



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 5, 2020

Welcome! We pray that you will truly experience
God's love and grace as you worship!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

For a sampling of what Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Jewish Passover are usually like in Jerusalem, paste this link in your browser: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AX8Djl_SWgo

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

You are invited as a congregation to stand on your balcony, porch, or wave out your window. If you are able, gather a branch of any plant; if not, raise your palm in the air as we wave together and sing our first hymn in honor of Jesus' walk to Mt. Olivet. Let us celebrate that the King has come.

OPENING PRAYER

To you who triumphed over death, we sing our praise. Your steadfast love endures forever. As we face your death and recall the week of your suffering, may we do so with a joy that anticipates the celebration of your resurrection; may we do so with the confidence to turn to you in both life and death. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (verses 1 and 4)

Hymn 196

**Refrain All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
To who the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!**

¹Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. (Refrain)

⁴Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Honor

All: Honor and praise

One: Honor, praise, and glory

All: Honor, praise, and glory are yours Almighty God, now and forever.

One: In celebration, we join the crowds of old,

All: waving branches, giving honor to the Messiah.

One: Yet, our celebration is bittersweet, for our story doesn't end here.

All: We know the pain of what lies ahead.

One: Today anticipates the rest of the story—

All: a story of betrayal and death, a story of hope and resurrection.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

MEDITATION

Palms before the Passion

Rev. Jana Creighton

SEALING THE WORD: The Eucharist

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE TAKING OF THE VINE

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (verses 1 and 3)

Hymn 197

**¹Hosanna, 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.**

**³“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.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Glorious King, Hosanna we shout. From our homes we shout. From the world we call Your name. From our families and times of loneliness we seek your presence. This Holy Day, let us find comfort in Your nearness and hope in our shouts, for the King has come. Thanks be to God.

CHARE AND BENEDICTION

Questions about Communion?

The Book of Order states that our communion elements should be ‘Common to the Culture’ for those who are partaking. That means that your elements of bread and juice should be common to your particular culture of your particular household during this time of virtual gathering. We ask that you do NOT go out to the store to buy grape juice or bread! During this time we gather together and commune with one another and with God and are spiritually filled. This does not depend on the type of bread, juice or other elements that we may chose to utilize during this celebration (If what is common in your household during this time is crackers or chips, then so be it. If what is common is water or coffee, then so be it—after all, Jesus did turn water into wine)! Our gathering with Christ and asking to be filled with the power of God’s Spirit is much more important than how we share this sacrament together. Let us gather our hearts on Thursday night to share this meal in full as the disciples shared with Christ, our Lord. To see a lengthier discussion, please refer to your email and the website for articles pertaining to Holy Communion during this Pandemic.

https://www.pcusa.org/news/2020/3/25/virtual-communion-church-leaders-say-it-can-be-don/?fbclid=IwAR0CE_jf8lbyub3QM6SVelAeF4quzAERulxkxYS9FtcJ2rh6QNVEggOvRU0

Holy Week at SOPC

In light of the Columbia shelter in place order and as protectors of you, God's people, Session has voted to hold Easter Worship service virtually in lieu of the drive-in Easter worship. Please join us for a "Spy" Wednesday Service, a Maundy Thursday Communion Service, a Good Friday Service, and an 11 a.m. Easter Celebration right here on Zoom (links at bottom of page).

The **Chocolaterie'** Zoom group will not be meeting Holy Week! See you again on Thursday April 16!

Do you have a prayer request? Contact sopc@sopc.net

Do you need basic supplies and do not need to be going out? Contact sopc@sopc.net to let us help!

Children and Youth

Be sure to check Facebook and YouTube for a special Children's message today and on Easter.



The flowers this morning were given to the glory of God by Shelagh Wirth, to thank God for the wisdom and sacrifices we make that have allowed us to worship and feel His love in such a time as this.

Last Chance: Want Us to Send an Easter Card to Your Friends and Loved Ones?

For a donation to SOPC of \$5 for each card, we will send your friend or loved one an Easter card, letting them know that you are thinking of them. Choose from the following card covers, email us (at sopc@sopc.net) the name and address of the recipient(s), and let us do the work for you. Donations can be made by mail or through any of the alternate ways to give listed. What a great way to share love, without sharing germs!

Design A



Design B



Design C



Design D



You may also purchase virtual Easter lilies at the normal cost of \$14 (or a donation of choice to apply to SOPC operating budget). Your donation will be published in our online bulletin, along with those who have already purchased lilies. Simply email sopc@sopc.net with your name, and the inscription of who you are honoring or remembering, Donations can be made by mail or through any of the alternate ways to give.

SOPC Schedule of Virtual Events this Week

Sunday

9:30 Sunday School

<https://zoom.us/j/644596158>

or Call 1-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 644 596 158

11:00 Worship

<https://zoom.us/j/845439001>

or call 1-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 845 439 001

5:00 Children

6:00 Youth

Monday

10:30 Monday

Morning Prayer
Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/246240065>

Or Call: 1-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 246 240 065

Wednesday

7:00 "Spy"

Service

Thursday

7:00 Maundy

Thursday Service
with Communion

Friday

7:00 Good
Friday Service

Zoom Link for Evening Services:

<https://zoom.us/j/208242272>

By Phone: 1 (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 208 242 272