



Third Presbyterian Church

Seeking the Light

“We were not meant to be like Christian in Bunyan’s *Pilgrim’s Progress*, who makes his way through life doubled over by a backpack of unforgiven sins. We were not created to be torn by doubt, guilt, and personal conflict. The Greek word for forgive, *apheimi*, means to ‘send away,’ not the way we send away our laundry only to have it returned a shade or two brighter than before, but the way we send away our trash into cyberspace, never to see it again. God’s work of reconciliation is acknowledged when each person accepts God’s forgiveness in Jesus Christ and embraces the fullness of his or her humanity.”

Richard Lischer

*The End of Words: The Language of
Reconciliation in a Culture of Violence*

**The Worship of God
Palm Sunday**

April 9, 2017

10:45am

WELCOME TO THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence this morning. Third Church strives to be a faithful, open and inclusive congregation. We are a diverse people united by a common faith in Jesus Christ and by meaningful worship and service. We invite all who are seeking to live a life of Christian faith and discipleship to join us. If you are new to Third Church, the following information may be helpful.

Parking on Sunday Mornings: Street parking is possible on both sides of East Avenue. On Sundays, the Arnold Park parking lot is available for handicap parking only. Other parking is available in the Meigs Street parking lot and can also be found at:

- Jewish Community Federation (Sibley Place)
- American Association of University Women
- Rochester Area Community Foundation

In the event of a **Medical Emergency**, please notify an usher or staff member. An AED and first aid supplies are located in the hallway between the sanctuary and elevator.

Hearing Assistance: The Chapel and Sanctuary are equipped with induction loop systems. Use the "T-switch" of your hearing aid. If you have difficulty hearing during the worship service, please speak with an usher immediately.

An Elevator is located at the Parish House-Education Building junction to assist in accessibility.

Large Print Bulletins and Bibles are available from the ushers. Hymnals and Bibles are located in the pew racks.

Church School is available for children age 3-6th grade during the 10:45am service.

Child Care is available all morning in the Education Building for infants and toddlers.

Pastoral Care needs and prayer concerns may be communicated to Martha Langford.

More about Membership: If you are interested in joining Third Church, or just want to know more, contact Lynette Sparks. The next Exploring Membership luncheon will take place on May 7.

Newsletter: The Messenger is published monthly. Copies are available at the back of the Sanctuary, in the literature racks outside Johnston Hall and by the Arnold Park entrance, and on the church website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, contact Cindy Mark in the Church Office (cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6513, ext. 100).

A WORD ABOUT THIS CHURCH

THIRD CHURCH participates in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Commitment to Peacemaking. Our intention is to pursue avenues of peace and justice for ourselves, our families and communities, for all people in the world in which we live. We seek to be agents of reconciliation.

THIRD CHURCH has joined with other Presbyterian congregations in declaring ourselves to be a "More Light" church. We are committed to the full participation of all persons in our church community without regard for sexual orientation, personal background or human condition.



www.thirdpresbyterian.org



Find us on Facebook: "Third Presbyterian Church"

THIRD CHURCH STAFF

John Wilkinson, Pastor

Martha C. Langford, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Lynette K. Sparks, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism

Ernest F. Krug, Parish Associate

Peter A. DuBois, Director of Music/Organist

Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music

Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch, Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Congregational Life

Jane S. Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Caroline J. Robinson, Assistant Organist

Roderic P. Frohman, Pastor Emeritus

OFFICE: 271-6513; VOICEMAIL: 271-6537

ext. 105

ext. 108

ext. 106

ext. 109

ext. 101

ext. 118

ext. 107

Preparation for Worship

We come to worship from a busy and noisy world. As we prepare to offer ourselves in praise and adoration of God, it is important that we step back from our preoccupations and focus our thoughts on God. We ask that you please silence or turn off all electronic devices. As the music begins this morning, please take time to become more aware of the continuing presence of God.

**Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

*OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

PEOPLE: **Hosanna in the highest!**

*PROCLAMATION of the ENTRANCE into JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11

LEADER: When Jesus and his disciples 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."

PEOPLE: **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."**

LEADER: 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,

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

LEADER: When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking,

PEOPLE: **"Who is this?"**

LEADER: The crowds were saying,

PEOPLE: **"This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."**

*HYMN 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

(The hymn will be repeated until all have entered the Sanctuary. Please wave your palm branches during the singing of the refrain. Children process with One Great Hour of Sharing banks, placing them in the baskets near the baptismal font.)

*UNISON PRAYER

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

John Rutter
The Covenant Singers
Scott Stratton-Smith, *piano*

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.
All things bright...

The purple-headed mountain, The river running by,
The sunset and the morning, That brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one;
All things bright...

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

All things bright...

- text by Mrs. C. F. Alexander

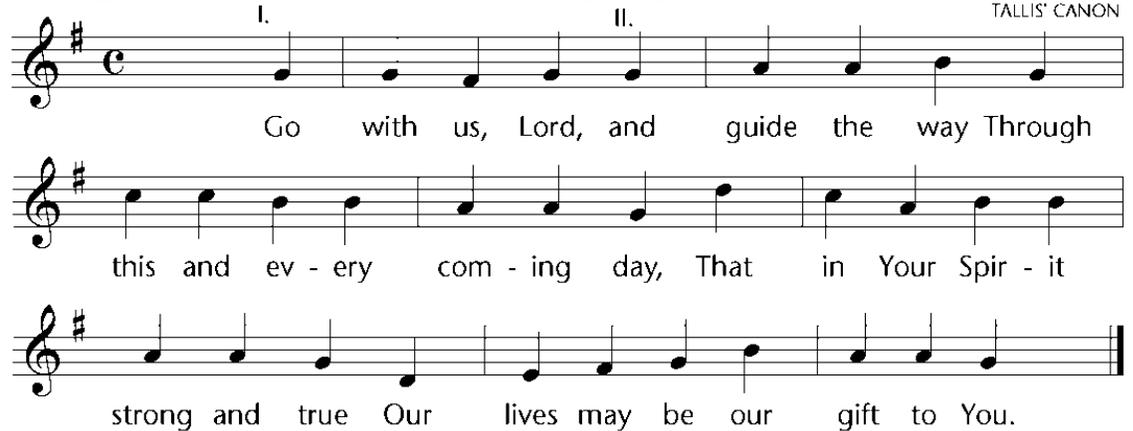
PALM SUNDAY DRAMA "HE WAS GOING ON A JOURNEY"

(Children depart to their classes for child care and Sunday School, ages 3 through 6th grade. You may exit through the doors to the left of the pulpit to get to the Education Building.)

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

(sung twice: once in unison, once as a canon, beginning with the pulpit side)

I. II. TALLIS' CANON



Go with us, Lord, and guide the way Through
this and ev - ery com - ing day, That in Your Spir - it
strong and true Our lives may be our gift to You.

text: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1986
music: Thomas Tallis, adapt. Parker's *Whole Psalter*, c.1561

WORDS of WELCOME

(We ask that you sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to the person next to you in the pew. Please greet those worshipping with you at the close of the service.)

EPISTLE LESSON — Philippians 2:5-11

(Pew Bible, NT page 197)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Gates”

Andreas Hammerschmidt

Lift up your heads, ye gates, Be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors,
And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory?
It is the Lord, strong and mighty in battle.
Lift ups your heads, ye gates, Be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors.
Hosanna in the highest.

- Psalm 24:7,8

GOSPEL LESSON — Matthew 26:14-27

(Pew Bible, NT 29)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“What Is Reconciliation? Crowdsourcing”

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 209

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LOVE UNKNOWN

***AFFIRMATION of FAITH** from the Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women.

But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death.

In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

PRESENTATION of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

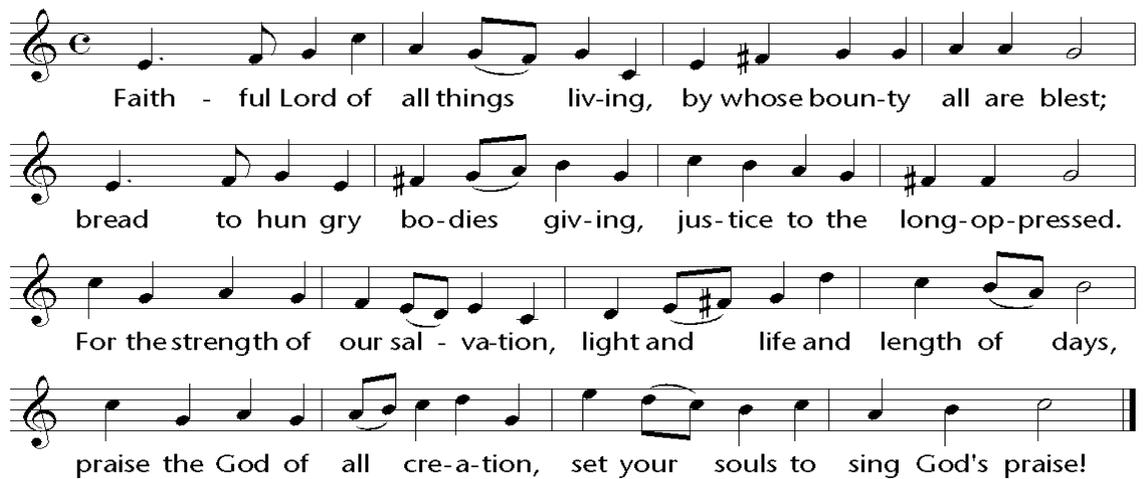
"Let This Mind Be in You"

Austin C. Lovelace
Riki Connaughton, *alto*

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto to death, e'en the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

- Philipians 2:5-11

*RESPONSE



Faith - ful Lord of all things liv-ing, by whose boun-ty all are blest;
bread to hun gry bo-dies giv-ing, jus-tice to the long-op-pressed.
For the strength of our sal - va-tion, light and life and length of days,
praise the God of all cre-a-tion, set your souls to sing God's praise!

Text: from the hymn "Praise the God of Our Salvation" by Timothy Dudley-Smith
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8.7.8.7 D
Tune: MEIGS ST.
Music: © 2004 Peter DuBois

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE: **And also with you.**
LEADER: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**
LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
PEOPLE: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
ALL: **God of mercy and grace, we thank you for the trust we have in Jesus, for mercy underserved, for the love you pour out on us, and on all. Give us gratitude to serve you, by taking our cross and following in the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*HYMN 198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

ST. DROSTANE

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*GREETING

*POSTLUDE "Les Rameaux"
(The Palms)

Jean Langlais

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sally Limes Watson and Charles Flagler Watson from Nancy Watson and Nicholas Bensko.

The memorial prayer candle is lit with prayers for peace and justice for the people of Syria.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

John Wilkinson..... Preacher
Corni Labrum, Martha C. Langford, Lynette K. Sparks, Ernest Krug..... Liturgists
Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
Caroline J. Robinson Assistant Organist
Bob Eames, Maryjane Link, Jeff Morrison,
Kelly Thevenet-Morrison, Betsey Wheeler Greeters
Elmer Dustman, Hope Herting, Jeremy Peters,
Gloria Pleger, Don Schichler, Rebecca Schichler, Anne Sievers Ushers

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC:

Music for Palm Sunday can range from that of triumph, marking Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, to that of foreboding, as the drama of the Passion looms in the background. This morning's music brings some of both.

John Rutter's (b. 1945) anthem "All things bright and beautiful" is something of a modern classic, and sets words of the poet Cecil Frances Alexander that praise God, the creator of all that is. Rutter's tuneful and rhythmic music have immediate appeal.

The first anthem, "Lift up your heads, ye gates," sets words from Psalm 24, heralding the arrival of the King of glory. Andreas Hammerschmidt (1612-1675) was a well-known German composer of the early and middle Baroque, and left over 400 compositions, mostly sacred vocal music. As was common at the time, his music shows the strong influence of Italian composers of the Renaissance and early Baroque, represented here in the contrasting vocal textures from section to section.

"Let this mind be in you," by Austin Lovelace (1919-2010) is a setting of the words from Philippians 2 that we heard as the Epistle Lesson this morning. Lovelace was a leading American church musician during much of the 20th century, holding prestigious church positions in both Presbyterian and United Methodist churches, and teaching at both Union Seminary in New York and Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL.

"Les Rameaux," or The Palms, by French organist and composer Jean Langlais (1907-1991) is based on the plainchant "Hosanna to the Son of David," which appears in long note values in the pedals. The brilliant keyboard figuration throughout is also based on the chant, and perhaps gives a sense of the chaotic energy of the day.