

The First Church in Albany (Reformed Church in America)

Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made known to us in Jesus Christ, we are called to be a welcoming and affirming community. The First Church in Albany includes young and old, families, couples and singles, rich and poor, persons of various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identities, differing physical and mental abilities, believers and seekers. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where we are loved.

Palm Sunday

April 10, 2022

Prelude

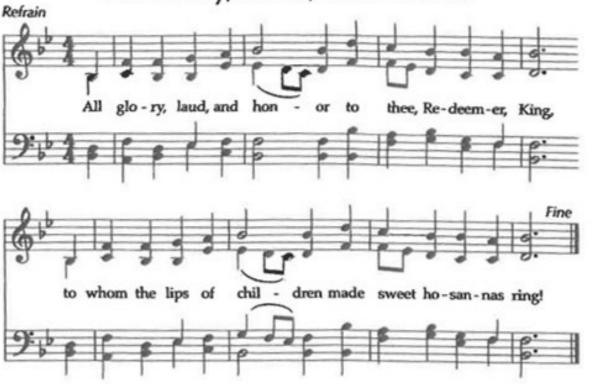
Intonation on "All Glory, Laud and Honor" Iteke Prins, organist

A.V. Fedak

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

Grace and peace to you, in the name of the Triune God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn All Glory, Laud, and Honor v. 1 & 3





Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! **People: Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**"

Leader: Hosanna!

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Let us worship the King of Kings with loud "Hosanna's" of praise!

*Opening Hymn Hosanna, Loud Hosanna lit - tle chil-dren sang; 1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na the 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ul - tant crowd, 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - esti" That an - cient song we sing, Fm through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang. vic - tory palm branch wav - ing, and chant-ing clear and loud. Christ is Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven, our King. our Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast, The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low-ly state, may we ev - er praise 0 him with heart and life and voice, ٨b Ep $D_{\tilde{p}}$ Fm E sus E descant st.3

For an alternate arrangement see 679. For music in a higher key see 726 Words: Jeanette Threlfall, 1873, P.D.

and

in

Music (ELLACOMBE 7.6.7.6 D): Gesangbuch der Herzogi, Hofkapelle, Würtemberg, 1784, P.D.

nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his

chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.

his bliss-ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly

bid - ding wait.

re - joice.

Prayer of Confession Based on a prayer from Rochester Christian Reformed Church, NY

O King of Glory, we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint. Our lives as citizens of your kingdom can be considered treasonous for we have surrendered to easy living, evil societal norms, and selfishness. This Holy Week, take up your throne in our hearts again. Send your Holy Spirit to teach us your humble way of peace — the way of the cross — and on Easter Sunday, instill in us the joy of your resurrection. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear this assurance of pardon from Psalm 118: "Let those who fear the Lord say, His steadfast love endures forever. 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! Live in this peace.



*Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a wave of a palm branch.

Children's Message & Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me. Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me!

First Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, "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. 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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Short Musical Interlude

Second Reading

Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 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. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 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, saying,

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

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

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, O Christ!**

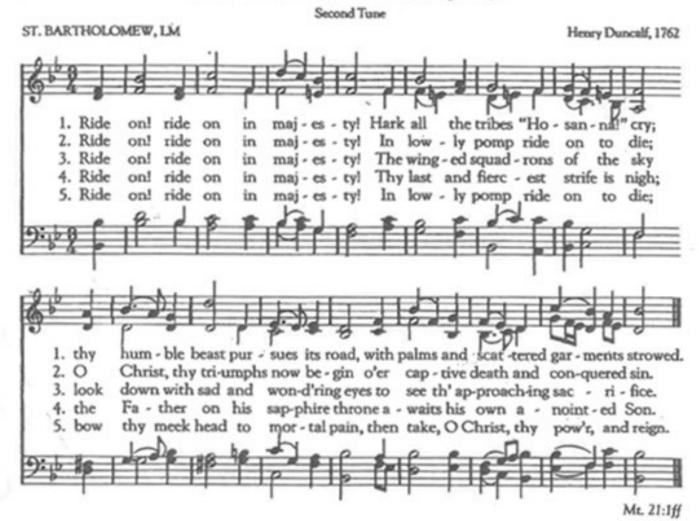
Sermon

Untie, for the Lord Needs It!

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

*Hymn of Response Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

v. 1,2, & 5



Offering & Offertory

As Christ Rode into the City

KINGS ENTRANCE 8336 D or 866 D



*Doxology #592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: O Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.



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



Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

*Charge & Benediction (from the Franciscan Billabong Community)

May God bless you with Discomfort... at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with Anger... at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, So that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with Tears...

to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war so that you may

reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness... to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.

Postlude

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Iteke Prins, organist

A.V. Fedak

After Service: Children are welcome to make bread with Becky Hudak.

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Liturgist: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Organist: Iteke Prins

Vocalist: Members of the First Church Choir

Technical Team: Joshua Bliss, and Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

First Church in Albany Prayer Requests

- Family and friends of Joann Bonefede, local cello player who has passed
- •Harold Bushnell
- •Cheri Jones
- •Kathleen and Glenn Claydon, as they support friends who are grieving
- •Frank Jeffries (son of Norma McClement)
- •Rev. Susan Vincent Cox for the passing of her mother Barbara
- Norma McClement
- Becky Gardner
- •Joan, friend of Karen Van Epps who was injured in a fire
- •Norma and Leo, neighbors of Audrey Ming
- •Ralph McNeil, brother of Norma Jean Ballou
- •Joe Vasta, friend of the Persons family
- Family of Nathaniel Marable
- •Mary Ann Selmer
- •For the family of Danielle as they mourn her passing, for her children (Melvin, Traekwon, Antonio, Julius, Brandon, and Christopher)
- •For Katherine's grandmother
- •Carol LaBatte

- •Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- •Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- •Peter, Karen Van Epps' brother
- Jeff Curry
- •Samuel, Barb Andrew's son
- •Brian, the Andrew's son-in-law
- •Haleigh Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- •Neil Keen
- •Fran Carr Morton
- •Harriet Stockhoff
- •Kathy Stallmer (Monthie family)
- •Cheryl Gowie
- •Steve Hoffman
- •Ada Harris
- •Gwen, friend of Becky Gardner
- •Charles Welge
- Olivia Gaydushek
- •Staff and leaders of the First Church in Albany
- •Prayers for the people and leaders of Ukraine. For the countries accepting those fleeing the violence. For thoughtful and productive resolution immediately.

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your concerns and joys with us. Call the office at 518-463-4449 or email office@firstchurchinalbany.org



First Church in Albany

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