

Central Presbyterian Church
Palm / Passion Sunday
April 13, 2025 at 11:00 am ET



Gathering

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Prelude

Phillip Morgan

Call to Worship

Rev. Lee Beckhusen

You are invited to wave your palm through the call to worship and prayer of the day.

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!

Scripture

Mark 11:1-10

Prayer of the Day (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"

Congregation

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Prayer of Confession

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
Hymn No. 197

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”
ELLACOMBE
(We will sing verse 1.)

Congregation

Listening

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Luke 23:1-49

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Responding

* Hymn No. 209

“My Song Is Love Unknown”
LOVE UNKNOWN

Congregation

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

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

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem

“Thy Will Be Done”
Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

* Doxology
Hymn No. 698

“Take, O Take Me as I Am”
TAKE ME AS I AM

Congregation

* Prayer of Commitment

Scripture

Luke 23:50-56

* Hymn No. 228

“Were You There”
WERE YOU THERE

Congregation

* Benediction

One: And all God's people said,

All: Amen!

Thank you to Rev. Lee Beckhusen for helping to lead today's liturgy.

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All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

Fine

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

to Refrain

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

The musical score is written in treble clef, G major, and 3/4 time. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The second staff has notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The third staff has notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter).

Chord progressions above the notes are: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

Lyrics: We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

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

197 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 209

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 - fering 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.

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 there?) Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some - times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion 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.

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are centered between the two staves. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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

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Central Presbyterian Church

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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



Matthew 25 (pcusa.org/matthew25) We have committed to building congregational vitality, dismantling systemic racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.



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.

Reproductive Justice Congregation (<https://krcrc.org>) 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