

Kindred Spirits Worship

PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES

One:

Called to live with respect in Creation
as Indigenous, Métis, Settler, and Newcomer peoples,
we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn, and serve,
and the water which sustains life on this land,
is of God, Creator,
and in the farthest reaches of memory
was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land,
and to their descendants.

One:

With the coming of colonizers,
treaties were made,
but again and again the treaties were broken,
causing deep and lasting harm
to the historic caregivers of the land,
to the generations that followed them,
and to the land itself.

All:

**Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation,
we who gather here on Treaty One territory
and the homeland of the Red River Metis
commit ourselves to faithful ways
of honoring the treaties, the land, and one another
in a spirit of open-hearted respect.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT

Today we gather in celebration and anticipation.

Like the crowds in Jerusalem, we welcome Jesus with joy and praise.

Yet we also know this journey leads toward the cross.

Come, let us open our hearts to the One who comes in humility and peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice! Christ comes to us in humility.

All: Riding on a donkey, proclaiming peace.

One: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: Hosanna in the highest!

One: Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

All: Let our hearts and voices praise God!

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we come before you with songs of praise, welcoming Christ into our lives once again. Open our hearts to receive him, not only with celebration, but with faithful commitment.

Guide us through this Holy Week, that we may walk the path of love, sacrifice, and hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN: VU#123 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

MOMENT TO PONDER

We often live in a world that celebrates power, success, and recognition.

On Palm Sunday, the crowd gathered expecting a king who would display strength and authority. Yet Jesus entered Jerusalem in a very different way; humble, riding on a colt, choosing simplicity over grandeur.

In this moment, we see that God's ways are not shaped by pride, but by humility. What the world often overlooks, God lifts up. What seems small or ordinary becomes the place where God's presence is revealed.

The crowd shouted praises, but the true significance of the moment was not in the noise of celebration, but in the quiet strength of Christ's humility. Jesus shows us that greatness is not found in being above others, but in serving them with love.

This reminds us that humility is not weakness. It is a deep trust in God, a willingness to walk gently, to listen, and to care for others without seeking recognition.

Palm Sunday invites us to reflect on our own lives. Are we seeking to be seen and praised, or are we willing to follow Christ in humility?

As we enter Holy Week, we are called to embrace the way of Christ; a way where the humble are lifted, where love is made visible through service, and where true glory is found in faithfulness.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Luke 19:28–40

LENTEN CANDLE MOVEMENT – All

Loving Creator, thank you for guiding us on this wilderness journey. We are seeking a new life in a world of trouble. Grant that through Jesus' teachings we may find a way even in the darkest times. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM "On That Day When He Rode Into Jerusalem"

REFLECTION

HYMN: VU#10 Prepare the Way of the Lord

OFFERING INVITATION

In gratitude for God's abundant love, let us bring our gifts: our time, our talents, and our resources to support the work of God's kingdom.

DOXOLOGY VU#542 We Give You But Your Own

PRAYER OF DEDICATION – All

**Generous God, we offer these gifts as signs of our love and gratitude.
Bless them and use them to bring hope, healing, and justice into the world.
May our lives also be an offering to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

CENTERING MUSIC

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – All

Loving God, you come to us in humility and peace, riding into our lives with love and grace.

We pray for our world, where there is still so much longing for peace; places where conflict continues, where injustice persists, and where many cry out for hope and healing. Guide leaders and nations toward paths of justice, compassion, and reconciliation.

We pray for those whose lives feel uncertain or burdened today; those facing illness, grief, loneliness, or fear. Draw near to them with your comfort and remind them they are not alone.

We pray for those who feel overlooked or unheard, and for all who long to be seen, valued, and loved. Help us to be a community that welcomes others with open hearts, reflecting the love of Christ in all we do.

We pray for this congregation, that we may not only praise you with our words, but follow you with our lives; walking in humility, serving in love, and bearing witness to your peace in the world.

We lift before you the names spoken aloud and those held in the silence of our hearts... *(Silence)*

Trusting in your mercy and grace, we pray together in the words Jesus taught us.

Let us sing together the Lord's Prayer...

HYMN VU#371 Open My Eyes, That I May See

COMMISSIONING

Go now in peace, welcoming Christ in all you meet. Walk in the way of humility and love and be bearers of hope in the world.

CHORAL BLESSING MV#214 May God's Sheltering Wings

POSTLUDE