



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 www.ELPC.church

As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God — the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God's unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ's radical hospitality to all. (Strategic Vision mission statement, 2011)

APRIL 5, 2020 • PALM SUNDAY 11 AM SANCTUARY LIVE-STREAM SERVICE

TIME OF PREPARATION

“Your absence runs through me/Like thread through a needle./Everything I do is stitched with its color.”
— *W.S. Merwin, poem “Separation”*

“Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine:
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.”

— *Hymn “My Song is Love Unknown”*

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Les Rameaux (*The Palms*)”

*Join all and sing his name declare, let every voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord! Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation!*

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Jean-Baptiste Faure

WELCOME & OPENING WORDS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
People: Hosanna in the highest!
Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughters and sons of Zion!
People: Shout aloud, O children of Jerusalem!
Leader: Behold, your king comes to you, triumphant and victorious is he,
People: Humble and riding on a donkey is he. Hosanna in the highest!

HYMN #197

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

ELLACOMBE

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.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.



* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

PALM SUNDAY GREETINGS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who welcomed him with branches and praise along his way. We would follow Jesus this day, but we are an imperfect, hesitant people. You give us so much, yet we are hesitant with our generosity. You provide a beautiful creation, yet we squander its resources. Even our times of isolation today only highlight how far apart and distant from one another we often live.

Forgive our failings and sin. Heal what we have broken, nurture what we have neglected, and call us forth to follow where you lead, in the name of the Palm Sunday Messiah and king. Amen.

TIME OF REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS & GRACE

Leader:	Lift up your hearts and be at peace this day. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:	
People:	En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!	In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
	¡Alaben a Dios!	Praise God!

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalms 118:19-26

Denise Sheffey-Powell

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

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

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 21:1-11

Dr. Moore

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,

"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."

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,

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SOLO

Denise Sheffey-Powell, *soloist*
arr. Hall Johnson

“Ride On, King Jesus!”

*Ride on King Jesus! No man can-a hinder me.
For he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last,
No man works like him.*

*King Jesus rides a milk-white horse, no man works like him.
The river of Jordan he did cross, no man works like him.
King Jesus rides in the middle of the air.
He calls the saints from everywhere.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 19:37-40

The Rev. Dr. Bush

As [Jesus] was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

*“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”*

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”
[Jesus] answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Elemental Wisdom”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

We offer our gifts in response to God’s love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of this congregation.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

BLESSING FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

The Rev. Dr. Bush

* HYMN #209

“My Song is Love Unknown” (vs. 1, 3, 5)

LOVE UNKNOWN

My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
O who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
Sometimes we strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to our King.
Then “Crucify!” is all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine:
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

* BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on:

Facebook

www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian

YouTube

<http://tiny.cc/elpc-youtube>

and archived at www.ELPC.church

MUSIC NOTES

Prelude

Jean-Baptiste Faure (1830-1914) was a French operatic baritone and composer of songs. One of his most famous songs, *Les Rameaux* (*The Palms*) was included in several hymnals in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Heard in an arrangement for organ this morning, the original song was made popular and recorded by Enrico Caruso, among others.

Solo

Francis Hall Johnson was born in Athens, Georgia on March 12, 1888. Along with Harry Burleigh and William Dawson, Johnson was one of many composers who helped elevate the African-American spiritual to an art form, comparable in its musical sophistication to those of their classical counterparts. He died in a fire at his New York apartment on April 30, 1970.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Senior Pastor

Participants: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Associate Pastor
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*

A/V: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

PLEASE JOIN US BY LIVESTREAM & ZOOM FOR OUR HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 10

7 pm ▪ Zoom service with Pastor Heather

GOOD FRIDAY April 11

12-3pm ▪ Dr. Bush doing fifth word, St. James AME

7 pm ▪ Live-stream service with Pastor Randy, ELPC

EASTER SUNDAY April 12

8:45 am ▪ Zoom service with Pastor Patrice

11 am ▪ Live-stream service with Pastor Randy

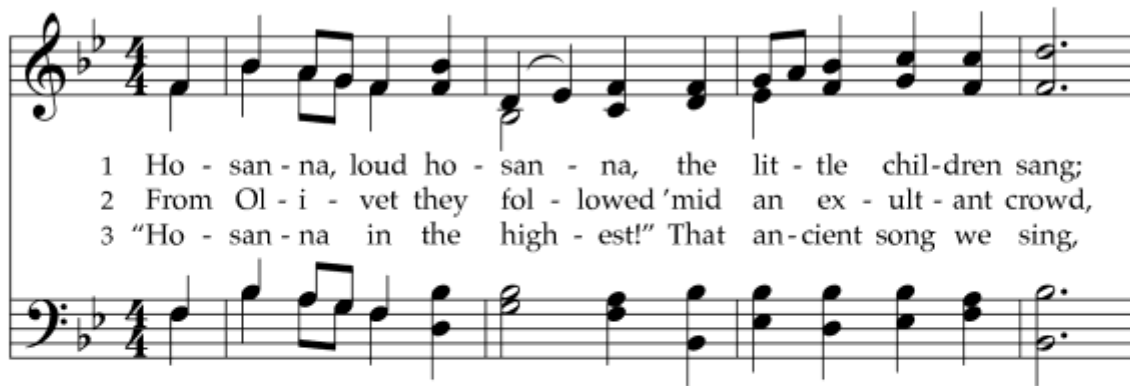
Extending radical hospitality to all



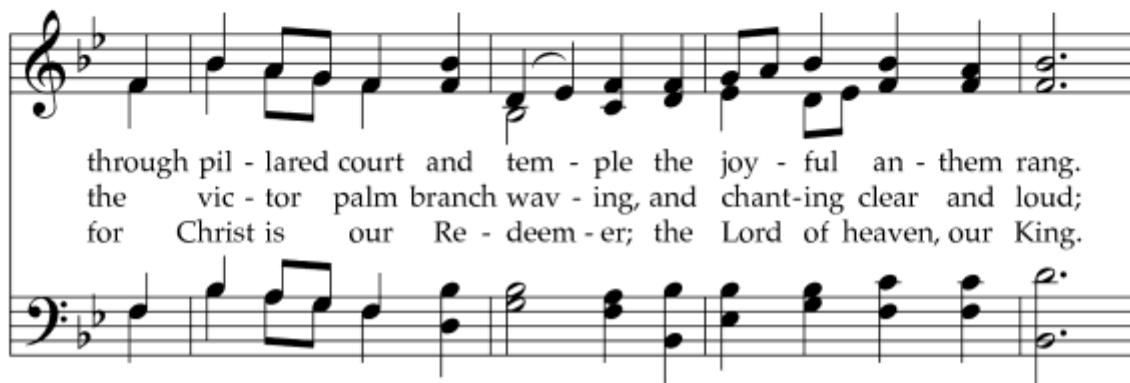
East Liberty Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church

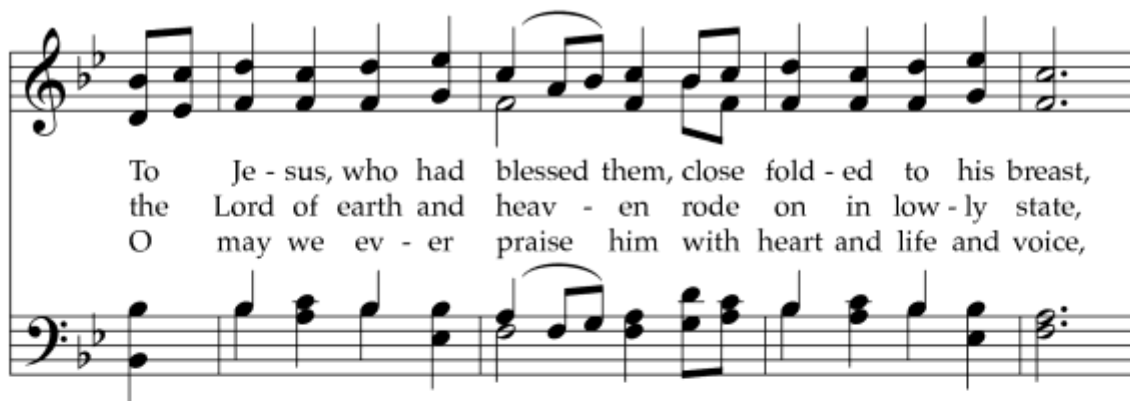
HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA



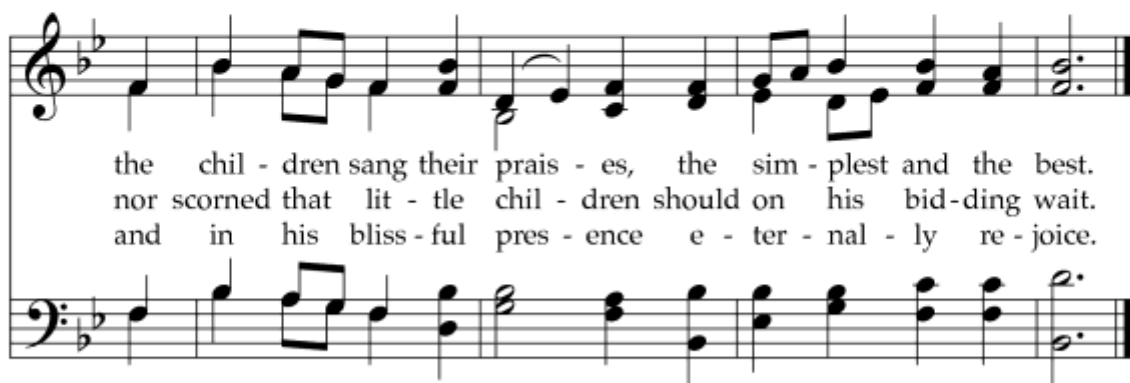
1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



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



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,



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.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN (vs. 1, 3, 5)

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from heav - en's throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way, and his sweet prais - es
 4 Un - heed - ing, we will have our dear Lord made a -
 5 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
 stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior
 sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to
 vine: nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like

be. O who am I that for my sake my
 know. But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and
 slay. Yet stead - fast he to suf - fer - ing goes, that
 thine. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I

Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 at my need his life did spend!
 for his death we thirst and cry.
 he his foes from thence might free.
 all my days could glad - ly spend.

The opening line here could equally well have been a courtier's lament for a secret affair, but it soon becomes a path into a vivid and poignant reflection on Christ's Passion. This 17th-century text is beautifully embraced by its sensitive and lyrical 20th-century tune.

TEXT: Samuel Crossman, 1664, alt.

MUSIC: John Ireland, 1918

Music © 1924 Trustees of the John Ireland Charitable Trust

CCLI #689547

LOVE UNKNOWN

6.6.6.6.4.4.4.4