

## **Peacham Congregational Church**

56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862

802-592-3330



Palm Sunday, from Art in the Christian Tradition (I)

**Interim Pastor, Nicole Klosterman**

We are an Open and Affirming Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.

[www.peachamchurch.org](http://www.peachamchurch.org)

**Order of Worship**  
**March 29, 2026**

Centering Thought

“And though our roots belong to the same tree, our branches have grown in different directions.” —  
Suzy Kassem

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Where Rainbows Bloom” E.L. Bainton (1923)

Responsive Call to Worship <sup>(2)</sup>

Leader: Into the belly of the beast, on the back of a beast of burden...  
This is not a parade of the powerful, nor an extravaganza for Empire.

**Assembly: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Resistance.  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Leader: Into occupied streets, onto stolen land...  
This is not a marvel of military might, nor a crusade of cruelty.

**Assembly: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Refuge.  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Leader: Into histories of harm, surrounded by lineages of liberation...  
This parade does not give in to giants and is not complicit through conformity.

**Assembly: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Solidarity.  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Leader: May our worship this day prepare the way for the Prince of Peace, cut branches for  
the King of Compassion, line the path for the Lord of Liberation, soften the road for the  
Sovereign of Solidarity.

**Assembly: May our worship this day prepare us  
for where this way will lead.**

Opening Hymn #43: “Christians, Lift Up Your Hearts”

Responsive Invocation <sup>(3)</sup>

Lay it down, here, now, whatever covers your vulnerability cloaks your openness.  
**Let it become part of the way of courage.**

Lay it down, here, now, whatever shades your brilliance branches over your belovedness.  
**Let it become part of the way of grace.**

Spread the cloaks. Cut the branches. Line this road, this journey, this way with your cries for  
freedom

**until all our hearts and voices move toward, “Hosanna.”**

Hymn #192: “My Song is Love Unknown” (vs. 1-3)

## Passing of the Peace

Leader: Jesus said to his disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." And so I say to you, the Peace of Jesus Christ be with all of you.

**Congregation: And also, with you.**

Leader: Now share the Peace of Christ with one another.

Joys and Concerns followed by Time of Silence

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Response

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.  
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.***

Anthem: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Offering & Mission

Doxology #50: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Christ, all people here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen***

Unison Prayer of Dedication (4)

**With our offerings we say, "thank you" and practice a new economy.  
With our practices we say, "yes, God," and resist Empire's hold.  
With our resistance we say, "Hosanna," and bless all the ones, who journey in the ways of  
courage and grace. Amen.**

Hymn #192: "My Song is Love Unknown" (vs. 4-5)

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 21:1-11

Message: "Love Unknown"

Closing Hymn #180: "A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd"

Responsive Benediction (5)

Hosanna!

**Blessed are the ones who cut branches to honor the power of Love moving among us.**

Hosanna!

**Blessed are the ones who go forth in the name of abundant life.**

Hosanna!

**Blessed are the ones who choose the path of learning and unlearning, doing and undoing.**

Hosanna!

**Blessed are the ones who journey toward liberation together.**

Response #345: "God Be with You Til We Meet Again" (vs. 1)

Postlude: "Theme and Variations" F.J. Naderman (1781-1835)

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(1) Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Palm Sunday, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59179> [retrieved March 25, 2026]. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, [http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main\\_page.htm](http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm).

(2) Cut Branches: Service Prayers for Palm Sunday Year A was written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema who serves as a free-range facilitator, ritualist, activist, teacher, and writer whose work lives at the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, disability, and embodied spiritual practices. She is a founding member of the Liberating Lineages Collective.

(3) Written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema

(4) Written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema

(5) Written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema

## Announcements

March 29, 2026

Our 1st quarter mission is Hunger Free Vermont, a statewide organization dedicated to ending hunger and malnutrition for all Vermonters. The organization lobbies policymakers; expands school meals programs; engages local communities in addressing food insecurity among their neighbors; and trains and educates people about food insecurity and how to spot it and help. If you would like to donate, please indicate so on your check in the memo line.

The Peacham Congregational Church collects food for the Danville Food Shelf every Sunday morning from 9-11 a.m. Food is collected in a basket at the back of the Sanctuary. Until Easter Sunday, April 5, this will be the only place to bring food donations. Starting April 5, when danger of freezing is past, donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the green bins on the covered walkway outside the kitchen door. Please note that the Food Shelf cannot use food that is beyond the expiration date or that has been opened.

The Danville Open Door Food Shelf is asking for the following weekly rotation of donations:

- 1st Sunday - Bread
- 2nd Sunday - Butter
- 3rd Sunday - Cheese (8oz. blocks)
- 4th Sunday - Eggs
- [5th Sunday - Cheese]

Upcoming Schedule:

April 5 - Jay Sprout (Easter with Communion)

### Information about Peacham Congregational Church

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Join us online at [peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday](https://peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday)

Interim Pastor.....Nicole Klosterman, (802) 227-4956

Email: [peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com](mailto:peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com)

Please contact Nicole to schedule a visit or call

Mon: availability varies      Tues: 11 am - 2:30 pm

Thurs: availability varies      Fri: 9-11 am

Schedule a pastoral care visit with Nicole by visiting: [calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min](https://calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min)

For general inquiries, email [peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com](mailto:peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com)

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner

Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott

Collector.....Ann Goss

Accompanist .....Bruce Westcott

Sexton.....Jeff Lane

Web Ministry.....Jonathan R. Potter

Church Council President & Moderator .....John Marshall

Deacons: Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy,  
Patty Gardner, Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus

## Christians, Lift Up Your Hearts

## Refrain

Chris-tians, lift up your hearts, and make this a day of re-joic - ing;

## Fine

God is our strength and song: glo - ry and praise let us sing!

1. This is the house of our God, where seek-ers and find-ers are wel-come;  
 3. Here God's life-giv-ing word once more is pro-claimed to the peo-ple,  
 5. Sum-moned by Christ's com-mand, dis-ci-ples draw near to his ta-ble,

Stanzas 1-4 are for general use; add stanzas 5, 6 for communion services.

WORDS: John E. Bowers, 1980, 1982, alt. by permission  
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

SALVE FESTA DIES  
 Irr.

English Canon Bowers wrote this text for *Rejoice in the Lord*,  
 the 1985 hymnal of the Reformed Church in America.

Words © 1980 John E. Bowers

*to refrain*

en - ter its gates with your praise, fill all its courts with your song:  
up - lift - ing those who are down, chal - leng - ing all with its truth.  
glad - ly to greet their Lord, known in the break - ing of bread.

2. All those bap - tized in - to Christ share the glo - ry of his res - ur - rec - tion,  
4. Those who are bur - dened with sin find here the joy of for - give - ness,  
6. Strong and a - lert in full grace, God's peo - ple are one in their wor - ship;

*to refrain*

dy - ing with him un - to sin, walk - ing in new - ness of life.  
lay - ing their sins be - fore Christ, par - don and peace their re - ward:  
kept by God's peace they de - part, rea - dy for serv - ing their Lord:

# My Song Is Love Unknown

192

1. My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,  
 2. God gave this bless - ed Son sal - va - tion to be - stow;  
 3. With palms they strew his way and sweet - est prais - es sang.  
 4. In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;  
 5. Here might I stay and sing, one song my heart out - pours:

love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.  
 but peo - ple scorned and none the longed - for Christ would know.  
 Ho - san - nas and glad psalms through streets and mar - kets rang.  
 in death no friend - ly tomb but what a strang - er gave.  
 nev - er was death's deep sting, nev - er was love like yours.

O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail  
 But, O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who at my need his  
 Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they  
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home; but mine the tomb where -  
 This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could

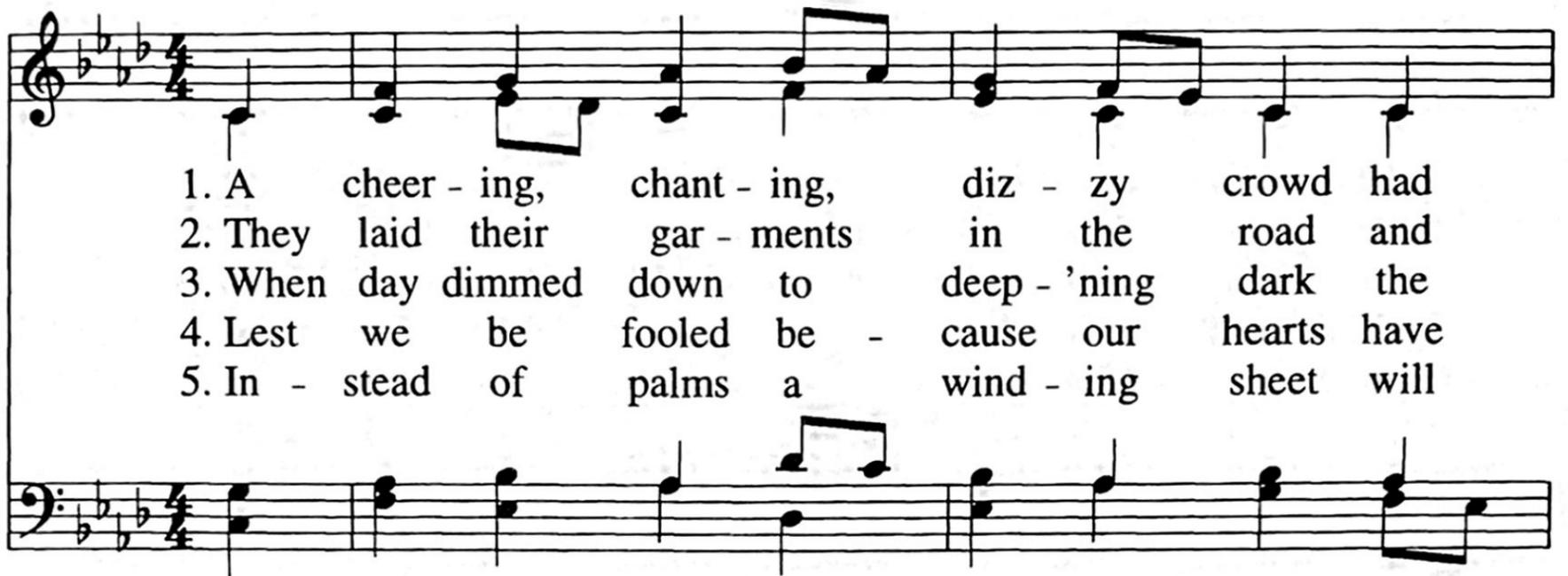
flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 life did spend; who at my need his life did spend.  
 thirst and cry; and for his death they thirst and cry.  
 in he lay, but mine the tomb where - in he lay.  
 glad - ly spend; I all my days could glad - ly spend.

WORDS: Samuel Crossman, 1664, alt.  
 MUSIC: John D. Edwards, c. 1840

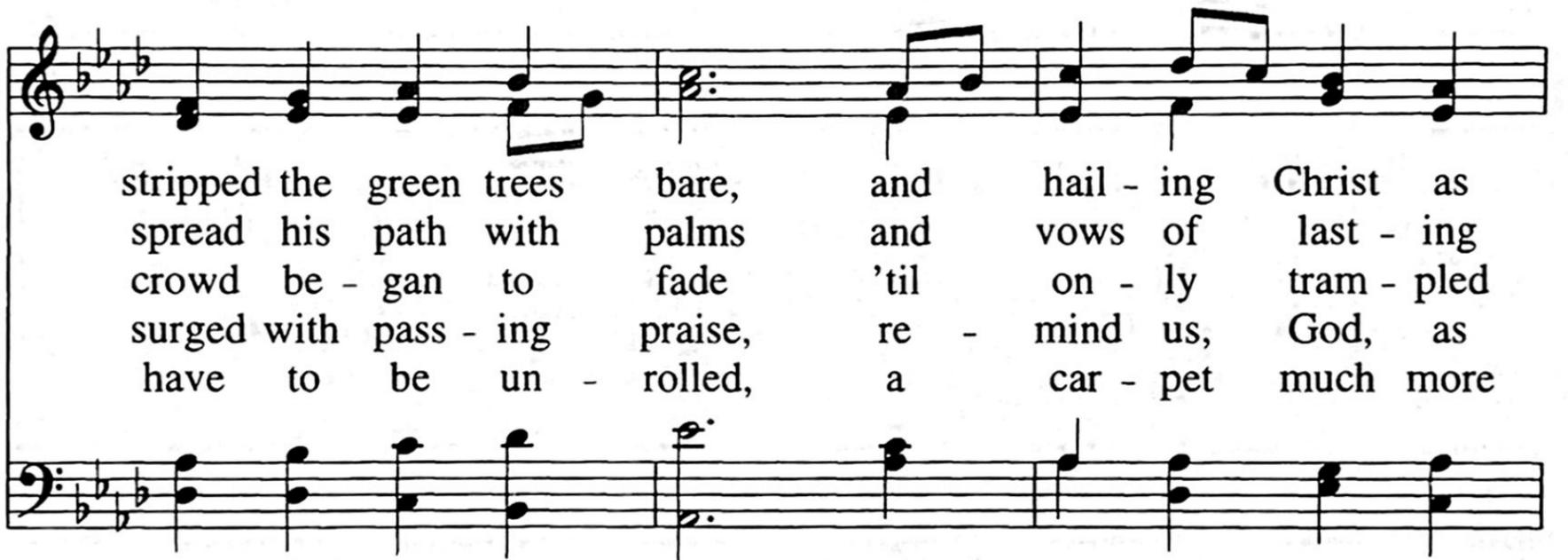
RHOSYMEDRE  
 66.66.88.8

Anglican Samuel Crossman was, for a time, a Puritan. Published in London in 1664, the year of the plague, this text shows Crossman, like Isaac Watts, going beyond scripture for inspiration.

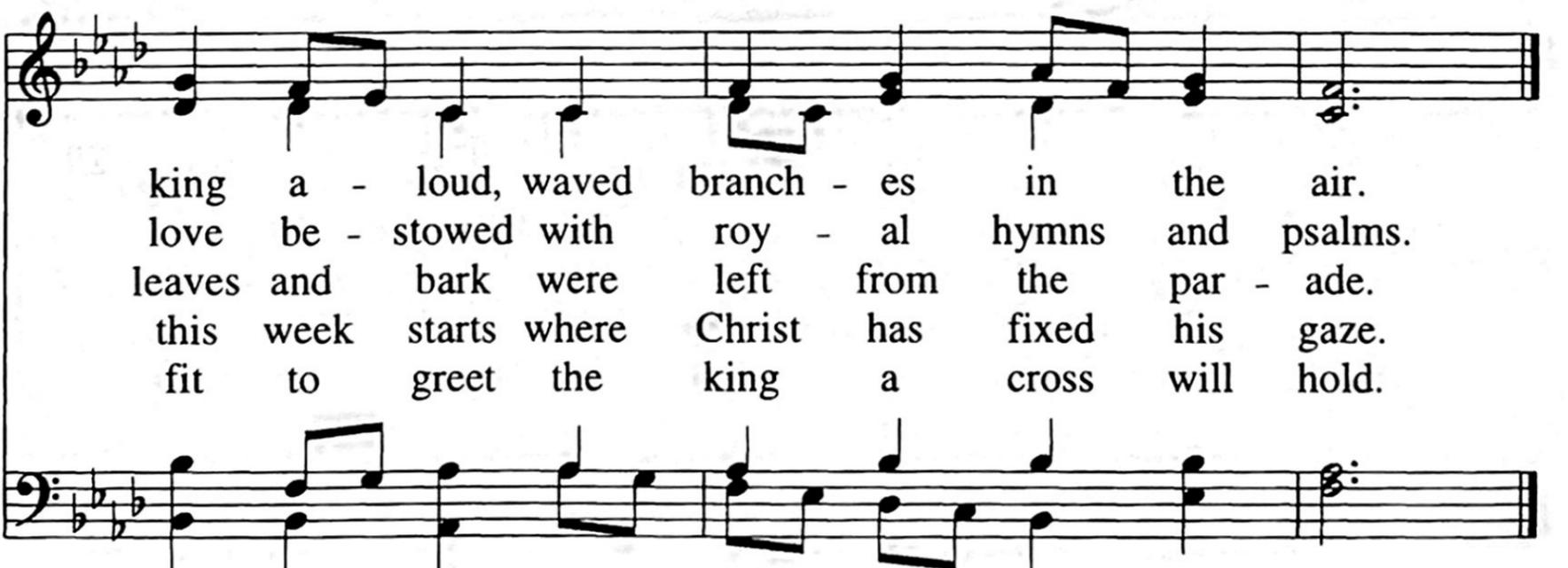
## A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd



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 - 'ning 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 'til 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 par - ade.  
 this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.  
 fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

WORDS: Thomas H. Troeger, 1985

MUSIC: John Logan's *Sixteen Tune Settings*, 1812; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, *The Hymnal*, 1940

MORNING SONG

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Troeger, a Presbyterian minister, is Professor of Preaching and Communication at Iliff School of Theology, Denver CO. He has written more than eighty hymns.

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 Harm. © 1985 Church Pension Fund