



*The United Church of Canada*  
Prairie Spirit Pastoral Charge  
Coaldale United and St. Andrew's UC  
Trinity and First United  
**Worship leader** Ruth Preston Schilk  
Reader: Barb Goertzen  
Music: Barb Goertzen

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

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**Announcements:**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

**Introit: VU 128**

**Sanna, Sannanina**

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**Call to Worship:** (inspired by Psalm 118:24-29)

This is the day that the LORD has made:

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

**We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Look! Our King is coming! Blessed is His name.

**Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!**

**for His love endures forever!**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Lenten Tenebrae:**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:1-11**

**21** When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." [a] 4 This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

5 "Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd[b] spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,  
“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” 11 The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

*One candle is lit, as well as the Christ candle.*

Crowds of people lined streets to welcome Jesus from Nazareth riding into town on a donkey.

**On the other side of Jerusalem, some others went to see a proper Roman military parade.**

They watched Pontius Pilate riding on a war horse accompanied by battle-hardened foot soldiers with their swords, shields, helmets, and war drums.

**They were the enemy. They were impressive and fearful.**

At Jesus’ parade, the people were shouting, “Hosanna, save us, we pray.”

**Save us from the tyranny of the Romans who rule over us.**

Save us, so that we may live in peace.

**Save us, so that we can live with our dignity.**

Save us, so that we can live as ones created in God’s image.

**We shout. We pray. And we wait.**

When will the day of God, the kingdom of God, come?

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

***All sing: (MV 90)***

***“Don’t be afraid”***

**Don’t be afraid**

**My love is stronger, my love is stronger than your fear**

**Don’t be afraid,**

**My love is stronger, and I have promised,**

**Promised to be always near.**

Let us pray.

**O God, who rules over the universe, please do not let the fools of this world destroy your world. Do not let them gloat over you and us. Do not let them have the last say or the last laugh. May your will be done. May justice and peace prevail. May we truly know that we live and move and have our being in you and through you. So we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Hymn: VU 124**

**He Came Riding on a Donkey**

**Time for the Young and Young at Heart**

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

4 The Lord God has given me a trained tongue,  
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens, wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward.

6 I gave my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

7 The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

9 It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

**Who Will See the King? – A Series of Palm Sunday Monologues**

**Offering Doxology: MV #18**

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy tried and true;  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.**

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**Hymn: VU 471**

**Eat This Bread and Never Hunger**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion:**

*Call to Give Thanks*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Turn to God, the source of life.

**We lift our hearts in prayer.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Great Thanksgiving:**

Thanks and praise be to you, O God,  
for you create life out of the dust,  
and sustain us even in the desert.

We thank you that in the face of every temptation and trial,  
every principality and power,  
you are present to direct and guide,  
to renew and revive.

We praise you for sending us Jesus,  
your Suffering servant,  
to walk before us the way of the cross,  
to turn us to you and to one another.

Therefore, we join your long procession of pilgrims  
praising you along the way:

**Acclamation of Praise: (based on Isaiah 6:3; Psalm 118:26)**

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

**The Story Remembered:**

When Jesus knew that his hour had come,  
he gathered with his friends for the Passover meal.  
Getting up from the table,  
he tied a towel around himself and washed their feet.  
And, after he had finished, he said,

**“I have set an example for you;  
do as I have done to you.**

Then he took bread, blessed it, broke it,  
and gave it, even to Judas, saying,

**“This is my body which is given for you.  
Do this to remember me.”**

And he blessed the cup and gave it to them saying,  
**“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.**

**Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.”**

Then he gave them a new commandment, saying,  
**“Love one another as I have loved you.**

By this everyone will know  
that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one another.”

**Prayer of Confession:**

*(Silent Prayer)*

Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this feast,  
I empty now my heart and stretch my hands,  
and ask to meet you here in bread and wine  
which you lay down.

*(Silent Prayer)*

**Prayer of Self-Giving:**

**Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,  
remembering Christ’s life and death,  
proclaiming his resurrection,  
waiting in hope for his coming again.**

**Memorial Acclamation:**

Grant that in praise and thanksgiving,  
we may so offer ourselves to you  
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

**The Spirit Transforms:**

**Prayer of Intercession:**

**Lord's Prayer (sung):**

*Creator God, 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 trespasses.  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.*

**Invitation to the Table:**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

The body of Christ, broken for you.

**Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion:**

**Sending Hymn: VU 130**

**An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare**

**Commissioning and Benediction:**

**Sung Blessing: VU 298**

**When You Walk from Here with 3-Fold Amen**

**When you walk from here,  
when you walk from here,  
walk with justice, walk with mercy,  
and with God's humble care. (x2)  
Amen, Amen, Amen.**