



Redeemer Presbyterian Church West Side

April 5, 2020 | Palm Sunday

Reflection

“To crave and to have are as like as a thing and its shadow. For when does a berry break upon the tongue as sweetly as when one longs to taste it, and when is the taste refracted into so many hues and savors of ripeness and earth, and when do our senses know any thing so utterly as when we lack it? And here again is a foreshadowing -- the world will be made whole.”

— Marilynne Robinson, *Housekeeping*

Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

— Jesus of Nazareth

Prelude — *Sarabande from Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007* — J. S. Bach — Nathan Vickery, cello

Call to Worship — *Matthew 21:1-10*

¹ As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

“Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”
“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

Hymn — *O Worship the King*

O worship the King, all-glorious above
And gratefully sing his pow’r and his love
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days
Pavillioned in splendor and girded with praise

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail
In you do we trust, nor find thee to fail
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend

Prayer of Confession (to be prayed in unison)

All: O Lord, we want to enter your presence, worshipping you face-to-face, awed by your majesty, greatness, and glory, yet encouraged by your love. But there is coldness in our hearts, hardness toward you, and unwillingness to admit our sin and need for you. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake. Come near and strengthen us until Christ reigns supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed. Give us a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to you, and always clings to the cross. Amen.

Confessional Response — *How Deep the Father’s Love for Us*

How deep the Father’s love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure

How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold a Man upon the cross
My sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin who held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished



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I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from his reward?
I can not give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Why should I gain from his reward?
I can not give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom
His wounds have paid my ransom

Prayer of Lament (Concluded with the Lord's 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 and
ever. Amen.

Pastoral Updates

Scripture Reading — Luke 6:17-23 (NIV)

¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place. A
large crowd of his disciples was there and a great
number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem,
and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon,
¹⁸ who had come to hear him and to be healed of their
diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured,
¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power
was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who
are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ Blessed are
you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed
are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² Blessed are
you when people hate you, when they exclude you and
insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the
Son of Man. ²³ "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy,
because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how
their ancestors treated the prophets

Homily — *Hunger* by Rev. David Bisgrove

Closing Song — *Jesus, thy Boundless Love to Me*
Jesus, thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare
O knit my thankful heart to thee
And reign without a rival there
Thine wholly, thine alone, I am
Be thou alone my constant flame

O grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell but thy pure love alone
O may thy love possess me whole
My joy, my treasure, and my crown
All coldness from my heart remove
May ev'ry thought and act be love

O Love, how gracious is thy way
All fear before thy presence flies
Anguish and sorrow melt away
Where'er thy healing beams arise
O Jesus, nothing may I see
Nothing desire or seek but thee

Benediction

Postlude — *Prelude from Suite No. 6 in D Major, BWV
1012* — J. S. Bach — Nathan Vickery, cello

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