



Palm Sunday - B
March 24, 2024

“Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our
ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Mark 11:9b,10

Welcome and Announcements

† Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.

– Trinity is an Affirming Congregation

† Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday

In person Sunday School is the 2nd and last Sunday of each month

Smiths Falls Community Food Bank appreciates donations.

Social Time After Church – Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Please join us for Social Time After Church - If you wish to volunteer to help with Social time, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Individuals or groups are invited to sign-up.

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday Seder Supper – Thursday, March 28th at 6:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Service – March 29th at 10:30 am to be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunrise Communion – Sunday, March 31st at 7:00 am

Easter Sunday Worship, March 31st at 10:30 am

UCW Craft and Chat - Wednesday, March 27th - 11:00am to 2:00pm

Bring a lunch and whatever craft you want to work on. You don't need to craft to come and chat with us. Let's fellowship with crafting, eating and gabbing. Build each other up and have fun too!

Broadview Magazine Group Subscription - If you are interested in subscribing to Broadview this year and taking advantage of the yearly Group Subscription price of \$30, please submit a cheque made out to Trinity United Church, indicating on the memo line of the cheque that it is for the Broadview Subscription. Subscription requests and cheques should be submitted to the Trinity office no later than **May 19, 2024**.

April Events

New to You Sale – Saturday, April 20th – 8:00am to 1:00pm - Looking for donations of clothing, books, shoes, purses, jewellery, trinkets, glassware, linens, puzzles, games, etc. No furniture or large items. Please submit your items to the stage in the Church Hall starting **Monday, March 18th**. Many thanks!!

Pete Woods Quartet Concert - Stardust of a Song

Saturday, April 27th, 7:00 pm. Tickets will be \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, children under 13 will be \$10. Tickets can be purchased in advance following Sunday morning worship services, at the Church Office Monday to Thursday (9 am to 1pm) or on www.eventbrite.ca

Geraniums for sale – Order your Geraniums by calling the Church office at 613-283-444 or orders will also be taken following Sunday morning services. Colours this year will be red, white, pink, salmon and orange, 4 plants for \$12. Some colours will be limited, so order early so you don't miss out. Pick up date will be Saturday, May 25th, 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Introit "Hosanna!" (Lloyd Webber)

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Call to Worship

Jesus is coming.

Hosanna!

He comes, riding on a donkey.

Hosanna!

Open wide the gates!

Hosanna!

Let us welcome him with branches and songs of praise.

Jesus is coming. Hosanna to the King of kings!

Lenten Liturgy

On this Palm Sunday, we see Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, showing us the way of peace.

With palm branches in hand, we cry out "Hosanna," save us now, save us from our warring madness.

"We affirm that God is at work when people are troubled by the inhumanity of war and work for peace with justice.

"We pray for peace to him who is the Prince of Peace."

(Extinguish one candle)

Opening Prayer

God of grace and truth,

We gather in humility and hope because we believe you have the power to change the world, to change it for the better with your love.

We gather because we believe no one is beyond your concern, no one is beyond your embrace.

Such love astonishes us.

Without your grace, we cannot even imagine such love.

In this hour of worship, inspire us with a vision of love which will change the world and our lives for goodness' sake.

Hymn 122 "All glory, laud and honour"

Refrain

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

You are the King of Israel,
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and blessed one.

Refrain

The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;

our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present:

Refrain

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

Refrain

Their praises you accepted,
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious king.

Refrain

Prayer of Confession

**God of mystery and mercy,
You call us to be servants yet we like to be served.
You call us to give ourselves away for love's sake,
yet we like to hang on to what we have.
We cannot imagine following you to the cross.
As we see your cross looming, we wonder,
How far would we have walked with you?**

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus said: I do not call you servants any longer, but I have called you friends. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's

friends.” Christ has laid down his life for us and invites us to love one another as he has loved us. Trust his love to give you strength and make you new.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Scripture

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (VU 837 Parts One, Three and Four);
Mark 11:1-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (VU 837 Parts One, Three and Four)

Refrain -

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Let Israel say:

“God’s love endures forever”

Let the House of Aaron say:

“God’s love endures forever”

Let those who fear God say:

“God’s love endures forever”

Refrain -

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

God is my strength and my song. God has become my salvation.

There are shouts of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous

The right hand of God does mighty things, the right hand of God raises up

The right hand of God does mighty things

I shall not die, but live, and I shall proclaim what God has done
God indeed punished me, but did not give me over to death.

Refrain -

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God

This is the gate of God, through it the righteous shall enter

I thank you for you have answered me, you have become my salvation

The stone which the builders rejected

Has become the cornerstone

This is God's doing, marvelous in our eyes

This is the day that God has made

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Refrain -

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Save us, O GOD, we pray

God, we pray, give us success

Blessed is the one who come in the name of God

We bless you from the house of God

God, our God has given us light

with palm branches in hand let us march to the altar

You are my God, and I will thank you

You are my God, and I will extol you

Refrain -

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Anthem "As Now We Take The Sacrament" (Perry/Carter)

Reflection

Communion / Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May the God of this week be with you.

May God journey with you as well.

People of God, offer your hearts in these moments.

We open the closed gates of our fears to the God who comes to us.

Children of God, sing loud praises to the One who approaches.

We praise our God whose steadfast love is forever.

This is your doing, Imaginative God,
transforming the emptiness of chaos
into the creation of beauty and hope where
palms waved in summer breezes,
colts frolicked in green meadows,
children walked in joy and wonder.

You created goodness and grace,
for those shaped in your image,
but we brought nails and wood
to crucify your dreams for us.

You continued to invite us through
the gates of your love,
sending women and men to call us home,
but we rejected the prophets,
even as we continued to rebel.

So, you chose to become one of us,
not in glory or power or wealth,
but in humility.

So with those who wave palm branches,
with those who stand at the back of the crowd,
we offer our thanksgiving to you:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of gracious love.

**Morning by morning, creation sings its praise to you.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who has a Teacher's tongue.
Hosanna in the highest!**

This is your doing.
Though sharing in your holiness,
your Child chose to become human.
Setting aside glory,
Jesus came to fill us with grace.
Taking off eternity's robes,
Jesus knew our days of loneliness and fear.
Leaving behind all majesty,
Jesus became as humble as a little child
who gazes at everything with awe and wonder.
Deciding to set down power,
Jesus went to the cross,
It gathered him in its cold embrace,
until you breathed new life into him,
the resurrecting Spirit of love being revealed for all.

As we step forward in fear and doubts to follow,
as we know how easily we would betray Jesus,
we sing of the mystery we call faith:

**In steadfast love, Jesus was born;
with steadfast trust, Jesus died;
through steadfast grace, Jesus was raised from death;
for steadfast hope, Jesus will come to open the gates of eternity
for all.**

As you pour out your Spirit
on the bread and the cup
and your children gathered on this day,
we know that this is your doing, Holy God.

For through the bread which is broken,
you feed us,
so we might become one with the excluded,
so we might bring healing to the hurting.
And through the Cup which is blessed,
your open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, our mouths,
so we might speak out against oppression,
so we might see each person as our sibling,
hearing in their words your voice of love.

And when the gates of time and history are closed,
as eternity with you swings wide open,
we will lift our voices with everyone
from every time, and of every place,
forever singing of your steadfast love. Amen.

Hymn 123 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Hosanna, loud hosanna the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang:
to Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,
the victory palm-branch waving, and singing clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
content that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer; earth, let your anthems ring.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his humble presence eternally rejoice!

Invitation to the Offering

As Holy Week opens, we remember what Jesus faced, how the crowd cheered him one day and called for his death by week's end. Close friends betrayed him and ran away. In our offering, we declare our love and loyalty to Jesus, and our willingness to continue his work in our world.

Offering Prayer

Bless our gifts with your love so that they accomplish more than we can even imagine. Bless our lives, too, so that what we do and say will show we have the commitment to follow you. Amen.

Hymn 124 "He Came Riding On A Donkey"

He came riding on a donkey, he came riding into town,
 slow and easy kind of lowly he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him, staying close, a little shy;
 not too sure where he would guide them, onto live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises; waking birds and dancing wind;
 here he is, the Son of David, riding on to take his throne.

Then the children gathered, singing shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
 in the streets their song was ringing, "Hosannas" filled the morning
air. Timed adults strained to see him, caught the Spirit, joined the song;
 spread their cloaks along before him, branches flashing in the sun.
So all the city sang his praises, waking streets and dancing crowd.
 Here he is, the Son of David, our Messiah, Son of God.

In our fasting and our feasting, called to follow in his way
 called to walk his road to Easter, called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David, hosanna in the heavens above,

blessed is he who comes to save us, blessed is he who brings his love!

Let us join to sing his praises; open hearts and souls to God; he is with us, Son of David; God's Messiah, Christ the Lord

Prayers of the People

In Jesus,

You came to us in humility,
reaching out to all God's little ones with mercy and compassion.
You ask us to do the same.

In gratitude for all the mercy and compassion we have known,
we pray for those who find themselves in humble circumstances:

Hear us as we pray,

For the unhoused in our communities,
and for refugees wherever they take shelter;
For all who find themselves without enough resources to cope
when necessary things are so costly;
For those who live in isolated communities
and lack the access, care and technology most of us take for
granted;

Embrace them, O God, in your mercy,
and humble us,

lest we put too much trust in our lifestyles as the source of
life's goodness.

Hear us as we pray

for all those who have been humbled by unexpected circumstances:
for those who face illness or injury;
for those who know death or disaster, fear or failure;
for victims of crime

and those who suffer through the misjudgment or mistake of others;

And we pray for those who suffer
because of the consequences of their own actions and choices.

Embrace them, O God, in your mercy,
and humble us, lest we imagine we can live our lives untouched by trouble.

Hear us as we pray

for all those who have not yet learned the lessons of humility:
for those who live carelessly or drive recklessly,
endangering themselves and others;

for those who abuse the trust and power in their positions,
betraying those whose interests are in their hands;

And we pray for those who mislead others to protect their own interests

or indulge their fame with no thought for the consequences.

Humble them, O God, in your mercy,
and humble us if we are tempted to ignore the responsibility you give us all
to care for our neighbours' needs.

Create in us the compassion and courage

as we come to the Cross with Jesus and in humility we pray the words Jesus taught us,

personally and with power to One known as Father, Mother, Friend; when we say -

The Lord's Prayer Sung - (VU 960)

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 trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

EOORC Prayer Cycle

South Mountain-Hallville Pastoral Charge
Inkerman United Church
South Mountain United Church
St. Andrew's (Hallville) United Church
St. Andrew's (Heckston) United Church

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

Hospitality, Diversity, Justice do not end with words. They call us to awareness and respect. There are a variety of Faith Traditions represented in our world and community. Each celebrates and worships in their own ways and seasons. Over the course of the coming year, we will keep you informed of these different religions, beliefs and celebrations, so we may contribute to a broader culture of awareness, respect and support.

We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love

Time for the Young

Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Refrain -

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

Refrain -

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To pardon and sanctify me

Refrain -

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

To the old rugged Cross, I will ever be true
Its shame and reproach gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where his glory forever I'll share

Refrain -

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Benediction

Go with courage to face the days ahead.

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who lives with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

Choral Amen

Postlude "Were You There?" (Young)