

Melville Melville United Church
Sunday, March 25, 2018
Palm Sunday



** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Rev. Marion Loree

Prelude:

Welcome & Announcements:

Call to Worship:

Hosanna!

Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna!

Blessed is the coming of God's embodied love..

Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes to teach us.

Hosanna in the highest! Let us worship God together.

Palm Processional: Pave the Way with Branches

Opening Prayer:

God of love and compassion,
we celebrate your joyful and disruptive entry into Jerusalem.

In the same way we anticipate,

with expectant hearts, your presence in this place.

We come, knowing your love has arrived
and is made manifest in Jesus the Christ.

We come, prepared to be changed by the grace we receive.

We come, with our whole being

to prepare the way for the coming of love. Amen.

Prayer for Inner Healing:

O God, Creator and Sustainer of all life, we come here this Palm Sunday with joy and excitement. We celebrate and shout "Hosanna" as people did so long ago. We also come with somber hearts, for we

Melville United Church
St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781
Team Ministry

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| Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care | Rev. Marion Loree |
| Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach | Jen Auger |
| Minister of Music Team: | Rob White, Suzanne Flewelling |
| Church Secretary: | Gerri McCullough |
| Custodian: | Robert Mitchell |
| Chair of Church Council: | Allan Hons |
| Pastoral Care | Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree |
| Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain | Alison Rainford |
| Secretary's Office hours: | 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T., T. & F. |
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know that the celebration was short-lived. Even Jesus' closest friends abandoned him. We, too, turn away from Jesus and from you when the going gets tough. Forgive us and show us how to be faithful to your way. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

God is with us always even when we fail to do what we know is right. When we admit our mistakes, Holy Love is more than willing to guide us with forgiveness and new life.

Thanks be to God!

Ministry of Music: Hosanna! Sing Praises!/All Hail to Jesus

-J. Schrader/D. Moody

Theme Conversation: Palm Sunday Rap - by Bill Lamont, Gathering Lent/Easter/Pentecost 1993, p. 42. Used with permission)

Hymn: He Came Riding on a Donkey

VU 124

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11 (*Inclusive Bible - The First Egalitarian Edition*)
(*Let the same mind be in you as was in Christ Jesus*)

Your attitude must be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Christ, though in the image of God, didn't deem equality with God something to be clung to - but instead became completely empty and took on the image of oppressed humankind: born into the human condition, found in the likeness of a human being. Jesus was thus humbled - obediently accepting death, even death on a cross!

Because of this, God highly exalted Christ and gave to Jesus the name above every other name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God: Jesus Christ reigns supreme!

Psalm Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 **VU 837** (*parts one, three & four*)
(*The stone which the builders rejected*)

Scripture: Mark 11:1-11 (*Inclusive Bible - The First Egalitarian Edition*)
(*Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem*)

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent off two of the disciples with this

instruction: "Go to the village straight ahead of you, and as soon as you enter it you will find tethered there a colt on which no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it back. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing that?' say, 'The Rabbi needs it, but will send it back very soon.'"

So they went off, and finding a colt tethered out on the street near a gate, they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What do you mean by untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them take it.

They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks across its back, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And everyone around Jesus, in front or in back of him, cried out, "Hosanna!" Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Blessed is the coming reign of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!"

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple precincts. He inspected everything there, but since it was already late in the afternoon, he went out to Bethany accompanied by the Twelve.

Message: Jesus Comes

Hymn: He Came Singing Love

VU 359

Offering:

Offering Hymn: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU 541

***Offertory Prayer:**

Holy One, we are generously blessed.

We receive the gift of time

let us be intentional with how we use it.

We receive the gift of talent

let our skills be used creatively and with good intent.

We receive the gift of income

let us share generously with those in need.

We have received so much.

Grant that the gifts we share

be used, not for our own purposes,

but to help build your kin-dom in our world.

Amen.

Joys and Concerns:**Prayer Prelude:** How Deep the Peace**MV 95****Prayers of the People:** *(beginning with Cheering on wisdom -Bruce Sanguin, If Darwin Prayed)***Prayer of Jesus:*****Hymn:** God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing **VU 425** *(tune 406)****Blessing/Sending Forth:**Go into the world, empowered and encouraged
by the presence of the Holy spirit to shout,**“Hosanna in the highest!”**May God protect you in your days
and guide you in your ways.

Go in peace, knowing God goes with you.

Amen.***Parting Song:** God, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary **MV 18****God, prepare me to be a sanctuary,****pure and holy tried and true;****with thanksgiving,****I'll be a living sanctuary for you.** (Repeat)**Prayer of the week:**

Loving God, as we process with our Palms prepare us for what is to come. As we read, hear, and experience this familiar story, remind us of its central place in our faith story. Open us to a new encounter with your love, and an experience of your promises being kept. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: St. Andrew's Presbyterian**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** Munn's, Oakville**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford**Welcomers:**Mary Lloyd, Lorna Ziegler,
Chris Hopewell, Mark Andrews**Counters:**

Mary Lloyd and Chris Hopewell