

**Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

🕯️ Call to Worship

Jim Fox

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

—Zechariah 9:9, NRSV

🕯️ Invocation

Jim Fox

Merciful God,
as we enter Holy Week and gather at your house of prayer,
turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,
to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
so that, united with Christ and all the faithful,
we may one day enter in triumph
the city not made by human hands,
the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens,
where with you and the Holy Spirit,
Christ lives in glory forever. **Amen.**

🕯️ Opening Hymn 234

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Jim Fox

Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem
and then later pronounced “Crucify him,”
we are fickle people who often deny Christ
in our thoughts, words, and deeds.
Remembering the events of Jesus’ last week
helps us see ourselves for what we are:
sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—we have in Christ.
In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Jim Fox

O King of glory,
we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint,
our performance as citizens of your kingdom treasonous.
For we have surrendered to the enemy
by our secret and our known sins.
For our treason you died, Lord Jesus.
For our restoration, you rose again.
Draw us closer to you in this holy week,
that our eyes may catch the vision of your tears,
and our hearts, the wonder of your grace.
By the Holy Spirit's continuing discipline,
let us be loyal and loving servants of the King.
Praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jim Fox

Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:
Let those who fear the Lord say,
"His steadfast love endures for ever."
Out of my distress I called on the Lord;
the Lord answered me and set me free.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.
I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
In Christ, God answers us and sets us free!
In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.
—based on Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You
All: And also with you

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Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the
LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.
—Psalm 96:8-9, NRSV

Offering

Offertory *Change My Heart, O Lord /
I Love You, Lord* *Espinosa / Klein*

! Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

! Prayer of Dedication

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to your service and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

! Preparation Hymn 89 *Our Great Savior*

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Prayer of Illumination

Eternal God,
whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty:
Quiet within us every voice but your own.
Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ,
that by the power of your Holy Spirit
we may receive grace to show Christ's love
in lives given to your service. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading *Ephesians 6:10-20*

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,

but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Sermon

*“At All Times and In All Ways”
Rev. Dan Stewart*



Hymn of Response 486 *Faith is the Victory*

Responding
We respond to God's Word



Profession of Faith (*In Unison*)

**As followers of Jesus Christ,
living in this world—
which some seek to control,
and others view with despair—
we declare with joy and trust:
Our world belongs to God!
From the beginning,
through all the crises of our times,
until the kingdom fully comes,
God keeps covenant forever:
Our world belongs to God!
God is King: Let the earth be glad!
Christ is victor: his rule has begun!
The Spirit is at work: creation is renewed!
Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!**

—Our World Belongs to God, st. 1-2

Prayers of the People

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
As one of us, he knew our joys and sorrows
and our struggles with temptation.
He was like us in every way except sin.
In him we see what you created us to be.
Though blameless, he suffered willingly for our sin.
Though innocent, he accepted death for the guilty.
On the cross he offered himself, a perfect sacrifice, for the life of the world.
By his suffering and death, he freed us from sin and death.

Risen from the grave, he leads us to the joy of new life.
Lead us, O God, in the way of Christ.
Give us courage to take up our cross
and, in full reliance upon your grace, to follow him.
Help us to love you above all else
and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves,
demonstrating that love in deed and word by the power of your Spirit.
Give us strength to serve you faithfully
until the promised day of resurrection,
when, with the redeemed of all the ages,
we will feast with you at your table in glory.
Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Commission Hymn 4

How Great Thou Art



Benediction & Blessing

May our Lord, whose arms were spread on the cross
to embrace the whole world,
help us this week to take up the cross and follow him. **Amen.**



Postlude