



CELEBRATING PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

3520 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock AR

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Welcome & Announcements

Carleton Philbrick

Welcome from the Pastor

Procession of Palms

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Bell Choir

*Call to Worship

Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem on the back of a colt.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

The people waved palm branches and praised God.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Shout for joy, for your Salvation has come near.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Opening Prayer

Carleton Philbrick

*Opening Song of Praise

#197

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Jo Murry

Call To Confession

Carleton Philbrick

Prayer of Confession

Carleton Philbrick (In Union)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you. The voices that sing “Hosanna!” are the same voices that shout “Crucify!” The hands that wave the palm branches are the same hands that prepare your cross. Forgive us, God of grace. Look upon us with mercy – our lives are in your hands. Save us, by your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Assurance of Pardon (from John 3:16-17)

Pastor Carl

Friends, the glorious, forgiving love of God has broken through, and is drawing near to save us.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!

Gloria Patri

#581

Passing the “Peace of Christ”

Prayer for Illumination

Carleton Philbrick (In Union)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Carleton Philbrick

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! **2** Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. **20** This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. **22** The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. **23** This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. **24** This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. **25** Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! **26** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. **27** The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. **28** You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you. **29** O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music *“I Need Thee Every Hour/I Am Thine, O Lord”* CBC String Quartet
A.S. Hawks/R. Lawry, F.J. Crosby/W.H. Doan arr. by Stephen DeCesare

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:1-11 & 27:15-26

21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, **2** 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. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”** **4** This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, **5** “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.” **6** The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; **7** they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. **8** A very large crowd^b spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** 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!” **10** When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” **11** The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Matthew 27:15-26

15 Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. **16** At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. **17** So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” **18** For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. **19** While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” **20** Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. **21** The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” **22** Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is

called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” **23** Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” **24** So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.” **25** Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” **26** So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *“You Were There, Right?”* Pastor Carl

Special Music *“Were You There/When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”* CBC String Quartet
Spiritual/L. Mason, arr. by Stephen DeCesare

Affirmation of Faith
We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People & 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.

Stewardship Moment

Offering/Offertory *“Ah, Holy Jesus”* CBC String Quartet
J. Heerman/J. Cruger

Doxology #606

Song of Joyful Dedication #39 *“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”* Jo Murry

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

“Beautiful Savior”

CBC String Quartet
arr. by Joseph McSpadden

Assisting in Worship:
Pastor Carl McCormack
Carleton Philbrick, as Liturgist
Cindy Witherspoon-Allen, as Greeter
Jennie & Dana Pierce, Ushers
Jo Murry, as Guest Organist
CBC String Quartet

SESSION MEMBERS

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, 04/02— Palm Sunday

9:45am—Fellowship Sunday School—Parlor

11am—Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl
Children Wee Worship

Noon—Cold cuts lunch in Steen Hall after worship service. (provided by the Lierly's)

1pm—Easter Egg Hunt (starting with under 6 years old; then 6 years and up)

Monday, 04/03

10:30am—Monday Morning Prayer Group—Conference Room

6:30pm—Arkansas Scottish Dance Society—Steen Hall

Tues. 04/04

10am PW Coordinating Team

Wednesday. 04/05

4:30pm—Bell Choir

Friday, 04/07

7pm—AR Country Dance Society

Sunday, 04/09— Easter Sunday—Communion

9:45am—Fellowship Sunday School—Parlor

11am—Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl

PRAYER NOTES—

Recent: Lynn Burton; Willette Lollar; Wendel Phillips; LaVonne Smith

Continued prayers for: Patt Bond; Claire Caldwell; Ed Caldwell; Pat Clark; Donna Ellis; Jesse Macom-Teague;

Continued prayers for friends of the church: Charles & Darnell Clark; Constance Hughes; Amber Mize (Liz & Phil Terrell); Stephanie Phillips (Gail & Wendell Phillips' Daughter-In-Law); Elizabeth Pollard; Norma Smith

Prayers for those in home confinement: Ann Cother; Bunn Falls (Johnson County Health & Rehab, Clarksville); LeMoyne Jones (AR State Veterans Home); Willette Lollar (Presbyterian Village); Steve Pollard (VA Hospital); David Rennie; Ann Woods

Continued prayers for those in grief: For the anniversaries of all those who have passed.

*Please contact the church office if you need someone placed on or off of the prayer notes. Thank you.