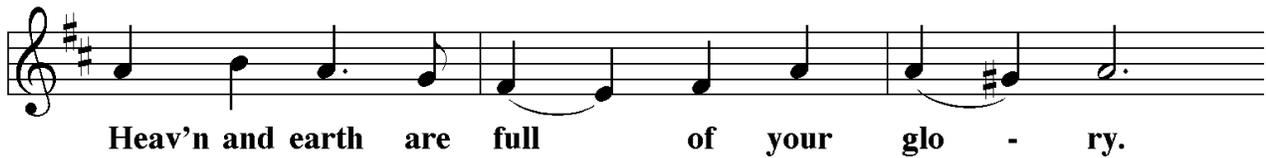
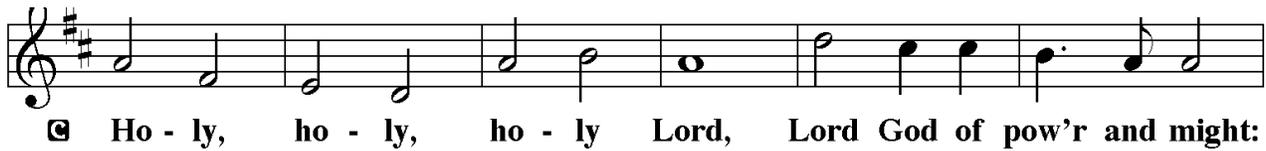
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary...*(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\* 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.  
We come.

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who believe that the risen Christ is present in the Eucharist to forgive sin and renew life are invited to share at our Table. Please come to the Table as directed by an usher, kneel and raise your hand to receive the elements. Children are welcome at the Table to receive a blessing. You may remain standing if necessary. If there are other special needs, please speak to an usher.)*

**\* POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
Amen

**\* POST COMMUNION HYMN**

### Go, My Children, with My Blessing

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a '3' time signature. The lyrics are: "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me. Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free. Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com-fort stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

**\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\* BLESSING**

And now a blessing: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

## \*CLOSING SONG

### Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.  
while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.  
Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

## \* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

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