

Valley Christian Church

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hosanna, hosanna!
Our voices ring in praise!
For enters our great leader, Jesus!
So our palms we raise!
Hosanna, hosanna!
We will follow him all of our days!

HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

*All hail the power of Jesus’ name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bringing forth the Royal Diadem
And crown Him Lord of all
Bringing forth the Royal Diadem
And crown Him Lord of all*

*Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all!
And crown Him Lord of all!
And crown Him Lord of all!*

INVOCATION

Come, Christ Jesus, come to this home! We wave our arms and sing our hosannas, welcoming you into our heart and mind. Come, Christ Jesus, come to this place! Amen!

SCRIPTURE

Mark 11:1-10

MEDITATION

“Following Jesus”

Today is Palm Sunday. The King is coming and we must respond. The parade of Jesus riding the donkey into the city calls us to make a decision! For the choice is ours to make. If we want to be bystanders - parade watchers – we can do that. If we want to be

arm-waving Christians who go home after the parade, we can do that. The parade calls us to decide. We can be bystanders or we can be followers. We can watch from the sidelines or we can step out and follow.

Palm Sunday requires us to follow Jesus. And if we choose to follow Jesus, we must give him our devotion. We must march to His destination. A destination that will lead to service. It will require our love and devotion. It will demand our life and our time. For Jesus was on His way to the cross. Jesus was on His way to suffering and on His way to His Father’s eternal home. When we follow Jesus and offer Him our devotion, we march with Jesus to our Father’s house. For when we follow Jesus, we must give Him our trust and our faith.

Today Jesus invites us to join Him. He invites us to march along. Today He comes before us as a humble savior, the head of the parade. Remember: it is easier to shout than it is to serve. Serving and following Jesus is a great blessing. Amen.

HYMN

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

*I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.*

*The world behind me, the cross before me,
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

Praise you, O Christ! As you enter Jerusalem, we shout our welcome!

In the shout of hosannas, we remain mindful of those who do not celebrate life this day. Those who live in sadness or in fear, those who have no hope and do not shout hosanna. We remember friends and relatives, neighbors and strangers who suffer. We pray for the isolated and those who suffer from the Coronavirus. May we be a people who can walk to the cross, lightening the burdens many carry, bearing witness to

new life and hope. Grant us your courage in these difficult times so that we might be a blessing to others.
In the name of the Christ. Amen.

CALL TO COMMUNION

As we come to communion in the comfort of our home, may the bread which is broken bring life to us. May the holy cup, poured out for all, be our salvation.

COMMUNION PRAYER

As we receive this holy meal, forgive our sins, renew in us the power of Your love and strengthen us for our ministry in the world. All this we ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ who taught us to pray. Our Father ...

HOLY COMMUNION

Partake of the holy communion
(Bread, juice or whatever is available to you)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night He was betrayed Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body that is broken for you. Take eat and do this in remembrance of me."
In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Drink of it often in remembrance of me"

SHARING OUR OFFERING WITH GOD

Share your church offering and Easter offering with the church by mail. Thank you for your love gifts.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

O Lord, you have laid down your life for us. Our only true response is to offer our lives back to you. May our gifts that we will share with our church be symbols of our love for you. Amen

BENEDICTION

Hosanna! Christ is with us! Go forth into the country and the city and shout the name of Jesus for the sake of the world! Thanks be to God. Amen.

