

Online Joint Worship for the Mid Fraser Cluster
Aldergrove, Gladwin Heights, St. Andrew's
and Trinity Memorial United Churches

Palm Sunday
March 28th, 2021

Thank you for Connecting for Worship

Today's Leadership includes

Preacher: The Rev. Bill Booth

Presiding: The Rev. Bill Booth

The Rev. Tim Bowman

Musician: Jacob Greenan

Song Leader: Deborah Handley

Technical Support: Jeremy Wright

People are invited to share their prayers in the chat during the worship service.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Words of Welcome, Announcements from Each Congregation and
Land Acknowledgement**

Lighting the Rainbow Candles

Lighting the Christ Candle Bill

Rejoice; open your hearts; for the winter is past and light has come into the world.

(the candle is lit)

The Light of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Sung Response: MV 122 - "This is the Day"

*This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad! (2x)*

Singing hallelu,

singing hallelu,

singing hallelu!

We will rejoice and be glad! (2x)

*This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad! (2x)*

Singing hallelu,

singing hallelu,

singing hallelu!

We will rejoice and be glad! (2x)

Call to Worship: Bill

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

**Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.**

This is the gate of the LORD;

the righteous shall enter through it. - Psalm 118:1-2, 19-20

Opening Prayer: Bill

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

**This is the LORD'S doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.**

**O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.**

- Psalm 118:21-29

Hymn: VU 122 - "All Glory, Laud and Honour"

Refrain)

***All glory, laud and honour to you Redeemer, King
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.***

You are the King of Israel, and David's royal son, now in the Lord's name coming our King and Blessed one. **Refrain**

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before you we were present. **Refrain**

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
To you now high exalted Our melody we raise. **Refrain)**

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. **Refrain)**

Time with our Children: Tim

Hymn: "Come Into the Streets With Me"

Come into the streets with me! Come to where the crowds will be,
see a strange and gentle king on a donkey traveling --

**Refrain: Come and follow my leader, come and follow my leader,
Jesus Christ is riding by, come and follow my leader!**

All the people shout his name, waving branches, sing his fame,
throw their coats upon his road, glad to praise the Son of God -- **Refrain**

If the soldiers draw their swords, will we dare to sing these words,
be his friends for just a day, cheer him on, then run away? - **Refrain**

Jesus goes where things are rough, Jesus knows when life is tough,
always comes to us, his friends, so his story never ends. - **Refrain**

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

We invite the children and their leaders into breakout rooms

Scripture Readings:

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Symbols of Hope" **Bill**

Hymn: "There is a Time" **MV 165**

*There is a time that we must rise
There is a time that we must stand
There is a time that we must come together
For blessed are our lives
Blessed our love and blessed the promise gathered now.*

*There is a time that we must leave
Go from the place where hatreds breed
and, turning, feel the Spirit breathe us together
For blessed are our lives
Blessed our love and blessed the promise gathered now.*

*There is a time we know the way
There is a time we watch and pray
In living faith we make our way together
For blessed are our lives
Blessed our love and blessed the promise gathered now.*

*Upon the dry a cloud will rise
And truth will shine among the lies
And wisdom sing as we arise together
For blessed are our lives
Blessed our love and blessed the promise gathered now.*

*There is a bow within the rain
And it will come and bend again
And colours shine where we have been together
For blessed are our lives
Blessed our love and blessed the promise gathered now.*

Prayer of Confession: Tim

Holy One,
Saviour, Redeemer,
We confess the truth about our lives:
We often too tired from our tasks,
too distracted by our responsibilities,
too drained from the constantly changing nature of this pandemic,
to see the signs of your activity.
Other times, in our excitement, we hear only the surface meaning
of your Word, written and living, and fail to grasp the deeper truth.

Silent prayer

Assurance: Tim

Even Jesus' closest followers did not understand what had happened
until after the resurrection had occurred and they received the Holy Spirit.
We do not understand the full scope of what God is up to;
but everyday more of God's love and justice is revealed.

**We confess the truth about our lives:
God is our saviour and redeemer.
God is always with us. Thanks be to God!**

Hymn: MV 16 - "Confitemini Domino"

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia. X 2*

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND ACTION

Prayers of the People and all the World: Tim

Prayers shared from the Chat: Tim

Holy God, you hear our words; you hear our hearts. We are known and heard
deeply, graciously, constantly. Confident in this grace, we speak together the words
that Jesus taught us...

The Lord's Prayer [Spoken]

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Acknowledging Our Gifts for the Work of God: Bill

We bring our offerings for God's work among us in many ways:
cash and cheques mailed or dropped off;
Pre-Authorized Remittance and our online donations:
our time and our work, for God's work among us.

Doxology: VU 538 - "For the Gift of Creation"

*For the gift of creation, the gift of your love, and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.*

Prayer of Dedication: **Tim**

Jesus' followers offered him their branches, their cloaks, their praise.
They hailed him as saviour, as redeemer, as king.
Today we offer our money; our time; our praise.

Use them; use us.

Govern and lead us; redeem us; save us and all your Creation.

Amen.

Hymn: VU 126 - "Ride On, Ride On, the Time is Right"

*Ride on, ride on, the time is right: the roadside crowds scream with delight;
palm branches mark the pilgrim way where beggars squat and children play.*

*Ride on, ride on, your critics wait,
intrigue and rumour circulate; new lies abound in word and jest,
and truth becomes a suspect guest.*

*Ride on, ride on, while well aware that those who shout and wave and stare
are mortals who, with common breath, can crave for life and lust for death.*

*Ride on, ride on, though blind with tears,
though voiceless now and deaf to jeers.
Your path is clear, though few can tell their garments pave the road to hell.*

*Ride on, ride on, God's love demands.
Justice and peace lie in your hands.
Evil and angel voices rhyme: you are the man and this the time.*

Blessing and Sending Forth: **Tim**

Sung Response: MV 8 - "And on This Path"

*And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,*

Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

*So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,*

Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

Postlude

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