

Orinda Community Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church
of Christ Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

**Order of
Worship**
**Sunday, March
28, 2021 Palm
Sunday**

Reflection: *The ultimate function of prophecy is not to tell the future, but to make it.*
—Joel A. Barker

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Roger Samuelsen

One: We move toward you step by step.
All: **Through the excited crowds we call out to you!**
One: You are the one prophesied, but you are not what we expected.
All: **You ride only a borrowed donkey and your robe is so simple.**
One: You teach us the directness and simplicity of God. You show us God's love fulfilled.

HYMN BH 216

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Melchior Teschner, 1615

All glory, laud, and honor to you, O Christ, we sing,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
The people of the Hebrews with palms adorned your way;
our praise and prayer and anthems we offer you this day.

O Promised One of Israel, of David's royal line,
the one called "God's beloved," of flesh and yet divine,
To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

As you received their praises, receive our prayers today,
whose justice and whose mercy and sovereignty hold sway,
All glory, laud and honor to you, O Christ, we sing,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Roger Samuelsen

Great Mystery, you work through all circumstance and all mystery to bring us to you. Today we say "Hosanna!" as we accompany Jesus through jubilant crowds, yet know the crucifixion is coming. God, we ask to recognize your prophetic action behind, before us, and—always—within us. Knowing that the journey will sometimes be difficult, we still turn to you with joy. Hosanna!

WORD OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SOLO

Mantos y Ramos (Filled with Excitement)

Ruben Avila, 1972

Mantos y ramos esparciendo va
el pueblo alegre de Jeerusalén.
Aliá a lo lejos se vislumbra ya
en un pollino al Salvador Jesús.

Filled with excitement, all the happy throng
spread cloaks and branches on the city streets.
The in the distance they begin to see,
there on a donkey, come the Savior, Christ.

Mientras mil voces re suenan por doquier;
hosanna al que vien en el nombr de Dios.
Con un aliento de gran exclamación
prorrumpen con voz triunfal:
"Hosanna! Hosanna a Jesús!"

From every corner a thousand voices sing
praise to the One who comes in the name of God.
Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise:
our triumphant song of Joy:
"Hosanna to Christ!"

As in that entrance to Jerusalem,
hosannas we will sing to Jesus Christ,
To our Redeemer who still calls today,
asks to follow with our love and faith.

From every corner a thousand voices sing
praise to the One who comes in the name of God.
Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise:
our triumphant song of Joy:
"Hosanna to Christ!"

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Roger Samuelsen

John 12:12-16

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord-- the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Psalms 118:21-29

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, OFFERTORY INVITATION

SOLO

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

John B. Dykes, 1862

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
 O Christ, with brave humility,
 On lowly colt, your road pursue,
 As palms and cloaks are spread for you.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
 As crowd of people come to see
 And shout hosannas, lifting high
 their praise for one about to die.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
 Ride on in humble dignity;
 Behold the ones you came to save
 from senseless life and endless grave.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
 For you have set your people free
 And we, remembering all your pain,
 now meet again to hail your reign.

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, 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.
 Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

HYMN BH 358

*God of the Prophets*Old 124th, Geneva 1551

God of the prophets! Bless the prophets' sons;
 Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast;
 each age its solemn task may claim but once;
 make each one nobler, stronger than the last.

Anoint them prophets! Make their ears attend
 to thy divinest speech, their hearts awake
 to human need; their lips make eloquent
 to gird the right and every evil break.

Anoint them priests! Strong intercessors, Lord!
 Anoint them with the Spirit of thy Son;

theirs not a jeweled crown, a blood-stained sword;
theirs, by sweet love, for Christ a kingdom won.

Make them apostles! Heralds of thy cross.
Forth may they go to tell all realms thy grace;
inspired of thee, may they count all but loss,
and stand at last with joy before thy face.

BENEDICTION

