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Our Mission as a congregation: *Love the Lord Your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy and love your neighbour as yourself. (Mark 12:19-21 MSG)*

March 24, 2024- Palm Sunday

GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude *Ride On, Ride On, the Time is Right* Aaron Bannerman

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: (97 MV Listen, God is Calling)

*(Listen) Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy*

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Call to Worship (responsive- from Zechariah 9:9-10)

The prophet tells us to watch-

Behold, your king is coming to you in righteousness and salvation.

The promised one shall come among us without pride or arrogance

humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

The Messiah will transform our world.

The king shall speak peace to the nations; and rule from sea to sea.

Prayer of Approach (together)

God of salvation and hope, let our voices join with the followers who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem that we might receive your promise into our lives. Help us to see and know your salvation not merely for our lives but also for our world, Amen.

Hymn: 122 VU *All Glory, Laud, and Honour*

Children's Story and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: 123 VU *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 118:19-29 (parts 3 and 4 p. 837 VU)

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Charlotte Adams

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Bill Marshall

Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

Anthem: *Come Sing Hosanna* (Henry Purcell) Choir with Aaron Bannerman

Sermon: "Hosanna"

GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Minute for Mission

Shaun Scott

Offertory Sentence and Prayer

Offertory Response (104 MV Know that God is Good)

Know that God is good, know that God is good,

know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

C'est vrai: Dieu est bon! C'est vrai: Dieu est bon!

C'est vrai: Dieu est bon! Dieu est bon! Dieu est bon!

Prayers of the People

Hymn: 460 VU *All Who Hunger*

Celebration of Holy Communion (see insert)

Hymn: 127 VU *Ride On! Ride On! In Majesty!*

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Benediction (213 MV Take Up his Song of Peace)

Take up his song of love and go into the world.

Take up his song of love in every moment.

In every moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;

lay them down, in love, lay them down, and take up his song.

Postlude

A warm welcome to everyone who is joining us for worship. May this time help you draw to closer to God and your neighbour. We recognize that we gather in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People, and we seek to be good neighbours to the First Nations.

Greeting at the door is Matt, Beth, Josie, and Ross Schumacher

Coffee Hosts are Barb Smith and Judi MacPherson

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9 • 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 • Mark 16:1-8

Palm Sunday

It is relatively easy for us
to roster someone
to go and gather palm leaves
to spread in the church today.

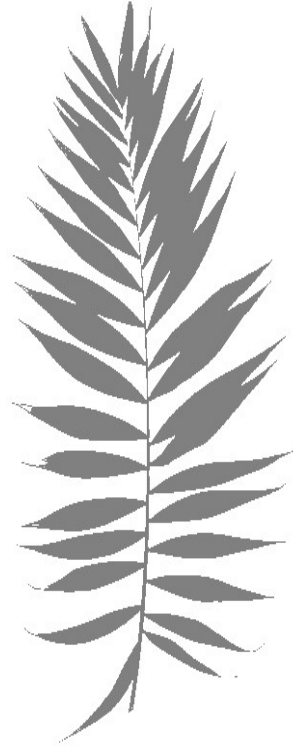
And we can easily find music
and a few good words
to help us to remember
and re-enact Palm Sunday.

But what if You arrived
inviting us to really lay down
something important to us
to acknowledge Your arrival?

What if we knew the imminence
of the danger that accompanies You,
or sensed that the authorities
were watching us as we worship?

How then, Jesus, would we meet You
today.
and what would we spread before You?
And how would we regard humility
from the One we hope will save the
world?

Palm Sunday Jesus, help us to see
how and where You enter our world today,
and what You ask us to lay at your feet,
and how we may welcome You in. Amen.



~ written by Ann Siddall and posted on the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre website.

<https://stillpointsa.org.au/>

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

Sunday, March 24

10:30 am We shout our Hosanna's as Jesus enters Jerusalem and we consider the events which follow as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

11:30 am Sign up in the hall for an appointment to have your pictures taken in April for our photo directory

Tuesday, March 26

10:00 am Hot Meal Program

3:00 pm Meditation Group in Meeting Room. For more information, call Fran @ 902- 863-3546

Thursday, March 28

10:00 am Hot Meal Program

7:00 pm Senior Choir. New Members welcome!

7:00 pm Come gather around the Table in the hall as together we break bread and share the cup to remember the events in the Upper Room.

Friday, March 29

10:30 am As disciples of Jesus, we experience through story and song the emotions, events, and meaning of the crucifixion.

Sunday, March 31

6:30 am As the sun rises, our voices and prayers blend to give thanks for the Resurrection. A pancake breakfast will follow back in the church hall.

10:30 am We celebrate the resurrection with our Easter Sunday service filled with the music and readings of the day.

Pass on Beauty is the theme of the Maritime UCW conference taking place at St James, April 26-28, 2024. There will be guest speakers including Rev. Janice MacLean, author and curator of the Prayer Bench website. Catered meals will allow you to rest and enjoy the weekend. You do not need to be a member of the UCW, all women are welcome. Applications available from Christine Briand and **application deadline is March 26.** Christine@betterbodiesbymassage.ca or 902 714- 9463.

Celebration of Holy Communion on
Palm Sunday

St. James United Church, March 24, 2024

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

We thank and praise you, God of love, for you desire us to know you. You made a solemn covenant binding yourself to the descendants of Abraham and Sarah. You renewed that vow through the commandments and law.

You give us the law and commandments so we might live as your people.

We thank and praise you, God of grace, for in every generation you are faithful. When your people were enslaved in Egypt, you sent your prophet Moses to lead them to freedom. When the disciples were uncertain and afraid, you sent your Holy Spirit to inspire and direct them.

You break into our lives with light and hope when our world is at its darkest.

We do thank and praise you, God of mercy, for you do not forsake those who turn away from you. Instead you call through prophets for the people to turn back and know your love. Instead you send men and women of faith to lead and teach your people.

You call us to follow and know the truth of your Word instead of abandoning us to sinful ways.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!*

As a church of Jesus Christ we have come to this table to remember and celebrate your eternal love, mercy, and grace. For this is the table where Jesus took bread, broke it, and gave it to his followers saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Each time you do this, remember me."

With this bread we remember Jesus broken on the cross.

The bread is your promise to take our brokenness and make it whole by your love and through your grace.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We also come before this table to share from the cup. For this is where Jesus took the cup saying, "This is the new covenant God has made with you in my blood. Each time you do this and drink from this cup, remember me."

With this cup we remember the blood of Jesus shed for us.

With this cup we celebrate the salvation and eternal life you give us through Christ.

This cup is your covenant with us. The promise of forgiveness, mercy, and eternal life, not because of our worthiness but because of your love.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and cup that for us they may become the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Allow us to experience again the truth of your word and the power of your covenant sealed by the cross and resurrection. For we ask this in name of Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen. Amen. Amen*

Sharing of Bread and Cup
Prayer after Communion (together)

Gracious God, for the bread of life and for the cup of salvation we thank you. Allow us to go forth from this table and live as your holy people, trusting in the power of your Holy Spirit and walking in the way of Jesus Christ, Amen.

This prayer is from *All Things are Ready* by Peter Andrew Smith © 2007 CSS Publishing. Used by Permission.

UPCOMING AT ST. JAMES

Sunday, April 7

11:30 am

There will be a meeting of the Social Justice Committee after the service This will be to discuss our mandate and plan for our annual Earth Day Celebration. The meeting is open to all current members and anyone else interested in social justice issues. Please feel free to join us!

11:40 am

The Youth Choir, under the direction of Carolyn Curry, will participate in service on Sunday, May 5. Practices will be held on Sundays from 11:40 AM to 12:30 PM from April 7th to 28th. All community youth age 9 and up are welcome to attend. Please see Claire MacDonell or Carolyn for more information.

We're having our pictures taken! This spring the congregation is having Universal Portrait Studies come from Tuesday April 16- Saturday April 20 to take pictures in our congregation. Sign up during Coffee Hour after today's service.

Do you know about the **UN's SDGs or Sustainable Development Goals?** Sustainable development calls for the world to join together in its efforts to build an inclusive, just, sustainable and resilient future for all peoples and all creation. Perhaps you deal with these at work? Or perhaps you really have no idea what they are? Please see this week's bulletin insert for more information. Brought to you by your Social Justice Committee.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Equinox Wander with Wind from the Sea Wild Church: Saturday, March 30 @ 2:00 PM Bethany Garden. For more information: rector3harbours@gmail.com or on Facebook: Wind from the Sea.