

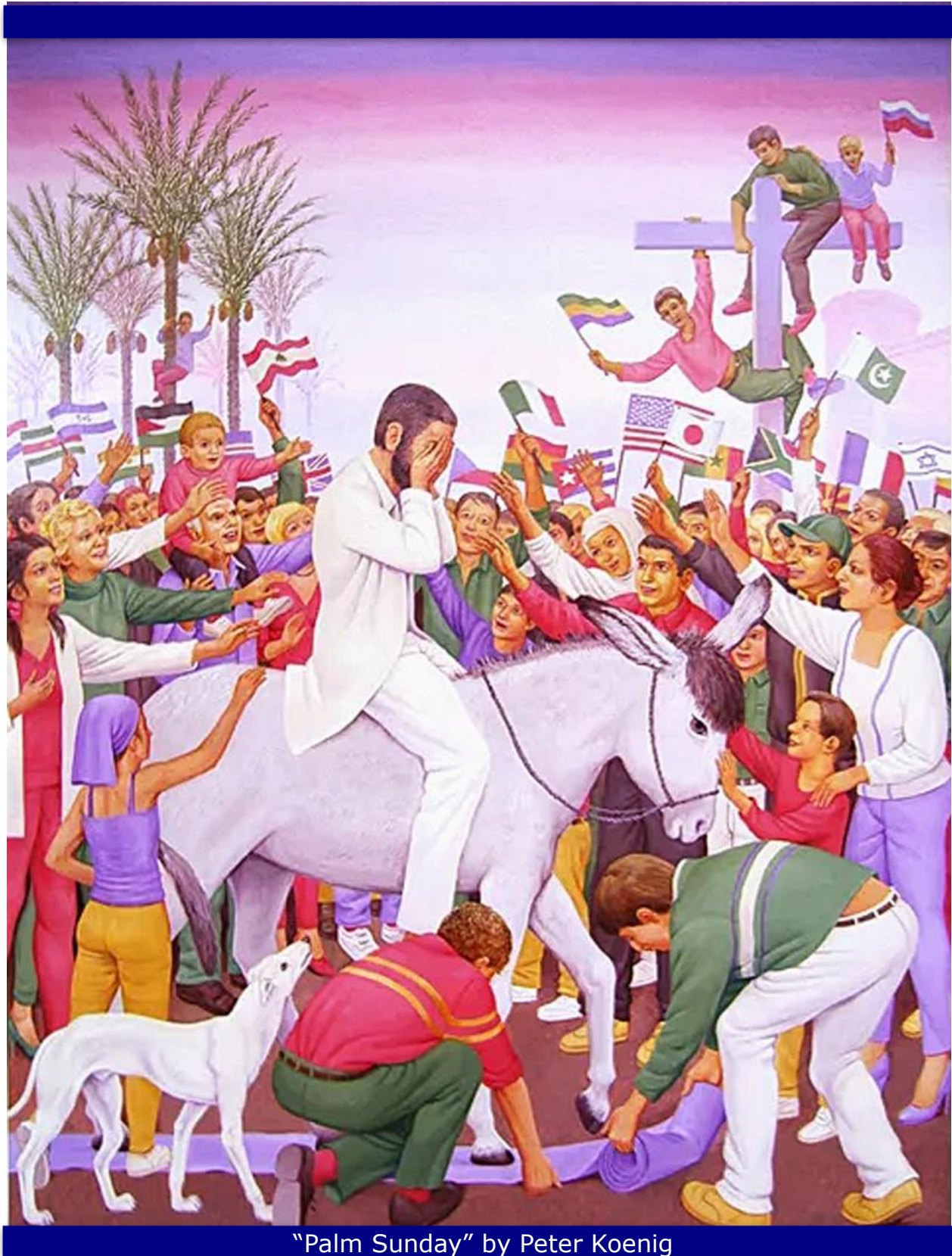
WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
KIRKWOOD



"Palm Sunday" by Peter Koenig

ORDER OF WORSHIP

_____ ***All who are able, please stand.** _____

Chiming of the Hour

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

Welcome and Announcements

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

Organ Voluntary

"Processional"

William Mathias

Choral Introit

"Little Grey Donkey"

Natalie Sleeth

Little grey donkey, ho! Do you know just who it is you carry on your back?

'Tis no ordinary load, no mean or common pack.

You are blessed of all beasts to carry into town

Christ the Lord of Galilee; he wears no earthly crown.

Once you were a simple beast of poor and lowly state.

Christ himself hath chosen you and honored is your fate.

Though your path with palms is spread, make haste along the way.

You were destined here to ride on this triumphal day.

Yonder is a grassy hill, it's known as Calvary.

Up against the cloudless sky a barren cross you see.

Little grey donkey, little grey mare, don't hide your head in shame.

For you bear the Lamb of God, and Jesus is his name.

WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us enter the city with God today,
and sing hosannas to our king,

People: 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.

Leader: Let us follow the one who brought freedom and peace,
and walk in solidarity with the abandoned and oppressed.

**ALL: Let us touch and see as God draws near,
riding in triumph towards the Cross.**

*Processional Hymn

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Hymn #196

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O Lord, who on this day entered the rebellious city that later rejected you: we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem's, 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.

***Silent Confessions**

***Assurance of God's Grace**

***Congregational Response** "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy" Hymn #437

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Psalm 118:1-2,19-29; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 565

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Anthem "Hosanna We Sing" Glenn and Susan Eernisse

When Jesus had come to the town on that day, riding a donkey, he heard the crowd say,

"Hosanna! Hosanna to Jesus our King! We cannot be silent, to him we must sing!"

Hosanna, we sing, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

*They laid down their coats as the Savior rode near, beautiful branches they waved with a cheer.
Some men tried to silence the worshipping crowd, but they sang their praises so clear and so loud.*

Hosanna, we sing, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Today as we gather to worship and praise, we sing "Hosanna" and palm branches raise.

So lift up your voices together and sing, "Hosanna! Hosanna!" to Jesus our King!

Hosanna, we sing, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Scripture Reading Matthew 21:1-11; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 23

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Upending Expectations* Rev. Linda Maconochie

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn** "A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd" Hymn #200

Pastoral 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.

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Gilbert Martin

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.
Love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!*

Prayer of Dedication

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

***Closing Hymn** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Hymn #197

*Benediction

Choral Response "Jesus, Remember Me" Jacques Berthier

Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.

Organ Voluntary "Recessional" William Mathias

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, *Interim Senior Pastor*
Rev. Linda Maconochie, *Interim Associate Pastor*

Music Ministry:

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*
Avi Mazzeo, *Choir Assistant*
Lori Wehrman, *Cherub Director*
Dr. Bill Wade, *Accompanist*
Choristers; Cherubs; Chancel Choir

Cross Bearer:

George Dunaway

Ushers:

Georgia Hepp, Wayne Ullery, Lindsay Marting, Joe Marting, Jim Cooper, Pam Cooper
Bob Schneider and Larry Erwin, *Assistant Usher Captains*
Art McDonnell, *Usher Captain*

Livestream Host:

Gary Hepp