



**St. Paul's United Church Sunday, March 24, 2024**

**Palm/Passion Sunday and Communion**

**Minister:** Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

**Music Director:** Victoria Warwick

**Readers:** Dan Donaldson, Fran Hill

**Music:** St. Paul's Choir

**Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME /CALL TO THE GATHERED/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**HYMN:** VU#124 "He Came Riding on a Donkey"

1. He came riding on a donkey, he came riding into town;  
slow and easy kind of lowly he came riding with the dawn.  
His disciples walked beside him, staying close, a little shy;  
not too sure where he would guide them, on to live or on to die.  
But all the morning sang his praises, waking birds and dancing wind;  
here he is, the Son of David, riding on to take his throne.
2. Then the children gathered, singing shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;  
in the streets their song was ringing, "Hosannas" filled the morning air.  
Timid adults strained to see him, caught the Spirit, joined the song;  
spread their cloaks along before him, branches flashing in the sun.  
So all the city sang his praises, waking streets and dancing crowd;  
here he is, the Song of David, our Messiah, Son of God.
3. In our fasting, and our feasting, called to follow in his way;  
called to walk his road to Easter, called to live his cross today.  
Hosanna to the Song of David, hosanna in the heavens above;  
blessed is he who comes to save us, blessed is he who brings his love.  
Let us join to sing his praises; open hearts and souls to God;  
he is with us, Son of David; God's Messiah, Christ the Lord.



**EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY**

**SUNG RESPONSE: VU #595, We Are Pilgrims, vs. 1, 3**

We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear



**OPENING PRAYER:** read by Fran Hill

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Mark 11:1-10 read by Dan Donaldson

**ANTHEM:** St. Paul's Choir: "Cantad Hosanna!"

**THE PASSION NARRATIVE** (Please remain seated for the hymns during "THE PASSION")

**THE UPPER ROOM & SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 14:12-16; 22-25 read by Fran Hill

**Communion Hymn:** VU#666 "Eat This Bread" **2x**

Eat this bread, drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:** **As our Lenten journey, moves closer to Good Friday, may the bread and the cup remind us that faith can be costly, and that to follow the path of Christ takes courage and commitment. Amen** (The younger Discovery Kids will leave at this time)

## **THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 14:32-46 read by Dan Donaldson

### **Reflection**

#### **Hymn #133 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"**

Vs. 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, you that feel the tempter's power;  
your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his grief away: learn from him to watch and pray.

## **COURTYARD AND PETER'S DENIAL**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 14:53-56; 66-72 read by Fran Hill

### **Reflection**

#### **Hymn #132 Bitter Was the Night (vs. 1,2,3,6)**

Bitter was the night, thought the cock would crow forever.  
Bitter was the night before the break of day.

Saw you passing by, told them all I didn't know you.  
Bitter was the night before the break of day.

Told them all a lie, and I told it three times over.  
Bitter was the night before the break of day.

Bitter was the night, thought there'd never be a morning.  
Bitter was the night before the break of day.

## **JESUS ON THE CROSS**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 15:21-32 read by Dan Donaldson

### **Reflection:**

**HYMN:** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (vs. 2)

Upon the cross of Jesus my eyes at times can see  
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me;  
and from my smitten heart, with tears, two wonders I confess,  
the wonder of his glorious love, and my unworthiness.

## **JESUS DIES**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 15:33-37 read by Dan Donaldson

**ANTHEM:** "Wondrous Love"

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** read by Fran Hill

### **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BENEDICTION:** "May the Christ Who Walks with Wounded Feet"

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.  
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.  
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love;  
when you leave this place may you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,  
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

### **POSTLUDE**