



Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

Prelude	<i>Toccata for a Festival</i>	Gilbert Martin
Greetings		Rev. Colin Knapp
Introit	<i>The Lord Is Blessing Me</i>	Nolan Williams
*Call to Worship		Sandy Swanson

We raise our palm branches to welcome Jesus into our midst this morning, into our holy place.

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

This triumphant entry begins a tumultuous week of divine mystery; actions on our behalf.

May we open our hearts to the mysteries of God's presence, God's love, and God's mercy. And may our mouths shout, "Hosanna in the Highest" as our response.

*Opening Hymn	<i>Hosanna, Loud Hosanna</i>	p. 3
----------------------	------------------------------	------

*Opening Prayer		Sandy Swanson
------------------------	--	---------------

Confession		Rev. Colin Knapp
-------------------	--	------------------

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed;**

**by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved You with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

(time for silent confession)

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we might delight in your will
and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

By dying, Christ destroyed our death.
In rising, Christ restores our life;

In giving us his Spirit,
He grants us peace.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

TEXT: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt.

ELLACOMBE

7.6.7.6.D

Anthem *Festival Sanctus* John Leavitt

Scripture Reading Mark 11:1-11

One: This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. All: Thanks be to God

Children's Message Maureen Deahl

Scripture Reading Mark 14:26-31, 66-72

One: This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. All: Thanks be to God

Sermon *Are You Going On?* Rev. Colin Knapp

Sermon Response *O Jesus, I Have Promised (stzs. 1, 3, 4)* p. 5

Prayer for the Offering Sandy Swanson

***Doxology**

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!*

Prayers of the People Loving God, Hear our Prayer

Lord's Prayer *All are encouraged to pray the Lord's Prayer in the manner of their choosing, included below is one version:*

Our Father (Creator, Mother) in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Announcements Rev. Colin Knapp

***Closing Hymn** *What Wondrous Love Is This* p. 6

***Benediction** Rev. Colin Knapp

Postlude *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* C. B. Putnam

Pilgrim History

In 1979, the Rev. Nancy Jo Lackum became the first woman pastor to lead an American UCC church solo.

O Jesus, I Have Promised 725

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C) (G) (C)
 E^b Cm7 A^b B^b E^b B^b E^b

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 O let me feel you near me! The world is ev - er near:
 3 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

(C) (Am7) (Dm) (G) (C) (G7) (C)
 E^b Cm7 Fm B^b E^b B^b7 E^b

be now and al - ways near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

(Am) (D) (G) (F) (G)
 Cm F B^b A^b B^b

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

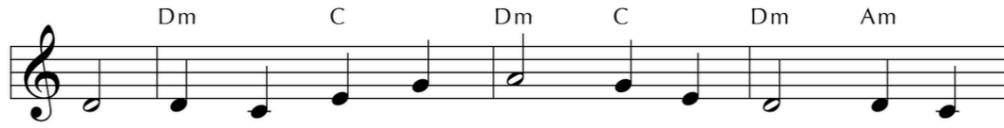
(C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 E^b Cm7 A^b B^b E^b Fm B^b E^b

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, draw still near - er and shield my soul from sin.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, true guard - ian of my soul.
 now give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This hymn written by an Anglican clergyman for the confirmation of his children in Victorian times appears here in updated language that may help to make its challenging commitments more immediate. The tune is named for the province in Finland from which it comes.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

Today's Liturgist is Sandy Swanson. Connect Leaders are Jeff Cobb and Kyle Kent. Ushers are Lee Capps and Josephine Simmons. Our Online Worship Coordinator are Delena Wilkerson, Chuck Behensky, David Taylor-Glass, Carol Bustamante. Our Sextons are Claudia Divis and Leslie Lauderdale. We give our thanks for their important contributions to our worship gathering.

A deacon will be available for **healing prayer** every Sunday, after worship, in the front pew.

Announcements

Special Offering

Today, March 24,

Pilgrim will be accepting gifts for One Great Hour of Sharing, one of our UCC Special Offerings, on Palm Sunday, March 24. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ. You can find it on the pulldown giving menu on the website or the tithe.ly app on your phone, or you can note it on the memo line of your check.

Good Friday Service

Friday, March 29, 7:00 PM

Join us on Good Friday for a service of Tenebrae in the Chapel.

Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30, 8:00 AM - Sunday, March 31, 9:00 AM

Pilgrim will offer a chance to keep Vigil for an hour with Christ in the lead-up to Easter Sunday. It will take place either virtually at home or in the Chapel for 24 hours, from 8 am Saturday, March 30 to 9 am Easter Morning. Please sign up for an hour to sing or read or meditate or contemplate as a buildup to Easter. Sign up for an hour at the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4DADAB2BAA8-48204377-easter>

Pilgrim Annual Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt is Back!

Sunday, March 31, 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

Join us for the Easter Potluck Brunch at 9:30 am followed by the Easter egg hunt at 10:00am on the church's front lawn. Bring your favorite brunch dish and enjoy a time of fellowship. Everyone is invited!

Join us after the Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt for our Resurrection Worship Service at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary.

Pilgrim Congregational Church
460 Lake St
Oak Park, IL
708-848-5860
www.pilgrimoakpark.org

The Reverend Colin Knapp
colin.knapp@pilgrimoakpark.org
Senior Pastor

Rev. Henrietta Brown
henrietta.brown@pilgrimoakpark.org
Assistant Pastor

Joan Hutchinson
joan.hutchinson@pilgrimoakpark.org
Minister of Music

Maureen Deahl
maureen.deahl@pilgrimoakpark.org
Director of Christian Education

Wilbert O. Watkins
wilbert.o.watkins@pilgrimoakpark.org
Chancel Choir Director

Joycelin Fowler
office@pilgrimoakpark.org
Office Manager

Sandy Swanson
moderator@pilgrimoakpark.org
Moderator

Bill Kent
bookkeeper@pilgrimoakpark.org
Financial Coordinator

Ministers:
All of Us