



POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

March 24, 2024

10:00 am

Palm Sunday

Welcome and Christ Candle

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Palm Sunday Call to Worship

Let us enter the city with God today,

And sing hosannas to our king,

Let us turn our backs on the powers that grasp and control,

And open our hearts to the son of God riding on a donkey.

Let us join his parade,

Surrounded by outcasts and prostitutes, the blind and the leper.

Let us follow the one who brought freedom and peace,

And walk in solidarity with the abandoned and oppressed.

Let us touch and see as God draws near,

Riding in triumph towards the Cross.

Lord let our souls rise to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.

Glory to The Father and to The Son and to The Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.

Opening Song-Blue #262

"Rejoice, the Lord is King" v.1-4

Palm Sunday Prayer of Confession

During this time of confession, let's go to God together. We are able to be open and honest about the brokenness in the world and our lives, knowing that he meets us in love.

O Lord, who on this day entered the city that later rejected you: we confess that our wills are as weak as those who abandoned you. Our faith is often more show than substance, our hearts are in need of cleansing.

Have mercy on us, Son of David, Savior of our lives. Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, and to receive us as your own.

Assurance of Pardon

We know that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. He is the king of the world and there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus. May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Living the Way of Jesus

On Palm Sunday, we see Jesus as the king and the savior of our lives. While kings and rulers we have known accumulate power and elevate their status, this king gave it away and his law was for us to love one another. Hear these words from Jesus of Nazareth: "The greatest commandment is for you to love God with all your heart, your soul, your mind and your strength. The second greatest commandment is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Friends, this is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem

"On a Hill Far Away"

Music by Joseph M. Martin

"For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above to bear it to dark Calvary."

Announcements

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offering-Choir Anthem

"If You Love Me"

Words and Music-Joel Raney

"Because I live, you too shall live."

Offertory (Instrumental)

Doxology-Blue #805

"Glory Be to The Father"

Scripture Passage: John 12:12-19

Sermon: The Approach

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" ¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:¹⁵ "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." ¹⁶ At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. ¹⁷ Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. ¹⁸ Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"

Palm Sunday Prayer

O Christ, you entered the city as a poor man not in style but simply, yet still you caused uproar, and questions everywhere; you drew the expectations of a hungry crowd, and brought buried conflicts to the light. May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval, and who often avoid conflict for fear of its cost to us, hold fast to the gospel of peace and justice and follow faithfully in your way of compassion and solidarity with those who are poor and excluded, wherever it may lead us. **Amen.**

Our Shared Faith From *Our World Belongs to God*

23. Remembering the promise to reconcile the world to himself, God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ—the eternal Word made flesh. He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God, fully human and fully divine, Jesus chose the path we had rejected. In his baptism and temptations, teaching and miracles, and friendships with sinners, Jesus lived a full and loving human life before us. As God's true Son, he made present in deed and word the coming rule of God.

Closing Song-Blue #21

"How Great Thou Art" v. 1-4

Benediction

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader:	Pastor John Burden
Liturgist:	Joanie Warner
Guest Organist:	*Scott Burzynski

Streaming & Audio

Mark Warner
Karen Huysers
Gail Freeland

Screen Visuals

Eddie Van Schaack

***This morning, we welcome back our former organist/accompanist Scott Burzynski. Scott was with us from 2013 to 2020. Nice to have you with us today, Scott!**

 This anthem is sponsored by Rick and Barbara Pierce in memory of loved ones.