

## **SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Jesus Christ Superstar  
I Don't Know How to Love Him (*A.L. Webber/T. Rice*)  
Margaret Heney/David Pilkey/Steve Falk

### ***WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP***

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

*Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters*

\* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN & PALM PARADE**  
Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (*pg. 7*)

### ***CALL TO WORSHIP***

This is the day for Hosannas!

**Hosanna!**

This is the day to wave our palms and shout—

**Hosanna!**

Today our senses are heightened.

**Hosanna!**

Today we worship in the fullness of God's love.

**Hosanna!**

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

**Hosanna and hosanna!**

**INTROIT** He Came Riding on a Donkey  
(*G. Light, arr. N. Thompson*)

**LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY** Janice Nolan

We have gathered here, week after week, sharing a common quest for a deeper faith and a deeper experience of the divine. As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the broken places in our world where

people struggle every day to find meaning and purpose for their lives.

(*Sixth candle is extinguished.*)

*Let us pray...*

**Loving God, there are so many choices before us every day—choices offered by our friends, our families, our culture, our own past. Some of them encourage the well-being of the earth, ourselves and our neighbours; others are destructive. Help us to distinguish between them. May we learn from the choices of Jesus and embody compassion, justice and inclusion in all we say and do. Amen.**

**SUNG RESPONSE** Don't Be Afraid (*Bell/Maule*) *MV 90*

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger.**

**My love is stronger than your fear.**

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger**

**and I have promised, promised to be always near.**

## **FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 118 Parts 1, 3 & 4  
(Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.) (*pg. 7-8*)  
Pat Innes

**ANTHEM** Branches of Palm (*Craig Cassils*)

**GOSPEL** Matthew 21:1-11 *p.23 Pew Bible NT*  
(Jesus enters Jerusalem.)

*Come to the quiet...a time for reflection*

**SERMON** Hosanna!

\***HYMN** Eat This Bread and Never Hunger (*pg.8*)

## **SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

\* **THE NEW CREED** *p.918 Voices United*

\* **THE PEACE**

### ***OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD***

**OFFERTORY** Ride On, Ride On in Majesty! (*arr.J. Raney*)  
Bellissimo Handbell Ensemble

\***DEDICATION** Take, O Take Me as I Am (*Bell/Maule*)  
*MV 85* **Take, O take me as I am;**  
**summon out what I shall be;**  
**set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**  
(*sing twice*)

**OFFERTORY PRAYER  
PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** (*on insert*)

\***HYMN** All Glory, Laud and Honour (*pg. 8*)

\* **COMMISSIONING**

And now, with the shadow of the cross before us,  
**and the memory of this meal behind us;**  
in the presence of God—  
**Let us leave this time and place  
to journey with Christ and one another  
into this Holy Week.**

**\*SUNG BLESSING** May the Love of the Lord (MV 218)  
May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.  
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.  
May God's countenance shine upon you  
and be gracious to you. May God's Spirit  
be upon you as you leave this place.

**POSTLUDE** Jesus Christ Superstar  
Simon Zealotes (Andrew L. Webber/T. Rice)  
David Pilkey/Steve Falk

\*\*\*\*\*



Walk the final steps of the Lenten Journey

Good Friday—Trinity Chapel 11am  
Easter Sunday—Trinity Sanctuary 11am

**Your Generosity Increases Food Security**  
Merit needs her children not just to survive but also to thrive.

When did you first become aware of climate change? When did you first feel its effects?  
In Canada, we have always experienced wildfires and droughts, hurricanes and winter storms. But “once-in-a-lifetime” disasters are happening with far greater frequency than ever before. Fortunately, to date, we have had the resources to cope with the effects of weather's worst.  
Many others around the world face different challenges. In Zambia, Merit Mabenga has felt the deep impacts of climate change. Droughts are killing her crops. Wells are drying up, forcing her to walk farther and farther to fetch clean, safe drinking water. Necessities are scarce, and prices are soaring far beyond Merit's modest reach because of climate change.  
The impacts of climate change can feel overwhelming. But as always, the Bible shares its wisdom. 1 Corinthians 12:25–26 reminds us that “there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it” (NIV).  
Thanks to donors like you, Merit has planted a diverse selection of vegetables and now harvests three times a year. This means increased food security for her family and greater ability to access education. In fact, Merit has earned enough to send her son to college. Her children are her future; Merit needs them not just to survive but also to thrive!  
Your gifts to [Mission & Service](#) go directly toward our programs and partners around the world. Every dollar you give makes a difference because it helps someone who needs it.

Thank you for your generosity.



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Church Office 905-727-1935  
[www.auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)

## AURORA UNITED CHURCH

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar  
Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney



**PALM SUNDAY**  
**April 2, 2023**  
**11:00 AM**

*'Hosanna! Blessed is the One who  
comes in the name of the Lord!'*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN & PALM PARADE** *(from pg. 2)*

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna the happy children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang; to Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victory palm branch waving, and singing clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, content that little children should on his bidding wait.

'Hosanna in the highest!' That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; earth, let your anthems ring. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his humble presence eternally rejoice!

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 118 Parts 1,3 &4 *(from pg .3)*

**R Hallelujah! Hallelujah**

Part One (1-4):

Let Israel now say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

Let the house of Aaron say:

**“God’s love endures for ever”**

Let those who fear God say:

**“God’s love endures for ever” R**

Part Three (19-24):

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

**This is the gate of God; through it the righteous shall enter.**

I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

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

This is God’s doing, marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! R**

Part Four (25-29):

Save us, O God, we pray;

**God, we pray, give us success.**

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

**We bless you from the house of God.**

God, our God, has given us light;

**with palm branches in hand let us march to the altar.**

You are my God, and I will thank you;

**you are my God, and I will extol you. R**

***HYMN 471*** Eat This Bread and Never Hunger *(pg. 4)*

**Eat this bread and never hunger,**

**drink this cup and never thirst;**

**Christ invites us to the table**

**where the last become the first.**

Asking for a cup of water, Jesus touched forbidden ground; and the woman, with a question, told the world what she had found. **R**

Walking down a desert highway, Jesus healed a man born blind; soon the man became a witness to the truth we seek and find. **R**

Weeping for his friend at graveside, Jesus felt the pain of death; yet he knew God's power to waken: living water, living breath. **R**

***HYMN 122*** All Glory, Laud and Honour *(pg. 4)*

**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. **R**

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went; our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. **R**

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. **R**

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king. **R**