

Palm/Passion Sunday  
14th of April 2019 10:30 a.m.

## Preparing for Worship

Please silence cell phones. An asterisk (\*) in the bulletin means please stand if you are able. **Speak in unison at the bold face areas.** Newer English speaker? English copies of the sermon are available from the ushers to help you follow along. LARGE-TYPE editions of the Hymnal are available from the ushers, as well as Chinese/English, Spanish/English, Korean/English and Japanese/English Bibles.

You may share joys and concerns to be shared during the Prayers of the People by filling out a blue prayer card and leaving it in the offering plate.

Nursery care is available in the room adjacent to the rear hallway. Kindergartners to fourth graders remain in worship through the children's sermon; they then may go to the activity period. Parents may also sit with restless children in the Tower room, which is located off the rear of the sanctuary. Children are welcome to remain for the entire service. Sunday School and Adult Classes meet from 9:30 to 10:15 am.

### PRELUDE

### GREETING

Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler

### INTROIT

## Gathering as God's People

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The story of Palm Sunday tells of how people removed their cloaks and spread them out in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem.

**The cloak we wear every day to face the world is both the persona we wish to present, and our defense against the elements.**

As we come to worship may we be willing to lay down our defenses and disguises, at the feet of the One who sees us as we really are.

**And then, set free for worship, may we offer our praises with open hearts and lives.**

### \*INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

## LITANY OF CONFESSION

The streets were crowded.

**A parade mood filled the air.**

Shouts came from deep in the heart.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from lukewarm faith.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from callous indifference.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from paltry hopes and petty dreams.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from unquenchable greed.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from lazy habits and faithless commitments.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from soft-mindedness and hard-heartedness.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

We cry from the depth of our hearts and the very pit of our souls.

**Hosanna. Save us. Save us now.**

*Time for silent meditation*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Passing of the Peace

\*SUNG RESPONSE #473 "Shepherd Me, O God"

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,**

**Beyond my fears, from death into life. (repeat)**

## Listening for God's Word to Us

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the body of Jesus as we watch his triumphant ride, his dusty footsteps, his humble suffering. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we receive the grace to show Christ's love as it is shown to us in the gospel stories of this final week. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE PSALMS      Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (page 565 or page 694)

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS      Luke 19:28-40      (page 83 or page 101)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE      "Sizohamba Naye"      The Church's Children

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

SUNG RESPONSE "Lord Jesus Christ" (*sing once in English and once in French*)

# Lord Jesus Christ / Jésus le Christ

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.  
*Jé - sus le Christ, lu - mière in - té - rieu - re,*

Let not my doubts nor my dark - ness speak to me.  
*ne lais - se pas mes té - nè - bres me par - ler.*

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.  
*Jé - sus le Christ, lu - mière in - té - rieu - re,*

Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.  
*don - ne - moi d'ac - cueil - lir ton a - mour.*

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community  
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
© 1998, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

SERMON

"And the Stones Kept Silent!"

Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

Hiroshi Muto

\*HYMN

"Not on a War Horse"

David Miller (*tune FINLANDIA*)

**Not on a war horse, but a humble donkey,  
the son of Man came to Jerusalem;  
great city full of faithful Hebrew pilgrims  
received one more as she had often done.  
And yet this time, Christ journeyed into danger;**

**to be betrayed, to suffer and to die.  
They paved his way with scattered cloaks and branches  
--a prelude to the coming victory.  
Crowds of disciples shouting out their praises;  
"Glory to God! Hosanna to the King!  
Bless'd is the one, Jesus has come to save us,"  
the very stones would cry out if they could.**

**His friends knew not the horrors that awaited,  
imagining an end to Roman rule.  
Instead God's plan was moving to fruition;  
God's son would grant a greater vict'ry still.  
Not by the might of gathered rebel armies,  
but strength of purpose and submissive will.**

**So let us pause, as we this day remember  
our humble King who gathers up the lost;  
how great his trial, how strong the love he shows us;  
how weak a faith that does not count the cost.  
We walk with him, come through into the city;  
one final meal, a symbol for God's grace.**

#### THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### SHARING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM "The King of Glory"

#### \*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all people here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

**As we offer our gifts this day, God of salvation, remind us that we are called  
not just to parades, but to serving in the streets; not just to waving palm  
branches, but offering our hands to those in need; not just to days of**

celebration, but into the hearts that suffer and cry out for help. Bless our offerings to this ministry, and also the gifts we can add to One Great Hour of Sharing. As this little parade of coins and dollars joins with gifts from churches everywhere, may it become a mighty witness of what our witness can do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is coming to be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of God, lay down your coats and lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the One who comes in God's name.**

Let us praise God for the mighty works we have witnessed.

**It is right that we praise our God.**

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

So with those who spread cloaks before you,  
and those who are sustained by your love,  
we join our voices, singing,

### THE SANCTUS #597 "Sanna, Sannanina" *Swahili and English texts*

...Remembering the One who came for us, remembering the words he taught, remembering his passion and his resurrection, we proclaim the One who is the Bread of Life:

**Christ came in triumph, only to be rejected by us;**

**Christ died in sorrow, only to be raised by you;**

**Christ will come again, only to bring us to you.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH 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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE SHARING OF COMMUNION

*Communion will be shared in the pews. Please take the bread, hold it, and once all have been served, we will eat it together. The cup will be shared in the same way. The outer cups hold wine, and the inner cups hold grape juice.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God, our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the life and death and resurrection of your Son we may be led to salvation, for Jesus is Lord now and forever. Amen.**

*\*HYMN #347 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" v. 2*

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of Lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.**

## Going Forth in Dedication and Service

\*THE CHARGE and BENEDECTION

## POSTLUDE

Our liturgist, Molly Callahan, and our reader, Pete Shanno are helping lead our worship today. Communion liturgists are Jeff Im and Laura Gonzalez. The call to worship was written by Ann Siddall; the Prayer of Confession is from The Open Church in Maryland; the communion liturgy is mostly from Thom Shuman.

**TODAY:**      USHERS:      Lisa VanDeWeert, Keyla Garcia, Cory Lehnbeuter  
COUNTERS:      Fumio Ito, Jonathan Phillips  
GREETER:      Venge Nyirongo  
NURSERY:      Melissa Maldonado

We welcome all visitors in the name of Jesus Christ. We invite you to sign the guest register in the entry room and to join us for coffee in the entry room following the service.

Readings for Sunday, April 21, 2019

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24;

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43;

John 20:1:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12;

Easter Evening: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalms 114; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

**GREETER**

Month of April: Venge Nyirongo

**SECOND READERS**

April 21: Vicky Li

April 28: Lily VanDeWeert

May 5: Trish Thams

May 12: Jane Wilson

**USHERS**

April 21: Fara Razafy, Susan Dindial, Anne Stebbins

April 28: Hyung Shim, Karen Peters, Vicky Li

May 5: Linda McGarry, Wanangua Nyirongo, Jeff Im

May 12: Ingrid Brennan, Julia Kim, Jack Peters

**COUNTERS**

April 21: Diane Borer, David Voreacos

April 28: Jonathan Phillips, Pete Shanno

May 5: Hyung Shim, Fumio Ito

May 12: Diane Borer, Jonathan Phillips

**NURSERY**

April 28: Kristen Richter

May 5: Joe VanDeWeert

May 12: Chris Gajilan

## **CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

After Worship Today: 3:00 pm Shameless: A Sexual Reformation Book Study  
at MB Koo & Diane Lee's home

Monday, 4/15/19 9:30 a.m. ESL Family Class  
10:30 a.m. ESL Class

Tuesday, 4/16/19 10:00 a.m. ESL Class  
7:30 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, 4/17/19 9:30 a.m. ESL Class  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, 4/18/19 10:00 a.m. ESL Class (2)  
1:00 p.m. ESL Class  
1-7 p.m. Private Music Lessons  
8:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Meditative Service with Communion  
7:30 p.m. Bottles and Badges Meeting

Friday 4/19/19 12noon-3 pm Good Friday Leonia Ecumenical Community Services

Next Sunday, 4/21/19 EASTER  
6:15 a.m.  
Sunrise Service at Overpeck Park with Communion  
9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all  
10:30 a.m. Easter Sanctuary Service with Communion  
3:00 p.m. Japanese Language Service

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LENTEN BOOK STUDY GROUPS** During Lent, we will be offering book study groups:

**1) Shameless: A Sexual Reformation** by Nadia Bolz-Weber How can we integrate our sexuality and our spirituality in a healthy way? We will meet today, Sunday, April 14, at 3:00 pm at M.B. and Diane's home in Fort Lee.

**2) How to Pray When Prayer Seems Impossible** This is more of a spiritual practice group than a book study group. The readings are one page each week and should be easy for new English speakers. Our meetings will include the practice of prayer, and sharing what we would like prayer for. We will meet today as our last gathering.

### **COFFEE CANS FOR FLOWERS**

Please help us bring joy and happiness to others by saving your coffee cans and other plastic quart containers (like the ones used for take-out soup from Chinese restaurants) to use for delivering the weekly flowers to others. Please bring in your washed and cleaned containers and give to Linda McGarry.

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES**

- Maundy Thursday, April 18 at 8 pm- meditative service with music, readings, and the deepening of shadows. We will share Communion as we remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. As the night progresses, we read of his betrayal and crucifixion.
- Good Friday, April 19, 12 noon-3 pm beginning at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Leonia: this ecumenical community service travels through the church buildings of Leonia and shares music, prayer and reflection at each one. The service ends at St. John's Catholic Church, where Pastor Leah will be giving the final meditation.
- Easter Sunrise Service, April 21- 6:15 am at Overpeck Park on the dock by second parking lot on the "new" (south) side. Communion will be shared.
- Easter Sanctuary Service, April 21 at 10:30 am. We will have joyful music and preaching as we witness to the Resurrection! Communion will be shared. Following worship there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children as we all greet one another in the name of the Risen Christ.

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