

***Charge & Benediction**

Special Sending Music *Hallelujah! Thine The Glory*

Postlude

Greeters *Monty Montgomery, Sue Wheeler*
Ushers *Barbara Riehl, Bob Davis*
Liturgist *Carl Snow*
Music *Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, FCPC Choral Ensemble*
Minister *Dr. Andy Morgan*

A special thank you to the FCPC Choral Ensemble:

*Jacob Altrock
Angela Bell
Emaleigh Bell
Lina Berrio
Allison Carroll
Pam Eubanks
Carolyn Gahan
Michael Gonzalez
Ethan Hogan
Connie Keeler
Anne Kovalovsky
Sarah Ogden
Claudia Schorr
Evelyn Spencer
Kathleen Thompson
Hunter Wilburn*

Announcements

Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt today after worship! You bring a picnic and we will provide the fun and the ice cream truck!

Good Friday Service, April 7th @7:30pm

Easter lilies for the Easter Lily Cross are \$10.00 per lily. You may purchase online through our website or by check. Please make checks payable to FCPC. Checks may be mailed to the church or placed in the offering plate along with your information regarding who the lily is "in honor of" or "in memory of." All lilies need to be purchased by today, Sunday, April 2nd.

In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection through Jesus Christ, we are saddened to announce the passing of Del Lee. Del passed away on March 30, 2023.

Andy Morgan



**Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023**

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Andy Morgan

Call to Worship

Carl Snow

Leader: It is holy to gather.

All: It is holy to sing.

Leader: It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

All: It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

Leader: It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

All: It is holy to remember.

Leader: It is holy to gather.

All: It is holy to sing.

Leader: Here and now, let us do all of these things.

Special Music – Thy Will Be Done

Prayer of the Day

Carl Snow

Leader: Gracious God, as we enter this Holy Week, strengthen us to move beyond the festive parade of palms and to follow Jesus into the way of the cross, that united with him and all the faithful, we may one day enter through the gates of righteousness into the eternal city, the New Jerusalem, where we may praise you with Christ and the Holy Spirit forever.

***Hymn #169 Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart**

Rejoice, Ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth,
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss, True rapture, noblest mirth! [Refrain]

Yes, on through life's long path, Still chanting as ye go; ,
From youth to age, by night and day, In gladness and in woe; [Refrain]

Still lift your standard high, Still march in firm array;
As warriors through the darkness toil till dawns the golden day. [Refrain]

Praise God, who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore. [Refrain]

Ritual of Friendship

Andy Morgan

*Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register
located on the center aisle under the pew in front*

Call to Confession

Leader: The word ‘hosanna ’is often sung with joy and glee on this day. We process in, we wave palm branches, and it feels like a celebration. But the truth is, the word ‘hosanna ’actually means, “save us.” The people along that parade route so many years ago were crying out to Jesus for help, because they knew—this world is not as it should be. There is still too much hurt here. They were crying, “Save us!” In the prayer of confession, we have our own hosanna moment, because we cry out to God, admitting the ways in which we have fallen short, and we ask for God’s saving hand. So friends, let us pray together, for there is still too much hurt here.

Carl Snow

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God of street parades and hosannas,

All: we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression,

Leader: to speak up for love and to speak hope to fear,

All: but so often we are silent.

Leader: We worry that we’ll say the wrong thing,

All: so we don’t say anything at all.

Leader: We worry that we’ll offend,

All: so we keep our convictions to ourselves.

Leader: We worry that we’ll speak up and won’t be heard,

All: so we stay silent.

Leader: And meanwhile, the parade marches on.

All: Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, “Hosanna!”

Leader: Gratefully we pray, amen.

Carl Snow

(Time for Silent Confession)

Special Music Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Jason Altrock

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

Leader: Friends, even when we are silent, even when we are scared, even when we miss the moment, even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing— we belong to God. There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that, so rest in this good news:

All: We are forgiven. We are known. We belong to God, every day and always. Amen.

****Gloria Patri***

Glory be to the Father, 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.

****Passing the Peace***

Leader: Forgiven and free, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you

Prayer of Illumination

Leader: Holy God, sometimes life feels like a parade rushing by us as we stand on the sidelines and try not to miss it! There are hundreds of things that catch our eye, but the thing we fear missing the most is you. So slow down the speed on this parade. Paint the colors of this world a little brighter. And dance through the words in our scripture passage until it is almost impossible for us to miss you there. God we are here. We are trying to pay attention. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Carl Snow

Carl Snow

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:1-11

Andy Morgan & Carl Snow

Pastor: When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them. ’And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

Liturgist: “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

Pastor: The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

All: “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Liturgist: When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying,

All: “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Special Music I Speak Jesus

Allison Carrol and Ethan Hogan

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:12-17

Pastor - Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.

Liturgist - “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”

Pastor - The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were indignant.

Liturgist - “Do you hear what these children are saying?” they asked him. “Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read, “‘From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise’?”

Pastor - And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

****Affirmation of Faith Apostle’s Creed***

Carl Snow

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music The Redemption Story

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Andy Morgan

All: 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

Special Music Mercy Tree

Call for Offering

Carl Snow

Leader: God has given us his only Child, Jesus Christ, As the way of our salvation. Let us then give generously, as God has given to us.

Offertory

****Doxology***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

****Prayer of Dedication***

Carl Snow

Leader: Holy One, We give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

****Hymn #297 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (raise your palm fronds)***

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the joyful 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 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.

'Hosanna in the highest!' that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
Oh may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
and in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!