



Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. | March 24, 2024

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City

READ John 12:1-19

FROM THE ARTIST | Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Jesus lies down on the donkey's back, steeling himself before his journey through the palms. He has a target on his back—he's a disruption to the status quo upheld by the Pharisees and Chief Priests, and a threat to the power of the empire. His friend Lazarus is caught up in it all too. I imagine as he closes his eyes and strokes the donkey's hair, he hears the anguish in Mary and Martha's voices as they cried out to him, wondering why he took so long. I imagine he smells the pungent fragrance of the burial perfume poured on his feet, bringing into clarity the reality of his impending death. I imagine he sees the judgment on Judas' face as he was scrutinized for wasting perfume and neglecting those in desperate need.

Jesus plans to enter the city in a way that symbolically subverts power, taking a route opposite of the military leaders who oversee the festival celebrations. His entry would make a definitive statement, imaging an alternative kind of power, a servant leader riding an humble donkey. He knew this act would inch him closer to state-sanctioned torture and death.

We are in a time when we need to draw on courage to call into question the structures that uphold systems of oppression. We are in a time when we need to subvert the powerful and protect the vulnerable. The crowds close in on Jesus. Some lift their hands in praise, others point accusingly. I hope this image serves as a reminder to call upon God for the courage you need, to rest and recharge for the work ahead. But I hope it also heartens you to move forward in courage, even in the midst of great resistance, toward the work God is calling you into.

PRAY

Breathe deeply as you gaze upon the image on the left. Imagine placing yourself in this scene. What do you see? How do you feel? Get quiet and still, offering a silent or spoken prayer to God.



Hymns + Songs | Pages are listed for the printed bulletin

Numbers (#) are listed for music in the *Lift Up Your Hearts* (red) hymnal

Bold Print | Speak or sing together in unison.

✝ Please rise in body or in spirit.

Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. | March 14, 2024

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Thought for Reflection

“Let us ask for the grace to be amazed. A Christian life without amazement becomes dreary.”
– Pope Francis

Welcome + Announcements

Prelude | *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, by Lemmens/Chen

✠ **Call to Gather** | *adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Are*

The story of faith is a story of courage.

It took courage for John the Baptist to prepare the way.

It took courage for Mary to say, “Here I am. Use me.”

It took courage for the disciples to drop their nets and follow Jesus.

It took courage for the paralyzed man’s friends to lower him through the roof.

It took courage for Peter to walk on water.

It took courage for Zacchaeus to give half of his possessions to the poor.

It took courage for Jesus to enter Jerusalem on a donkey.

Faith has never been easy. It is a journey of courage.

Again and again, God, show us the way.

Let us worship a brave and courageous God.

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “All Glory, Laud, and, Honor,” pg. 7 (*hymnal*, # 146)

✠ **Prayer of Confession and Promise of Ever-Present Grace** | *adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Are*

Vulnerability requires courage.

Relationships require courage.

Advocacy and justice require courage.

Facing our privilege requires courage.

Faith requires courage.

Even confession requires courage.

So friends, let us do hard things.

Let us confess together, trusting that God is always there,

Cheering us on, in every courageous act.
Let us pray together ...

God of palm branches and hallelujahs:

We confess—we love a good Palm Sunday celebration.

We love the sound of a joyful parade.

We love shouting, “hallelujah!”

We love that Palm Sunday means Easter is just around the corner.

We love good news.

However, if we slow down and pay attention,

we know that Palm Sunday was not a walk in the park for you.

There was risk. There was fear. There was the threat of violence.

**You were leading a peaceful protest against an unjust empire,
and the whole world knew it.**

Forgive us for glossing over the courage this day took.

Remind us that the story of faith is a story of courage.

Time for Silent Confession

Family of faith, even when we gloss over the truth,

even when our courage fails us,

even when we doubt that we can do hard things,

God believes in us. God loves us. God forgives us.

Hear and believe this truth:

We are known. We are loved. We are forgiven.

Again and again and again.

✘ Musical Response

Glory to the Creator,

and to the Son,

and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, amen.

✘ Sharing of Christ's Peace & Compassion

And now, as a visible sign

of what it means to live together
in the care and context
of Christ's community,
let us extend Christ's
peace and compassion
to those around us!

The peace of Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

Old Testament Reading | Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Time for Young Disciples †

Gospel Reading | John 12:12-16

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Prompting | The Rev. Kyle Otterbein

✕ **Hymn** | "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less," pg. 8 (*hymnal*, #772)

Offering Our Time, Treasure, and Talents

One Great Hour of Sharing

Offertory | *Sanctus*, by Gabriel Fauré

✕ **Response to Our Offerings** | "Doxology"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

† Following the *Time for Young Disciples*, Kindergartners and younger children are welcome to join activities in the Lower Level Children's Area.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Please use the wording for the Lord's Prayer you are most familiar with.

If you learned the Lord's Prayer in a different language, please feel free to use your native tongue.

Matthew 6:9-13 (*Bible*, pg. 787, with footnote e.)

**Our Father in heaven,
may your name be revered as holy.
May your kingdom come.
May your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.
For the kingdom and the power
and the glory are yours forever. Amen.**

✠ **Sending Hymn** | "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna," pg. 9 (*hymnal*, #145)

✠ **Benediction**

Postlude | *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*, arr. by Heather Minion

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. W. Robert Martin III and Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *pastors*

Becky Benson, *worship leader*

Austen Wilson, *director of music ministries*

Logos Choir | Abby Chen, *organist and accompanist*

Brass Ensemble

Thomas Hartley, *director of children's and family ministries*

The Flowers on the Chancel are Kyle and LeAnn Otterbein to glorify God and in celebration of their 35th wedding anniversary and their daughter Madelin's wedding next month on April 13.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain B \flat E \flat B \flat ^{sus} B \flat Cm F B \flat

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, Re - deem - er, King,

E \flat B \flat ^{sus} B \flat Cm F B \flat *Fine*

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

C7 F Dm Gm7 C7 F

1 You are the King of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing you on high,
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore you went;

To Refrain
B \flat E \flat F7 B \flat E \flat F^{sus} F7 B \flat

now in the Lord's name com - ing, the King and Bless - ed One.
and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.

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

5 As you received their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
for you delight in goodness,
O good and gracious King! *Refrain*

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

F C B^b

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and
 2 When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

F C F C

right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a-round my soul gives way, he
 him be found, dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

B^b F C F *Refrain* B^b

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

F C F B^b Csus C7 F

oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874), P.D.

Music (SOLID ROCK 8.8.8.8 refrain 8.8.8): William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), P.D.

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

A^b Fm E^b D^b E^b A^b

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

Fm E^b D^b E^b_{sus} E^b A^b

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.
 the vic - tory palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven, our King.

E^b A^b E^b

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

A^b Fm E^b D^b E^b_{sus} E^b A^b
descant st.3

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

For an alternate arrangement see 679. For music in a higher key see 726

Words: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, P.D.

Music (ELLACOMBE 7.6.7.6 D): *Gesangbuch der Herzogl.*, Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784, P.D.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Maundy Thursday | March 28

6 p.m. | Pot-Luck | *Atrium*

7 p.m. | Worship Service | *Hub*

Good Friday | March 29

7 p.m. | Worship Service | *Sanctuary*

Easter Sunday | March 31

6:30 a.m. | Fireside Service | *Firepit*

7 a.m. | Sunrise Service | *Hub*

8-11 a.m. | Breakfast Potluck | *MPR*

9 & 11 a.m. | Worship Service | *Sanctuary*

St. Andrew's Statement of Inclusion

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." - Romans 15:7

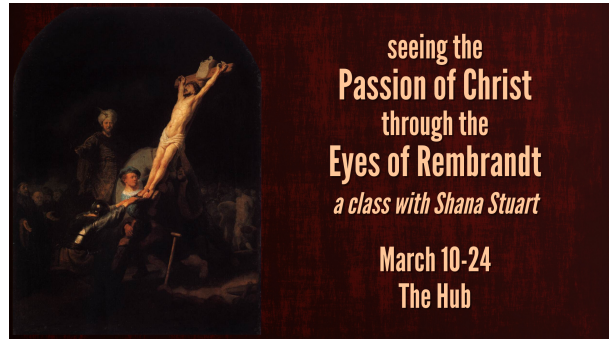
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church affirms the worth and dignity of all people. We are all created by God in God's image, and God found all of creation to be good. Just as Jesus welcomed everyone into fellowship, especially those marginalized by society, we welcome all people to our congregation regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic status, marital status, family structure, country of origin, or immigration status. All are welcome to participate fully in the life of St. Andrew: worship, service, baptism, communion, membership, ministry, and leadership. To this end, we affirm that the covenant of marriage should be extended to any two consenting adults who seek to enter a marriage based upon love, responsibility, mutual respect, and trust in God's grace. We acknowledge that the Presbyterian Book of Order allows for each pastor to follow their own conscience as to whether they will perform a particular marriage service.

We recognize that the Christian church has historically condemned and excluded LGBTQ+ persons from the community of faith, and we assert that such actions are incompatible with the gospel of Jesus. We also acknowledge, and deeply regret, that St. Andrew Presbyterian's actions have at times caused harm to our relationships with members of the LGBTQ+ community, including members of our own congregation. As we continue to grow as a congregation and discern our path forward in God's love and grace, we seek to rectify these past wrongs and pursue justice for those who have been and continue to be oppressed. We commit to continue to learn and work toward ensuring that St. Andrew is a safe place where all people are welcomed and loved.

Approved by the St. Andrew Session, June 2023

Today's Sunday School & Learning Academy Classes

- **2 & 3 Year Olds to 6th Grade** | Meet in Children's Area
- **Jr. High** | Room 19
- **Sunday Learning Academy**
 - **"Seeing the Passion of Christ through the Eyes of Rembrandt"** | Join **Shana Stuart** for an exploration of Lenten art. | *The Hub*



Reminder of Upcoming Events

- **Holy Week**
 - **Maundy Thursday** | March 28
 - *Potluck: 6 p.m.*
 - *Worship Service: 7 p.m.*
 - **Good Friday** | March 29
 - **Easter** | March 31
 - *Fireside Service: 6:30 a.m.*
 - *Sunrise Service: 7 a.m.*
 - *Breakfast Potluck: 8-11 a.m.*
 - *Worship: 9 & 11 a.m.*
- **At the Table** | April 4
- **Big Table** | April 5
- **Sunday Solace** | April 7
- **Spaghetti Lunch** | April 7
- **Handbell Choir Festival** | April 12-13
- **Senior Moments Coffee** | April 16
- **Coffee with Leaders** | April 21
- **Earth Sunday** | April 21 | with guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Robert Traer
- **25Live Walk-a-Thon** | April 25
- **ETC Trivia Night** | April 26
- **Child-Led Worship Service** | April 28
- **At the Table** | May 2
- **ETC Night Games** | May 3
- **Melodious Harmony: Arsenal Duo** | May 4
- **Sunday Solace** | May 5
- **Guatemala Fundraiser** | May 5
- **Final Week of Sunday Classes** | May 12
- **Affirmation Milestones** | May 19
- **Coffee with Leaders** | May 19
- **Pancake Breakfast & Sensory Fair** | May 19
- **Humanize My Hoodie Screening** | May 19
- **Senior Moments Coffee** | May 21
- **Sunday Solace** | June 2
- **Flamy Grant Concert** | June 4

Questions about Worship @ St. Andrew?

- **Welcome!** We are happy to have you join us today. If you would like more information about St. Andrew, please email office@saintandrew-ic.org.
- Our worship services begin **in-person and online at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings**, followed by Sunday School and Adult Christian Education offerings from September to April and a variety of After Worship activities from May to August. *The service usually begins with Welcome & Announcements a few minutes before 9:30 a.m.*
- All ages are welcome in our worship services. Worship materials for all ages are available in **The Maker's Toolbox** outside the north entrance to the Sanctuary.
- **Nursery care** (up to age 2) is provided in the Lower Level throughout the morning. Programming for children (through Kindergarten age) begins in the Lower Level after the **Time for Young Disciples** on most Sundays and after the **Sharing of Christ's Peace and Compassion** on Communion Sundays.
- Large print hymnals, bibles, and bulletins also are available outside the Sanctuary doors. A T-Coil hearing assist loop is also available for those with this feature on their hearing aids.
- Unless otherwise designated, gifts given to the weekly **offering**—either in the offering plates or online—support the church budget, including staff salaries, utilities, mission outreach, and all aspects of ministry at St. Andrew.
- To log into the **St. Andrew Connect** system, either download the **St. Andrew App** through the **App Store/Google Play** or visit <https://saintandrew.cbcchurch.com>.
- Permission to livestream the music in this service is from CCLI (#617801) and One License (A-711114).



75
YEARS



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 14 – MARCH 31, 2024

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY —
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.