

# First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto

# PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 5  
10:45 Service

Prelude Hosanna, Loud Hosanna J. Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)  
Diane Keller, Organist

Welcome Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

Opening Hymn All Glory, Laud and Honor UMH 280

Refrain:  
All glory, laud, and honor,  
to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.

1. Thou art the King of Israel,  
thou David's royal Son,  
who in the Lord's name comest,  
the King and Blessed One.  
(Refrain)

2. The company of angels  
are praising thee on high,  
and we with all creation  
in chorus make reply.  
(Refrain)

3. The people of the Hebrews  
with psalms before thee went;  
our prayer and praise and anthems  
before thee we present.  
(Refrain)

4. To thee, before thy passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.  
(Refrain)

5. Thou didst accept their praises;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King.  
(Refrain)

Call to Worship Pam Cutkosky, Lay Leader

Rejoice greatly, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem!  
Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious,  
yet he is humble, riding on a donkey - even on a donkey's colt.

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

You are our God, and we will praise You!

**You are our God, and we will exalt You!**

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

**His faithful love endures forever!**

Children's Moment Rev. Ann Duncan

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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 those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the Glory forever. Amen

Special Music Ride On, King Jesus Hall Johnson (1888-1970)  
Mark Shaull, Baritone / Diane Keller, Piano

Scripture Matthew 21:1-11 Pam Cutkosky

Hymn At the Name of Jesus UMH 375 vs. 1 & 2

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| <p>1. At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,<br/>every tongue confess him King of glory now;<br/>'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,<br/>who from the beginning was the mighty Word.</p> | <p>2. Humbled for a season, to receive a name<br/>from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,<br/>faithfully He bore it, spotless to the last,<br/>brought it back victorious when from death he passed.</p> |
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Homily "Extravagant Gifts" Rev. Ann Duncan

Hymn At the Name of Jesus UMH 375 vs. 3 & 4

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| <p>3. Bore it up triumphant with its human light,<br/>through all ranks of creatures to the central height,<br/>to the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;<br/>filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.</p> | <p>4. In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue<br/>all that is not holy, all that is not true.<br/>Crown him as your captain in temptation's hour;<br/>let his will enfold you in its light and power.</p> |
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## Celebration of Holy Communion

### Invitation

For Holy Communion this morning, I invite you to lend Christ your home. On the first day of Holy week long ago, people throughout Judea arrived at the dusty gates of Jerusalem, primed with "Hosanna" in their hearts and Jesus asked to borrow a donkey.

On the Thursday that followed, Jesus rented or was given John Mark's mother's Upper Room to celebrate the Passover with the disciples. On the afternoon of the resurrection, Jesus was invited into a house in Emmaus and used the bread of that hospitality to break and bless. Lend Christ your home, and, your cup and your heart, for, as the disciples told the person who loaned the donkey, "The Lord has need of it."

### Prayer of Consecration

We belong to a worldwide table we are one bread, one body, one cup of blessing. Though we are many throughout the earth and this church community is spread worldwide, we are one in Christ. In your many kitchens, and living rooms, rest your hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them.

**Gentle Redeemer, there is no lockdown on your blessing and no quarantine on grace. Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing upon every table where your child shelters in place, that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love and this Cup poured out to give hope to all. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you.**

### Words of Remembering

We remember that Paul the apostle wrote letters to congregations throughout places we now call Greece, Turkey and Macedonia, and they were the first "remote" worship resources. Our online service has a long heritage. The Communion words sent to the church at Corinth were these:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### Sharing of the Elements

Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven. Please hold your bread up in front of you and let's break it together symbolizing this is the body of Christ which is broken for us.

**We are one in Christ in the bread we share.**

Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing. Lift up your cup and dip your bread in the cup of blessing.

**We are one in Christ in the cup we share.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray in thanksgiving for this meal of grace, rejoicing that, by the very method of our worship, we have embodied the truth that Christ's love is not limited by buildings made with human hands, nor contained in human ceremonies, but blows as free as the Spirit in all places.

**Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our tables and our lives. May the eating of this Bread give us courage to speak faith and act love, not only in church sanctuaries, but in your precious world, and may the drinking of this Cup renew our hope even in the midst of pandemic. Wrap your hopeful presence around all whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and let us become your compassion and safe refuge. Amen**

Invitation to the Offering

Pam Cutkosky

Offertory

What Wondrous Live is This  
Diane Keller, Organist

Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen

UMH 95

Offertory Prayer

Pam Cutkosky

Name above all names,  
as you emptied yourself for others,  
we offer ourselves and these gifts  
as a sign of our hope in your reign.  
Where there is death, bring life.  
Where there is sorrow, bring joy.  
Where there is injustice, bring courage for change. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

UMH 278

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna,  
the little 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.

2. From Olivet they followed  
mid an exultant crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving,  
and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children  
should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!"  
that ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer,  
the Lord of heaven our King.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence  
eternally rejoice!

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

Sung Response

On Eagle's Wings

UMH 143

And God will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

Postlude

All Glory, Laud, and Honor  
Diane Keller, Organist

Dale Wood (1934-2003)



## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

God of life, present and promised, you are the One to whom we call: for you are the One who hears, and you are the One who acts, bringing us new life with your grace and love and power. Lead us in this time of worship, that we may be prepared to follow your lead in places where life is at risk — places where hope seems far away, places where dreams feel surrendered. Forgive us, O God, when we stop seeing the world the way you seek it to be. Forgive us, Holy One, when we forsake lively and risky faith. Help us to hear anew your calling to be agents of change in our ever-changing world. Renew us with your grace and ground us with your Spirit, that we might be empowered to live, in word and deed, as testimonies to the power of your love over darkness and despair. As a community of faith we feel confident to lift our concerns as well as our great thanksgiving to you. Hear our needs and joys as we share them with you: Lord, hear our prayers and act in our lives. Help us live the teachings we proclaim within this time of worship. It is through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray aloud together...

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator, 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 those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the Glory forever. Amen**



