



Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday #1, Evans Yegon

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

“Palm Sunday Processional”
by Gene Clarke

Valerie & Tristan Adelung

INTROIT

“Hosanna!” by Dennis Eliot

Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

John Snead

We wonder what God will say to us today.

Speak, Lord, Your servants are listening.

We wonder what parts of our lives need re-ordering.

Shape us by Your Word, not by our habits.

We wonder what hope asks of us.

Teach us to walk in love, even when the way is hard.

We wonder how to keep going when trouble comes.

Root us in Christ, and keep us steady.

Let us worship God.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN # 196

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

John Snead

Friends, Lent invites us to return. Not to perform, not to prove, not to clean ourselves up first. We come as we are, trusting that God's mercy meets us before we have the right words. So let us confess our sin and tell the truth in God's presence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Snead

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have relied on our own understanding and turned from Your ways.

This week, we confess: we've been looking for hope that doesn't ask too much of us, comfort that doesn't require any courage. We've looked away from things we should have leaned into, and let fear, hurt, and self-protection keep us from loving the way we're called to. Forgive us and cultivate within us a hope that speaks the truth and remains steadfast.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John Snead

Hear the good news: God does not turn away from those who return. In Jesus Christ, mercy comes first, and grace holds. This week we remember: Jesus does not hide the truth about trouble. He gives a hope deeper than denial, steadier than fear, and stronger than the darkness.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and we are being made new. Thanks be to God.

*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen.*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jenn DiFrancesco

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Snead

God of Light and Truth, as we open Your Word, open us. Quiet the noise that keeps us from hearing. Re-order what is tangled in us. Give us courage to receive what challenges us, and freedom to live what You show us. By Your Spirit, make Christ clear to us in these scriptures so that our lives might look more like His. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

John 16:16–33

John Snead

“A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.” Then some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying to us, ‘A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me,’ and ‘because I am going to the Father’?” They said, “What does he mean by this ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, ‘A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures but will tell you plainly of the Father. On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf, for the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.”

His disciples said, “Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! Now we know that you know all things and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.” Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution, but take courage: I have conquered the world!”

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Victory Chant” by Joseph Vogels

Valerie Adelong
Olivia Carlton
Rebecca Petersen
Andrew Koch

SCRIPTURE

1 John 2:7–11, 15–17

Jenn DiFrancesco

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Whoever says, “I am in the light,” while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves a brother or sister abides in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates a brother or sister is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world, for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God abide forever.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

I Wonder What Hope Asks of Us

Jenn DiFrancesco

*HYMN # 198

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jenn DiFrancesco

After "God, in Your mercy," the congregation responds, "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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jenn DiFrancesco

We give today not because life is easy, but because hope in Christ teaches us how to live differently, inspiring us to support one another and contribute to the greater good of our community and the world.

During this time of offering, we can share our financial gifts by placing them in the offering plates at the end of worship or giving online.

OFFERTORY

"He Never Said a Mumblin' Word"

Chancel Choir

by Hal Hopson

Lyrics can be found in the hymnal, #219

*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 heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jenn DiFrancesco

Generous God, receive these gifts and receive our lives. Use them to bear witness to a hope that does not turn away from trouble, a love that does not give up, and a light that still shines in the darkness. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

*HYMN # 197

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*BENEDICTION

Jenn DiFrancesco

POSTLUDE

“Mighty are Thy Works, O Lord”
by Gary Davidson

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: John Snead

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

SESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano – Clerk of Session

Joyce Beall – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

Samuel Gatua Muiruri – Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Support

DEACONS

Susan Bond

Elaine DePoy

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Jane Shaffer

Judy Yeager



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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.

197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To 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,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.