



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • PALM SUNDAY March 29, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Fanfare on "Hosanna!"
Marty Franklin

Lawrence A. James

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

BREATH PRAYER

Inhale: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good...

Exhale: his steadfast love endures forever...

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Blessed is the coming kingdom.

All: Hosanna in the highest!

One: When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage...
Blessed is the coming kingdom.

All: Hosanna in the highest!

One: A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road...
Blessed is the coming kingdom.

All: Hosanna in the highest!

***Hymn (#197)**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening.

Sung Response (#577, sing 2x)

Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

(Silence)

Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, our wise fool, our all in all. Amen.

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross.

All: Nothing we can do can deter him.

One: He has determined that we are worth saving.

All: By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace**

***Congregational Response (#425, v. 1)**

Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace

*Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most holy,
to your presence we have come; give us now your love.*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination (#45, v. 1)

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

*I to the hills will lift my eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
My help is from the Lord alone, who heaven and earth has made.*

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Anthem

Hosanna to the King of Kings

arr. Lloyd Larson

Sermon

Opening...

Rev. R.C. Griffin III
Rev. Amanda Horan

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Philippians 2:6-11

One: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

**All: who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,**

One: but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

**All: And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.**

One: Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,

All: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

One: in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

**All: and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

***Hymn (#196)**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Offertory

1st Variation on "Hosanna!"

Lawrence A. James

***Congregational Response (#709)**

God, We Honor You

*God, we honor you. God, we trust in you. God, we worship and adore you.
Take what we bring, offered to you. Teach us to show your abundant blessings.
God, we honor you. God, we trust in you. God, we worship and adore you.*

***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: Holy one, we cannot offer you great treasures as the world measures them.
Here is only what we have at hand:

All: **cloaks and palm fronds to line your path, and all our ordinary sacrifices.
Accept these gifts, and transform them,
that we may share in your great work of love. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#200)**

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

***Charge & Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

Hosanna to the King of Kings

arr. Lloyd Larson

***Postlude**

4th Variation on "Hosanna!"

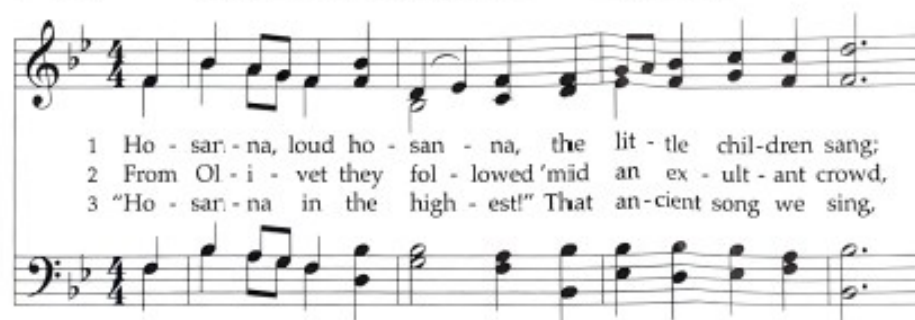
Stephen James Rhode

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

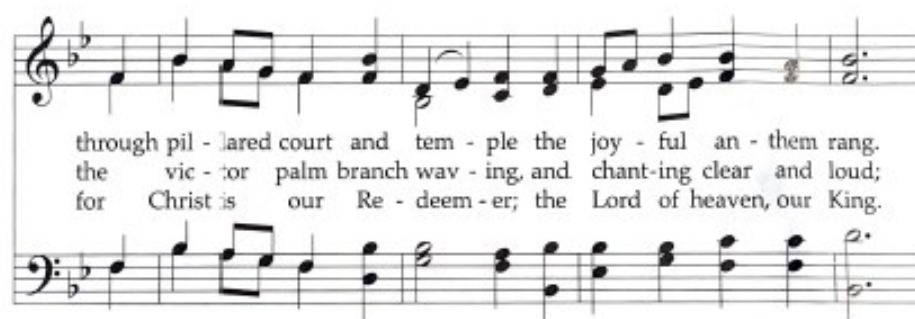


scan for bulletin info,
news, and more!

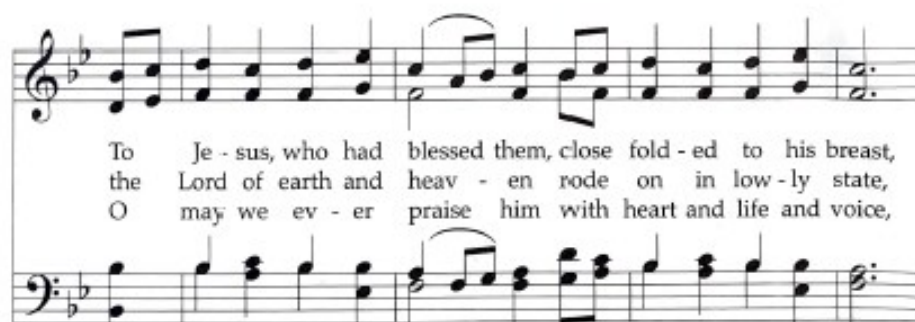
197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



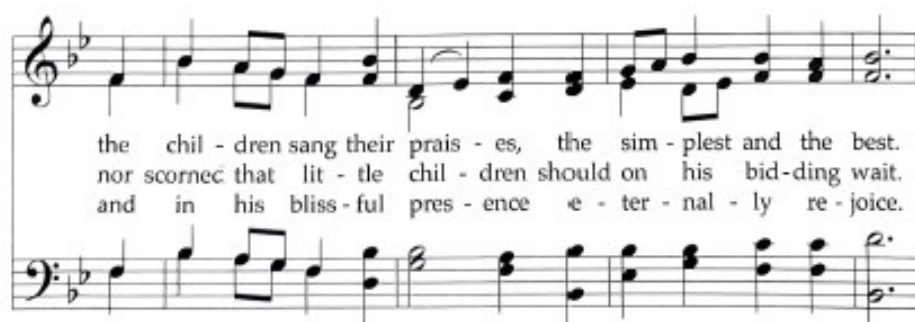
1 Ho - sar - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil-dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - sar - na in the high - est!" That an-cient song we sing,



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.

577

Lord, Have Mercy



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Note: Lower voices may hum.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Dinah Reindorf, 1987; arr. Sing! A New Creation, 2001

Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf

Music Arr. © 2001 Faith Alive Christian Resources

KYRIE ELEISON (Reindorf)

Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace 425

1 Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most ho - ly,
 2 Take a - way our sin - ful - ness, e - vil that im - pris - ons us;
 3 Warm our hearts to love you, Lord, you who died to save us;

to your pres - ence we have come; give us now your love.
 free us from what trou - bles us; give our souls re - lease.
 gath - er us with - in your arms, Je - sus, on this day.

Even in translation this hymn from the indigenous peoples of New Zealand conveys a stark beauty in its confident address to Christ and its prayer for release from the captivity of sin. Their traditional melody further connects us with these people on the other side of the world.

TEXT: Maori hymn; para. Shirley Lewis Murray, 1989

MUSIC: Maori melody

First © 1990 Christian Conference of Asia (adult, GIA Publications, Inc.)

TAMA NGAKAU/MARIE

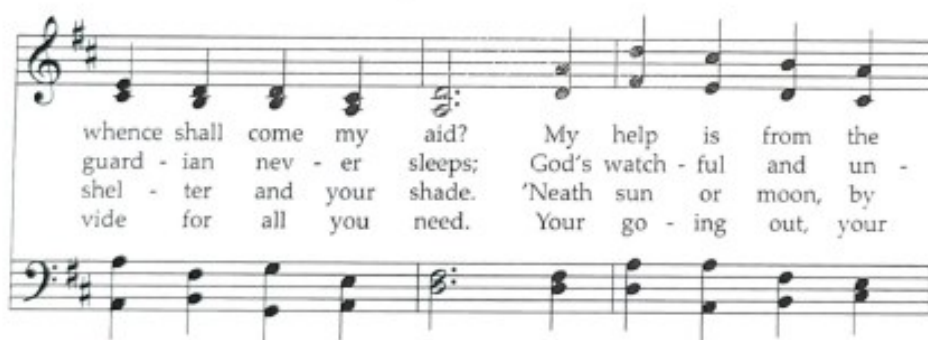
7.6.7.5

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes 45

(Psalm 121)



1 I to the hills will lift my eyes; from
2 God will not let your foot be moved; your
3 Your faith - ful keep - er is the Lord, your
4 From e - vil God will keep you safe, pro -



whence shall come my aid? My help is from the
guard - ian nev - er sleeps; God's watch - ful and un -
shel - ter and your shade. 'Neath sun or moon, by
vide for all you need. Your go - ing out, your



Lord a - lone, who heaven and earth has made.
slum - bering care pro - tects and safe - ly keeps.
day or night, you shall not be a - fraid.
com - ing in, God will for - ev - er lead.

Although the first stanza of this paraphrase of Psalm 121 draws heavily on 17th-century Scottish psalters, most of this version dates from the early 20th century. In its original source the tune printed here is one of twelve not assigned for use with a specific psalm.

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!

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!

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.

TEXT: Theodulf of Orleans, c. 820; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
MUSIC: Melchior Jeschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
7.6.7.6.D

God, We Honor You

God, we hon - or you. God, we trust in you.

God, we wor - ship and a - dore you.

Take what we bring, of - fered to you.

Teach us to show your a - bun - dant bless - ings.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, a - men.

**May be sung as a canon.*

This offertory acclamation was created by a Mennonite musician and draws on the simplicity and strength of a tradition accustomed to unaccompanied singing. When sung as a canon, this acclamation simultaneously voices praises of God, prayers to God, and alleluia.

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd 200



1 A cheer - ing, chant - ing, diz - zy crowd had
2 They laid their gar - ments in the road and
3 When day dimmed down to deep - ening dark the
4 Lest we be fooled be - cause our hearts have
5 In - stead of palms, a wind - ing sheet will



stripped the green trees bare, and hail - ing Christ as
spread his path with palms and vows of last - ing
crowd be - gan to fade till on - ly tram - pled
surged with pass - ing praise, re - mind us, God, as
have to be un - rolled, a car - pet much more



king a - loud, waved branch - es in the air.
love be - stowed with roy - al hymns and psalms.
leaves and bark were left from the pa - rade.
this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.
fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

This Palm Sunday hymn recreates the contrasting sounds of Holy Week, moving from the noisy public acclaim of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the solitary silence of his body being prepared for burial. It gently reminds us that self-giving is the mark of Christ's true sovereignty.

TEXT: Thomas H. Torrance, 1985
MUSIC: Paul Beckett, CSM, 1959, alt.
Text © 1985 Oxford University Press
Music © 1960 World Library Publications

CHRISTIAN LOVE
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