

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service for Palm/Passion Sunday**

*April 13, 2025*

**Pre-Service Music:**     *Chanson in G Major* – Martin Ellis

**Welcome and Announcements:**

**Prelude:** *Little Piece for Organ* – John S. Dixon

**Introit:**             *Come, Sing Hosanna!*             Henry Purcell

**Responsive Call to Worship** (Psalm 118)

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Let all who fear the Lord say,

**God's steadfast love endures forever!**

The Lord has answered our prayer and become our salvation.

**God's steadfast love endures forever! Hosanna,  
hosanna!**

Let us worship God!

**Prayer of the Day**

**Righteous God, as we celebrate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, we know where the journey leads. We give thanks that you would willingly give so much of yourself so that we might know hope, and love, and salvation. Glory be to you, O God, for your loving sacrifice. In the days ahead, as we witness the deep night of your death, help us to remember your presence in its midst and hope for the resurrection dawn to come. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #196:** *All Glory, Laud and Honor*     (stand)

## **Call to Confession**

Christ comes to the center of our busy, conflicted lives.

**He comes in triumph and humility.**

**He comes in glory and in mercy.**

**He comes knowing the best of who we are,  
and he comes knowing our worst.**

Trusting in God's grace, let us make our confession.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Christ our Redeemer, try as we might, we do not follow your example. We do not empty ourselves, we do not humble ourselves, we are not obedient. You simply ask us to care about this world you created, but we fail to do even that. Forgive us. You have given us the greatest, clearest example of love. Heal us, and help us to follow. Amen.**

## **Declaration of Pardon**

Even in the face of hatred and violence,

**We know that Christ loves us.**

Even when enduring death,

**Christ cares for us;**

Christ forgives us.

**Thanks be to the God of mercy.**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us #575:** *(please stand)*

**Anthem:** *Ave Verum* Philip Stopford

**Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.**

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

*Worship leader will lead the prayers.*

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Guide your church this Holy Week as we follow in the servant way of Jesus. Protect those who face hostility or oppression for their faith. Humble those who would use faith to dominate others and reinforce their own power.

God in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

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Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. We join together in the prayer that Jesus taught his followers to pray:

**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**

**Hymn #222:**                      *Rejected and Despised*                      (seated)

### **Prayer for Illumination:**

**Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.**

### **Scriptures for the Day:**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 50:4 - 9a

**Epistle Lesson:** Philippians 2:5 - 11

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 19:28 – 40

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:**                    *Reflections on Palm Sunday*       Susan Murray

**Affirmation of Faith:** *from St. Patrick (c. 389 – 461)*

**What a strange paradox; the King is coming, the people rejoice, singing ‘Hosanna in the highest!’ yet fail to understand that the King they welcome is the Servant King, the King who washes his disciples’ feet, the King who came not with an army but a weapon so powerful that not even death could resist, the sacrificial love of God laid out upon a Cross.**

**Lord God, as we sing our ‘Hosannas’ today may we remember also that which you were riding toward; the suffering and rejection, pain and humiliation, the cruel Cross. And let us look forward to the joy of Easter Day when you rose from death to reign forever. Help us, as we daily lay our lives before you, to live the resurrection life that acknowledges Jesus as Lord and King over our lives.**

**Dedication of Tithes and Offerings:**                    (please be seated)

**Offering #711:** *Lord of All Good*    vs. 1

**Prayer of Dedication:** John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

**We bring you only what is yours, Creator God, that you might use this offering and the giver for the building up of your kingdom and the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #198:** *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*    (stand)

**Charge and Benediction:**    John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

**Go in peace. Live in love. Serve the Lord**

**Postlude:**                *Dialogue* – Daniel E. Gawthrop

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