

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

April 10, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

The Community Gathers

We will gather outside the front of the church to prepare for our Entrance Parade. Please accept a palm branch and prepare for our entrance into worship. In the event of inclement weather, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall.

Entrance Parade

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

L: Blessed is the Messiah who comes in humble victory.

P: **Blessed is the Savior who rides through hope-songs and stone-weeping.**

L: Blessed is the Messiah who entered the dangerous streets of Jerusalem long ago.

P: **Blessed is the Savior who enters the uncertain terrain of our lives today.**

(From "An Improbable Gift of Blessing" by Tirabassi and Grant, p.97)

Peace of Christ Blessing

Our Common Prayer

Hosanna, save us, you who stand on the threshold

While we fling the cloaks of praise before you.

Hosanna, save us, Messiah, so misunderstood.

Hosanna, save us and open the gates to us

Of hope and prayer and peace. Amen. *(ibid.)*

Scripture Lesson - Luke 19: 29-40

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

“Blessed is the king
 who comes in the name of the Lord!
 Peace in heaven,
 and glory in the highest heaven!”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Palm Sunday Litany

L: The streets were crowded.

A parade mood filled the air.

Shouts came from deep in the heart.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from lukewarm faith.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from callous indifference.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from paltry hopes and petty dreams.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from unquenchable greed.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from lazy habits and faithless commitments.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: Save us from soft-mindedness and hard-heartedness.

P: Hosanna. Save us.

L: We cry from the depth of our hearts and the very pit of our souls.

P: Hosanna. Save us. Save us now.

Hymn

Hosanna (Praise is Rising)

¹ Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you
we turn to you.
Hope is stirring, hearts are tearing for you
we long for you. (PC)

² Hear the sound of hearts returning to you
we turn to you.
In your Kingdom broken lives are made new
you make us new. (PC)

^{PC} 'Cause when we see you
we find strength to face the day
In your presence
all our fears are washed away (washed away)

^C Hosanna Hosanna you are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna Hosanna come have your way among us
We welcome you here Lord Jesus

The Story of Holy Week - Palm Sunday Readers Theatre *(written by Pastor Mary Kay Totty, 2021)*

Readers: Jacquelyn Forbes, Avery Rodocker, Doug Brand,
Wess Robotham, Xander Foulk

Hymn of Reflection

You Are Holy

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near;
blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present,
let the cosmos praise you Lord!
Sing Hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God

The Story Continues...

Special Music

Reflections on Kelvingrove

Handbell Choir

Prayer of Confession

Holy and gentle God,
We confess that we want you to meet our expectations
rather than changing our lives to meet you.
We confess that we are often changeable and self-centered
like the Jerusalem crowd, shouting "Hosanna"
one day and "Crucify" the next.
We confess that we prefer the festivity of Palm Sunday
to the quiet sadness of Holy Week.
Forgive us all our sins and help us take up
our own crosses to follow you. AMEN.

Time of Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

L: When we cry “Hosanna,” God enter our lives with forgiveness.

P: Hosanna. We are forgiven.

L: We are forgiven. Thanks be.

P: Amen and amen.

(Tirabassi and Grant, ibid.)

The Prayers of the People

Please share your joys or concerns at the microphone or in the comments on Facebook or by texting us at 402-810-8900.

Prayer Hymn

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

TFWS 2200

O Lord, hear my prayer;
when I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer;
come and listen to me.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory

Alex Sommerfeld

Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God, for the greatest of all gifts, the saving action of Jesus Christ in human history. Your gift inspires our generous response. We bring our offerings and renewed commitment. Help us to be faithful disciples. Amen.

Hymn

Jesus Messiah

1. He became sin, who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing, love so amazing

Jesus Messiah, name above all names
Blessed redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

2. His body the bread, his blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn
Love so amazing, love so amazing, yeah

Jesus Messiah, name above all names

Blessed redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You
All the glory to You, God, the light of the world

Jesus Messiah, name above all names
Blessed redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all
You're the Lord of all
The Lord of all

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: Chris Tomlin / Daniel Carson / Ed Cash / Jesse Reeves

Jesus Messiah (Performance Track In Key Of B With Background Vocals; TV Track) lyrics © Capitol CMG Publishing, Music Services, Inc

Benediction

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Postlude

Alex Sommerfeld

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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