

# A Service for In-Home Worship on Palm Sunday, April 5

*First Reformed Church of South Holland*

<b>Worship Service Element</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<p><b>Prepare</b></p> <p><i>As part of your preparation for worship this morning, please spend some time in prayer and meditation, asking the Holy Spirit to center your hearts on the path to the cross that Christ began to traverse today with His entry into Jerusalem.</i></p>	<p><i>This morning, we enter a spiritual “time-capsule” as we fall into real-time lockstep with those events that took place during Jesus’ weeklong journey to the cross. For Christ, as for the Christian, this week is one of tragic twists, but ultimate victory.</i></p>
<p><b>God Calls Us To Worship</b></p> <p><i>At 9:30am on Sunday, begin your in-home worship with the <a href="#">Welcome Video</a>.</i></p>	<p><i>The Call to Worship reminds us that God both begins and enables our worship. God the Father calls us to worship. God the Son perfects our worship. And God the Holy Spirit serves as our liturgical tour guide making these words, prayers, and readings come alive in our hearts.</i></p> <p><i>Today’s opening anthem is a recording of our children’s choir from Palm Sunday, 2019.</i></p>
<p><b>Greeting One Another &amp; The Passing of The Peace</b></p>	<p><i>This portion of our worship has become increasingly difficult during this time of social distancing. But, perhaps more than usual, we are aware of our need for Christ’s peace to permeate our lives. So please be lavish in your passing of Christ’s peace this morning!</i></p> <p>❖ <b>TRY SOMETHING NEW:</b> <i>If you are alone at home today, please take a moment to text “The peace of Christ be with you!” to some of your church family members.</i></p>

**“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”**

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,  
who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One!

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present:

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
to Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise:

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

Thou didst accept their praises—accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

*Join us as we sing together of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Notice that while the first verse focuses entirely upon Christ, each of the final three verses begin with the praise of the Hebrews and fast-forward to us, connecting our songs of praise with theirs across the span of over 2000 years. Only our God is worthy of such unending praise!*

*If you are musical and would like to play along with us, chord charts are attached to the Worship Resources email or can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)”</b></p> <p>Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You; we turn to You.          Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You; we long for You.          When we see You we find strength to face the day.          In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away.</p> <p><b>Hosanna, hosanna! You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises!</b>  <b>Hosanna, hosanna! Come have Your way among us. We welcome You here, Lord Jesus!</b></p> <p>Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You.          In Your kingdom broken lives are made new, You make us new.          When we see You we find strength to face the day.          In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away.</p> <p><b>Hosanna, hosanna! You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises!</b>  <b>Hosanna, hosanna! Come have Your way among us. We welcome You here, Lord Jesus!</b></p>	<p><i>How many prayers have you lifted to God this week, asking for His help? His healing? His intervention?</i></p> <p><i>This song reminds us that one of God’s greatest gifts to us is not His saving <b>actions</b>, but His <b>presence</b>, for it is God’s presence that gives us strength to bear whatever struggles press upon us.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer of Confession</b></p> <p>Let us pray.</p> <p>Lord, on this Palm Sunday, we are reminded of the great crowds who gathered to welcome Your presence into Jerusalem, but who days later would gather to demand Your crucifixion. And we find echoes of their motives and their actions in our own hearts: Selfishness. Bitterness. Confusion. Jealousy. Greed. Fear. Hypocrisy. Doubt.</p> <p>So we also echo their cries of “Hosanna!” “Save us!” and we make them our own. Save us from our impure motives and our apathetic complacency. Save us from our selfishness and our pride. Son of David, save us from our sin.</p> <p>We ask that You would hear now our silent prayers of confession.</p> <p><i>Time of silent confession.</i></p> <p>Most merciful Father, help us to be wholeheartedly Your people. May we not simply praise You with our lips, but honor You with every part of our lives. We pray this all in Jesus’ name, amen.</p>	<p><i>Romans 2:4 reminds us that God’s kindness leads us to repentance. We run to His arms with our sin-sick hearts because we know His arms are gracious and ready to receive us, no matter what our condition.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Words &amp; Song of Assurance</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><b>Click here to begin the Assurance Video.</b></a></p>	<p><i>Our shame is past. Our guilt is gone. Divine mercy is ours! Praise God for His love that was demonstrated to us</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“How Deep The Father’s Love For Us”</b></p> <p>How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.</p> <p>Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders. Ashamed I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.</p> <p>I will not boast in anything; no gifts, no power, no wisdom, but I will boast in Jesus Christ—His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart—His wounds have paid my ransom.</p>	<p><i>through Jesus!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scripture Reading</b> <i>Matthew 21:1-17</i></p> <p>As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “<i>Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.</i>”</p> <p>This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:</p> <p><i>“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”</i></p> <p>The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,</p> <p><i>“Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”</i></p> <p>When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “<i>Who is this?</i>” The crowds answered, “<i>This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.</i>”</p>	<p><i>Worship is a conversation with God, and the reading of God’s Word is one of the best ways to hear God speak to you this morning. So listen closely, and pray fervently that God would speak into your heart this day.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">❖ <b>TRY SOMETHING NEW:</b></p> <p><i>Today’s Scripture reading can be easily separated between a narrator’s voice, <b>Jesus’ voice</b>, a <b>prophet’s voice</b>, the <b>teachers of the law</b>, and a <b>crowd</b>. If you have children, consider using the palms you used to film today’s processional again as you read this story.</i></p>

<p>Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. <i>“It is written,”</i> he said to them, <i>“My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”</i></p> <p>The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, <i>“Hosanna to the Son of David,”</i> they were indignant.</p> <p><i>“Do you hear what these children are saying?”</i> they asked him. <i>“Yes,”</i> replied Jesus, <i>“have you never read, ‘From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise’?”</i></p> <p>And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sermon</b>  <i>“Not That Kind of King: Jesus Is The King We Need, But Not The King We Expect”</i>  Pastors Corey Buchanan &amp; Jim Oord</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Click here to begin the Sermon Video.</a></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Congregational Prayer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Praise God for signs of Spring you can see in the world around you, and signs of New Life you can see in the people around you.</li> <li>-Praise God that Jesus made the long and lonely journey to the cross so that we would never be left alone.</li> <li>-Pray for doctors, nurses, researchers, and scientists, as they work for healing and hope. Pray for their protection, strength, and mental health.</li> <li>-Pray for grocery store workers, pharmacists, and other workers who work to make sure we can get the things we need. Pray for their safety.</li> <li>-Pray for people who are stuck at home. Especially pray for people for whom their homes might not be a safe place to be. Pray for deliverance from abuse and protection from violence.</li> <li>-Pray for those in nursing homes and the caretakers who work there. Pray for health and good spirits, especially during this time when visiting is restricted.</li> <li>-Pray for those who are facing death alone in this time. Pray for those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19. Pray for comfort, trust, and relief.</li> <li>-Pray for the members of our church to be prayer warriors, cheerful servants, and gospel proclaimers for</li> </ul>	<p><i>This morning we will unite our prayers around these themes and prompts.</i></p> <p><i>For more items to pray about this morning, please call our prayer line at (708) 333-8150.</i></p> <p><i>When you have concluded your prayers, please click in the left-hand column below to play the Lord’s Prayer video.</i></p>

<p>those who are scared, alone, and hurting.</p> <p>-Pray for anyone and anything that the Spirit puts on your heart at this time.</p> <p><i>When you have concluded your time of prayer, click here for the <a href="#">Lord's Prayer Video</a>.</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Offering of Our Tithes</b></p> <p>During your time of offering this morning, you will watch a Moment for Missions Video from the United Bible Society. First Reformed Church directly supports the work of United Bible Society missionaries Brian and Donna Renes through our Mission Budget.</p> <p>To give to God's ministry through First Reformed Church online, <a href="#">click here</a>. Alternatively, take a few moments to fill out your offering envelope and mail it to the church at 15924 South Park Ave., South Holland, IL 60473.</p> <p><i>When you have concluded your offering, please sing to Doxology together in your homes.</i></p>	<p><i>The Hebrew people gave donkeys, branches, and cloaks in service to Christ and His Kingdom. What do you have to offer Him today?</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Doxology"</b></p> <p>Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures, here below, praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen.</p>	<p><i>Written by Thomas Ken in 1674, this song leaves no part of creation outside of the call to praise God. If you woke up this morning with breath in your lungs, this is your joyful duty as well!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Over Our Gifts</b></p> <p>Let us pray:</p> <p>God and Father of Jesus Christ, we leave this time of worship for a week full of uncertainty, busyness, and frustration. Teach us how to make every day a day of worship, prayer, and service so that each day of this week can be a day filled with hope. Make us cheerful givers as we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem to give Himself for us. In His name we pray, amen.</p>	<p><i>Our God is gracious to take our gifts – meager and feeble though they may be – and use them (and us) in amazing ways for His glory!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Children's Sermon</b> <i>"Benjamin's Box"</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Click here to begin the Children's Sermon &amp; Benediction Video.</a></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benediction &amp; Charge</b></p>	<p><i>The grace of Christ is not meant to be kept within the walls of the church, but to journey out with us into our places of work, life, and</i></p>

	<i>play. These words send us out to our world as Christ's anointed ambassadors.</i>
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