



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

LENT THEME: ASCENT

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday

Prelude

Palm Procession

Bouma

Bethany Lowndes, trumpet. Kelly Beaman, trombone

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Katie Miller

*Greeting and Passing of the Peace

"The Peace of God be with you."

In Unison: **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

** Let us rise in body or spirit.*

Call to Worship

John Dimon, liturgist

Hosanna in the highest!

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

This is the day our God has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All glory, laud, and honor to You, O Christ.

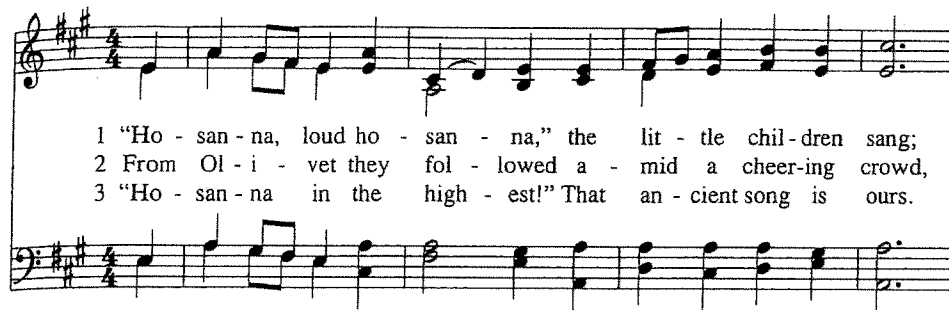
Hosanna in the highest!

*Processional Hymn

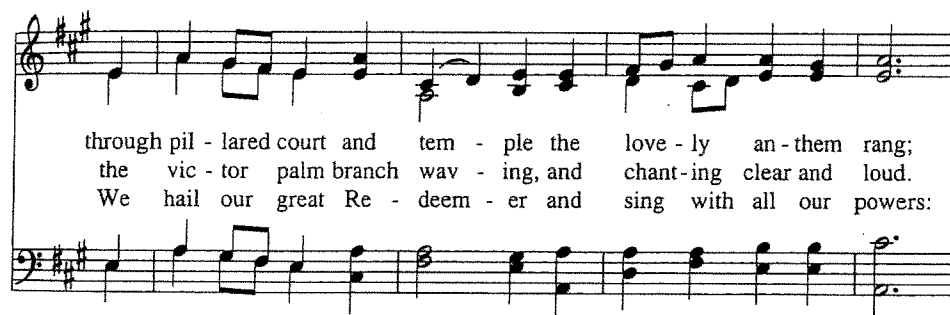
"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

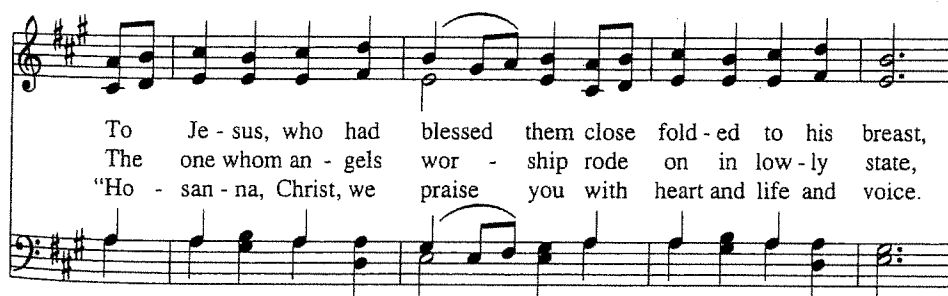
213

*Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.**Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15*


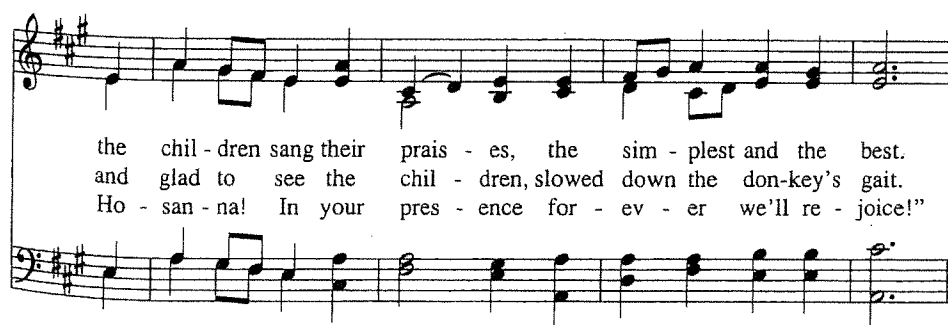
1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
 We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:



To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
 The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
 "Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
 Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

***Invocation**

Come O Holy One. Fill our lives with your wisdom, with your love, with your courage. Open our ears to listen and our eyes to see. Give us voice to proclaim your witness and your praise. Amen.

***Gloria**

Black Hymnal, No. 759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Conversation with the Children

Psalm Lesson

Psalm 122

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

I Was Glad

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

Musical Interlude

***Prayer of Confession**

Sovereign God, we confess that we can be as fickle as the crowds in the stories. When everything is going well, we join the hosanna chorus. But in times of weariness our praise turns to complaint. We need our courage renewed, as we draw closer to you. Give us a vision that delights and inspires. Together, let us rise up as your people. Amen.

***Words of Assurance**

God hears us and answers our prayers. God delivers and saves us. God came among us, fully human to reveal the fullness of divinity, and to lead us into a better life. Let us follow with faith and courage.

Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Offertory

Detroit

***Hymn of Dedication**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit,
Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Offertory Prayer**

What you have done for us is marvelous, Loving God. Our gifts do not compare to our blessings
from you. Today we offer ourselves in response to the coming of Christ Jesus. Lead us,
together, into a new world. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

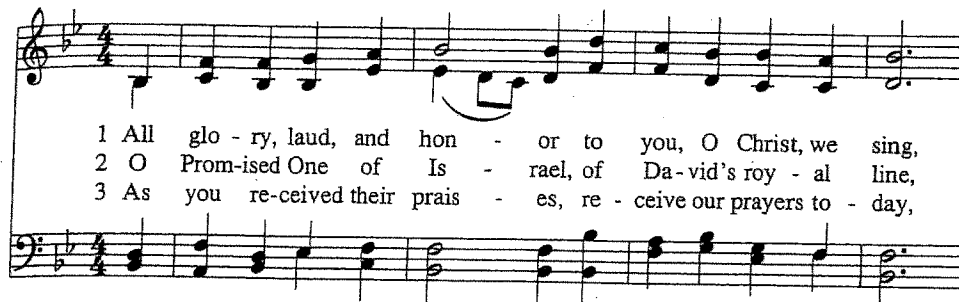
All Glory, Laud, and Honor

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

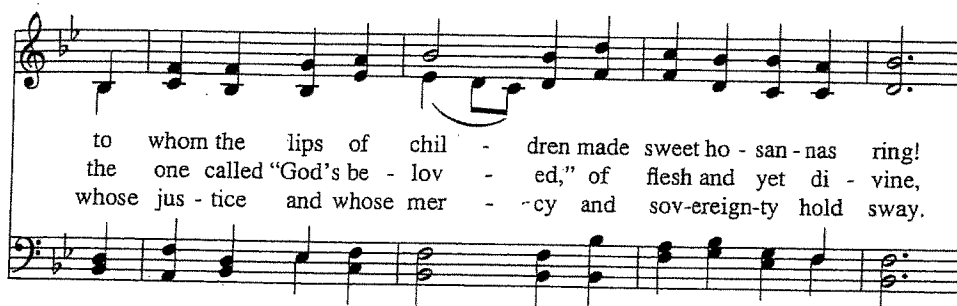
216

*Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.*

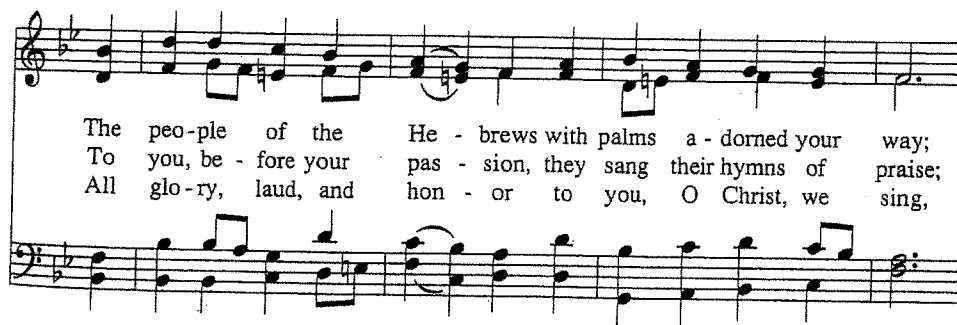
Matt. 21:8-9



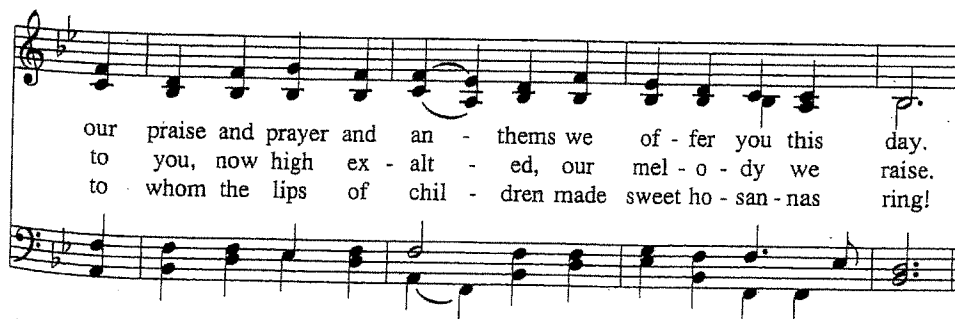
1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da - vid's roy - al line,
3 As you re - ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov - ereign - ty hold sway.



The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,



our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

*Brought to France by Charlemagne, Theodulph became
bishop of Orléans but was later imprisoned by Charlemagne's
successor. According to legend, he was released when the*

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
(VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)

***Benediction**

Benediction Response

Bouma

May you hear laughter in the wind. May you see hope in the light.
May you find courage in your faith. May you know joy in your God.

Postlude

Open & Affirming Statement

In our ongoing quest for hearts that open, minds that understand,
and lives that serve, we welcome into our fellowship, membership, leadership, and employment,
all people, regardless of abilities, race, gender, sexual orientation, or any God-given characteristic.

Announcements

March 28, 2021

Prayers: the *Lamberty family*, on the sudden death of *Lou's* brother, *Larry Lamberty*.

Joys: congratulations to *Daniel & Meryl Hoyt*, celebrating the birth of *Ira Scott Hoyt* – proud grandmother is *Kathy Hoyt*.

Chancel decorations: thanks to *Andy Acker* for the beautiful painting.

Happy Birthday this week: to *Tom Syster*.

FirstKids: Memorial Hall following the Conversation with the Children. Masks required.

FirstYouth: 8 p.m., Zoom

Activities for the Coming Week, March 29 – April 3

*Lectionary Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8.*

Monday: Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Choir, 7 p.m., Zoom

Thursday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Maundy Thursday pre-recorded service on YouTube. Watch anytime!

Friday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Good Friday Vespers, 8 p.m., FaceBook Live

Saturday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 4

Worship: Easter Sunrise Service, 6:20 a.m., Memorial Park
Easter Sunday. **9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** on YouTube, FaceBook Live, or in person.

Food Pantry: Donations will be accepted at church. Checks may be mailed to First Central with “pantry” in the memo line. Frozen meats are now being accepted (and are needed).

FirstYouth: 8 p.m., Zoom

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.

