Central Presbyterian Church Palm/ Passion Sunday

March 24, 2024 at 11:00 am ET



Gathering

Prelude "The Palms"

Jean-Baptiste Faure

Ian Schroeder, cello Philip Morgan, piano

Welcome Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Call to Worship Melissa Atkinson

One: With crowds from ancient times we cry,

All: Hosanna! Save us!

One: O give thanks to the Holy God, for God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Holy God!

All: We bless you!

Hosanna! Save us!

Opening Prayer (unison)

Holy One, we raise our palm branches and lift our voices to cry "Hosanna! Save us!" As we enter this Holy Week, turn our hearts toward you, that we may follow you past the parades and into the shadows of betrayal, trial, and death. As we enter this Holy Week,

give us courage to worship you with our whole selves.

* Hymn No. 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"
VALET WILLICH DIR GEBEN

Congregation

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Hosanna, we pray. Save us, God.

Save us from ourselves,

when we trip over pride, doubt, or fear.

Save us from the systems that keep us bound,

when we cannot see the way out.

Save us from our sins,

when we feel their weight pressing on our hearts.

Save us and forgive us.

You have given us the greatest,

clearest example of love.

Heal us and help us to follow you.

(a time for silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Promise

One: Even in the face of hatred and violence,

we know that Christ loves us

and loves the world.

Even when enduring death,

Christ cares for us and all who suffer.

Even when we have turned away from God's ways,

Christ forgives us and offers us new life.

All: We are forgiven.

Thanks be to the God of mercy and grace.

Song of Thanksgiving Hymn No. 447 "We Are Forgiven"
WE ARE FORGIVEN

Congregation

The Journey

* Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

* Song of Community

"Change My Heart, O God"

Congregation

Hymn No. 695

CHANGE MY HEART

Listening

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture John 12:1-16

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Responding

* Hymn No. 650 "O Beauty Ever Ancient"

Congregation

ANCIENT BEAUTY

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Offering (To make a donation please see the options on the back page of the bulletin.)

Scripture Mark 15

Anthem "They Crucified My Lord" Chancel Choir

E. F. Mells

* Doxology "Take, O Take Me as I Am" Congregation

Hymn No. 698 TAKE ME AS I AM

* Prayer of Commitment

* Hymn No. 228 "Were You There" Congregation

WERE YOU THERE

* Benediction

One: And all God's people said,

All: Amen!

Postlude "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Ian Schroeder, cello

arr. Peter Hilliard Phillip Morgan, piano

Thank you to Melissa Atkinson for serving as today's liturgist.

We welcome Ian Schroeder on cello.

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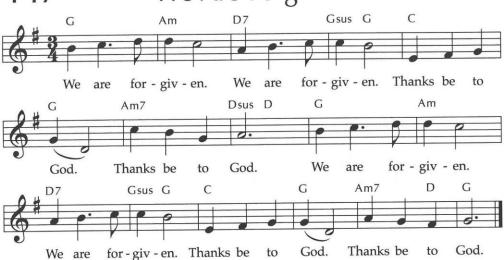
Portions of the liturgy are from *Call to Worship*, 54.1 and 56.1 and are used with permission; and reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Pres from *Connections Worship Companion*, copyright 2023.



These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

447

We Are Forgiven



To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995 Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson WE ARE FORGIVEN 10.8.10.8

Change My Heart, O God

695

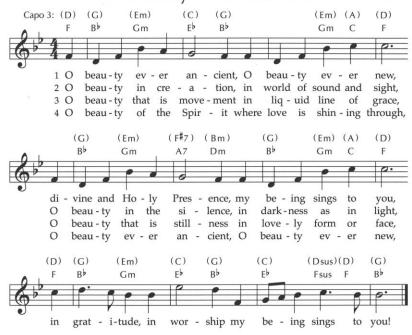
Cámbiame, Señor 항상진실케



The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1–6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.

O Beauty Ever Ancient

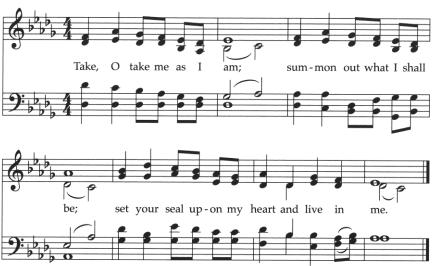




Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Both Psalms 29:2b and 96:6a encourage us to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness," yet celebrating the beauty of the holy God is not an end in itself but involves a call to oppose unjust ugliness. The beauty that draws us to God also urges us to work for mercy and justice.

Take, O Take Me as I Am



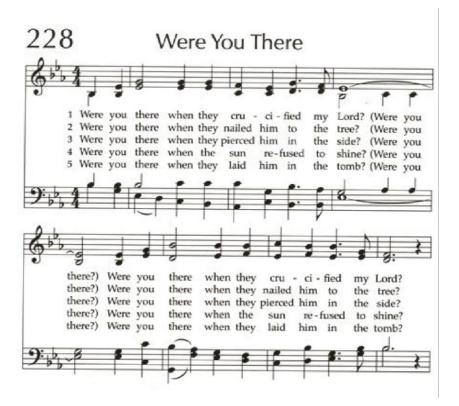
The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995

TAKE ME AS I AM

Text and Music © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

7.7.7.4





Opt. 6 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucificion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

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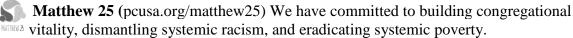
Central Presbyterian Church

318 West Kentucky Street 40203 (502) 587-6935 www.centralchurchky.org

Parents and Kids:

- Child care is available during the worship service for children 6 years old and younger. Please see a greeter or another parent for the passcode for the child care area.
- Worship bags for kids can be found by the table on the screen side of the sanctuary.
- Books for kids can be found by the table at the back of the pews.
- Faith Formation for Families (kids, parents, grandparents, caregivers) happens monthly after worship. Connect with Ann Deibert for more information.

Our Church



Peacemaking (pcusa.org/peacemaking)

More Light (mlp.org). We welcome the full participation of LGBTQ+ people of faith in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church.

Four for Four We support Presbyterian mission around the corner and around the globe through the four church-wide Special Offerings.

Choice Congregation We support the rights of all people to access the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare choices without coercion or judgment.

Our Staff

Pastor – Rev. Dr. Ann J. Deibert ann@centralchurchky.org Director of Music – Mr. Phillip Morgan phillip@centralchurchky.org Administrative Assistant – Ms. Barbara Creasy office@centralchurchky.org

In-person office hours:

Mondays 10am—1:00pm, Wednesdays 2:30pm—5:30pm, Fridays 10am—2pm Other times by appointment