Grace Presbyterian Church

7434 Bath Street

Springfield, Virginia 22150

Online Worship for Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

(Convened Worship has been Suspended)

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Greeting

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Call to Worship (Based on Zechariah 9:9)

One Voice: To a people long awaiting,

Many Voices: The hope of salvation has come.

One Voice: Rejoice greatly, O people,

Many Voices: Shout aloud, O congregation.

One Voice: The savior you’ve been waiting for is coming.

Many Voices: Christ Jesus, the king, arrives

One Voice: Humble and riding on a donkey.

Many voices: Let us receive him with joyful hope.

Hymn #197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

(Wave your palm branches and join the parade of faces as we sing together.)

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.

From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd,

The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;

The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,

Nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

“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.

Confession

O God, we are in need of your mercy. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We’ve let fear, or anxiety, or discontentment, or anger, or despair cloud our hearts from total trust in you. We’ve longed for your healing and salvation to come in big, immediate ways, when you always seem to work

in ways we do not understand. Yet you, O God, always meet us in our weakness, just as we are. So meet us now, with all the burdens and sins

we carry, and grant us grace and hope, restoring us to love again.

Through your son Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

One Voice: Friends, if God is for us, who or what can be against us? Who or what can condemn us? Who can separate us from the love of Christ? It is Christ who died and who was raised, who intercedes for us and offers us loving grace in all our weakness. Hear this good news of the Gospel: In Christ Jesus we are forgiven.

 By the power of the Spirit, we are made whole.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

 (The Assurance is a quote from Bishop Desmond Tutu in *God Has*

 *a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time*, Doubleday, 2004.)

Children’s Sermon

Scripture Lesson Matthew 21:1-11

Virtual Anthem *Arise, My Soul, Arise* arr. Dan Forrest

 (Sung by the Grace Chancel Choir, April 7, 2019.)

Arise, my soul, arise, Shake off thy guilty fears:

The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears:

Before the throne, my Surety stands. My name is written on his hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary,

They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me:

“Forgive him, O, forgive,” they cry, “nor let that ransomed sinner die.”

My God is reconciled, His voice I hear; He owns his child, I can no longer fear.

With confidence I now draw nigh, And “Abba, Father,” cry.

Arise, my soul, arise!

Scripture Lesson Matthew 26:36-46

Sermon *Parades, Prayers, and Preparedness* Rev. Katie Murchison Ross

Offering (Supporting Grace’s ministry)

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Join us in eating together, with your own bread and juice.

If you don’t have bread and/or juice, crackers and water will do!

At Jesus’ last supper with his disciples, he blessed the common food and drink.

The presence of Christ is with us through ordinary things.

Music as we take communion Bless the Lord, My Soul (#544)

 Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.

 Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Prayer (Please submit your joys and concerns online.)

Parting Hymn #543 *God Be the Love To Search and Keep Me*

God be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;

 God, be the strength to now uphold me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold;

 prophets, apostles, angels witness:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning, strength of wind,

 depth of the sea to soil of planet:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way,

 and from beneath, above, and all ways:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,

 Christ in the hearts of all who know me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Benediction

Response 541 *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
 with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.