



Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday



The Service of the Lord's Day

Order of Worship

**Please stand if you are able.
Congregation to recite bolded passages.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

PRELUDE

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” by Humphrey Turner Valerie Adelung

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace McDowell

The people gathered in the streets.

They laid their cloaks and waved their palms.

“Hosanna,” they cried.

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

But Jesus came not only to receive praise—

He came to turn over the tables.

Let us worship the One who disrupts false peace and brings true justice.

Hosanna in the highest!

*HYMN # 196

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

At the table, Jesus saw more than what was polished and presentable—he saw the cracks, the wear, the brokenness, and he welcomed it. Come, bring what is fractured, what is failing, what is unfinished. God does not discard what is shattered—God redeems it.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

Merciful God,

**We confess that we are too often content to sit at tables of privilege,
content with systems that serve us,
even as they exclude others.**

**We are slow to question, slow to change,
and hesitant to overturn what is broken.**

Forgive us when we cling to comfort rather than seeking justice.

Turn over the tables in our hearts, O God.

**Gather the shattered pieces of our lives,
and make something beautiful.**

In the name of Jesus, the One who welcomes all, we pray. Amen.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jenn DiFrancesco

Hear this good news:

Jesus Christ turns over every barrier that separates us from God's love.

In him, what is shattered is gathered. What is broken is mended.

We are forgiven. We are set free. So let us live as those who have been transformed!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 447

“We Are Forgiven”

*We are forgiven, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God, thanks be to God.
We are forgiven, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God, thanks be to God.*

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Jenn DiFrancesco

Christ turns over fear and replaces it with peace.
May the Peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Grace McDowell

God of holy disruption, overturn what keeps us from hearing your Word. Clear space in our hearts for justice, truth, and grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:12-17

Grace McDowell

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, “It is written,

‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’
but you are making it a den of robbers.”

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard the children crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became angry and said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

‘Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise for yourself?’”

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Meditation” by Dan R. Edwards

Valerie Adelung

SERMON

Turning Over Tables: Disrupt

Jenn DiFrancesco

- What does Jesus’ disruption in the temple reveal about what truly belongs in a house of prayer?
- Where have we made space for commerce, performance, or exclusion in place of grace and healing?
- Who is welcomed and lifted up in the wake of Jesus’ disruption—and what might that mean for us?

*HYMN # 198

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jenn DiFrancesco

(from the Iona Community)

**We believe in the God of love,
who calls us to reject all idols
and who seeks a deep communion with us.**

**We believe in the God of creation,
who calls us into partnership
in shaping the future
in justice, peace, and joy.**

**We believe in the God who is not remote,
but who is immersed
in the life of this world,
sharing its hope
and feeling its pain.**

**We believe in the God who identifies
with the poor and the oppressed
and those who long for faith
and who calls us to stand with them.**

**We believe in the God revealed in Jesus
whose love is vulnerable,
whose heart is aching,
and whose covenant with all people
and creation is unshakeable.**

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Jenn DiFrancesco

**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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jenn DiFrancesco

Jesus disrupted the temple to make space for grace, healing, and prayer. May our offerings do the same—shifting power, restoring justice, and making holy room.

During this time of offering, you may place your gift in the plate as you leave this morning, or give in any of the other ways listed in your bulletin's announcement page.

OFFERTORY

“Victory Chant” by Joseph Vogels

Valerie Adelong

***DOXOLOGY #606** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Jenn DiFrancesco

Disrupting God, turn over the tables in our hearts. Use these gifts to challenge injustice, lift up the lowly, and bring your reign of peace. Amen.

***HYMN # 200**

“A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd”

***BENEDICTION**

Jenn DiFrancesco

Go now, for God is still creating,
turning what is broken into something new.

Go, for Christ is still redeeming,
flipping the tables of injustice and making space for grace.

Go, for the Spirit is still moving,
breathing life into us and stirring us to act.

And may the blessing of God, who made us,
Christ, who calls us,
and the Spirit, who sends us forth,
be with you now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“The Gates of Jerusalem” by David Paxton

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Grace McDowell

Thank you to our ushers: Dave Binkley, Betty Crovo

HAVENWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, Supply Pastor

The Rev. Cathy Bashore, Parish Associate

Susan Riegger, Preschool Director

Valerie Adelung, Music Director

Jake Miller, Worship Technology Coordinator

Julia Wells, Administrator

Lloyd Martin, Facilities Manager

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Judi Forrester – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

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All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra-cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! 198

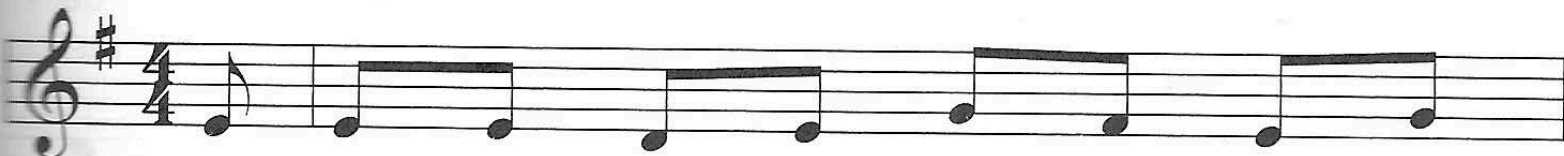
1 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the
 2 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
 4 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly

tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur -
 pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and
 pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to

sues its road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
 now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 won - dering eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 mor - tal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

This 19th-century Palm Sunday text is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century.

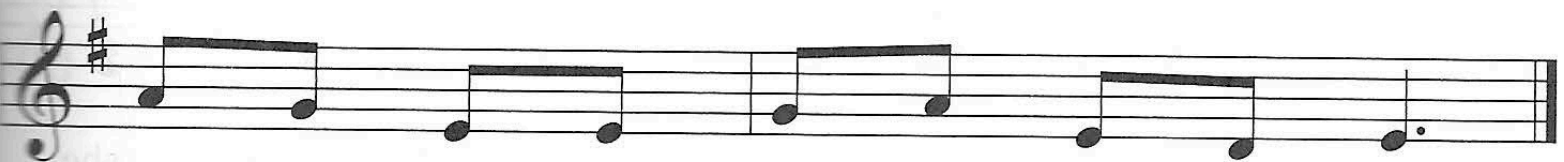
A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd 200



1 A cheer - ing, chant - ing, diz - zy crowd had
2 They laid their gar - ments in the road and
3 When day dimmed down to deep - ening dark the
4 Lest we be fooled be - cause our hearts have
5 In - stead of palms, a wind - ing sheet will



stripped the green trees bare, and hail - ing Christ as
spread his path with palms and vows of last - ing
crowd be - gan to fade till on - ly tram - pled
surged with pass - ing praise, re - mind us, God, as
have to be un - rolled, a car - pet much more



king a - loud, waved branch - es in the air.
love be - stowed with roy - al hymns and psalms.
leaves and bark were left from the pa - rade.
this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.
fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

This Palm Sunday hymn recreates the contrasting sounds of Holy Week, moving from the noisy public acclaim of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the solitary silence of his body being prepared for burial. It gently reminds us that self-giving is the mark of Christ's true sovereignty.