

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for Palm/Passion Sunday**

April 2, 2023

Pre-Service Music: *In Remembrance of Me* - Larry Shackley

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *The Basin and the Towel* - Larry Shackley

Introit: *Draw Nigh to Jerusalem* David H. Williams

Call to Worship

With crowds from ancient times we cry,

Hosanna! Save us!

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever.

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

We bless you in the house of the Lord!

Prayer of the Day

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn #196: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (please stand)

Call to Confession

Christ comes to the center of our busy, conflicted lives.

**He comes in triumph and humility. He comes in glory and in mercy.
He comes knowing the best of who we are, and he comes knowing our worst.**

Trusting in God's grace, let us make our confession.

Prayer of Confession

**Christ our Redeemer, try as we might, we do not follow your example.
We do not empty ourselves, we do not humble ourselves, we are not obedient.
You simply ask us to care about this world you created, but we fail to do even that.
Forgive us. You have given us the greatest, clearest example of love. Heal us, and
help us to follow. Amen**

Declaration of Pardon

Even in the face of hatred and violence, **We know that Christ loves us.**
Even when enduring death, **Christ cares for us;**
Christ forgives us. **Thanks be to the God of mercy.**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, Have Mercy #577:

Service of Baptism for Cassie Rice

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called
to the one hope of your calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.

Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism:

Creator God, you drew out life-giving water from a desert rock. We give you thanks for the water of baptism. In being joined with Christ, we die to what destroys and are raised to new life with Christ. As streams rush into rivers, may our lives flow into yours joining your creative work for a world in need. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Baptismal Hymn#482:

Baptized in Water

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People

Worship leader will lead the prayers. Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Save your church, O God. Enable us to boldly confess in every time and place that Jesus Christ is Lord. With the humility of a servant, equip congregations, synods, and other ministry settings to proclaim your extravagant love for all.

Merciful God, **Receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

(please stand)

Offering #709:

God, We Honor You

Prayer of Dedication:

**God of good gifts, receive these and all of our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Through the grace of God we have gifts in abundance and pour them out like perfume from a flask, not for our sakes, but to worship the One who lavishes love on the world.
Amen.**

Anthem:

Bread of Heaven

Roy Hopp (seated)

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *The Only Way Out* Jonathan Kimball

Communion Hymn #510: *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name* vs. 1, 3 (*seated*)

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!
People will come from north and south, from east and west,
to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it and gave it to them.

Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right and our great delight to praise you, O God.

We thank you for your steadfast love in spite of our human sin. We join with the heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place to sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest!

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

Hosanna in the highest!

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, while eating with his disciples, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said: Take, eat. This is my body. Then took a cup and after giving thanks he gave it to them saying, "Drink from it all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising
you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us pray:

**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**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.
Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.
Come to me and never be hungry;
believe in me and never thirst.
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. *(take the communion)*

Prayer After Communion

**Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the
saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this
sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of
your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Sending Hymn #198: *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!* v. 1, 2, 3 (please stand)

Benediction:

(remain standing)

God bless you and keep you, Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen**

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Hosanna to the Son of David* - Larry Shackley

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Maudanne Pursley and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.

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