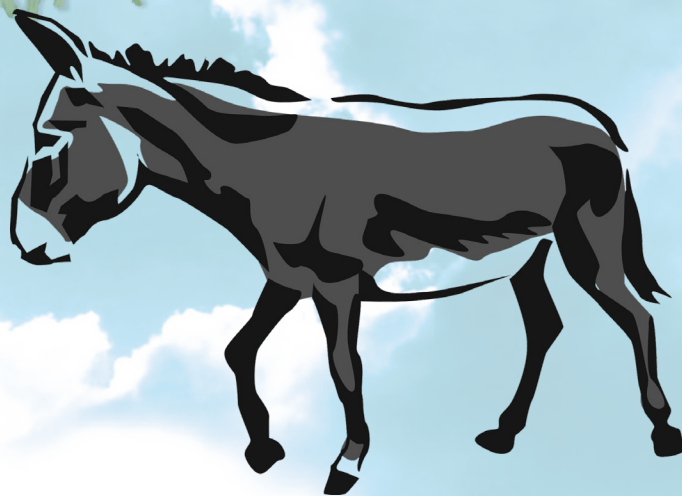


# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE



### **Palm Sunday**

### **Presentation of Easter Cantata**

*What Love Is This?*

**March 24, 2024**

*Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church*



We are a people called United Methodists.  
*Open Hearts    Open Minds    Open Doors*

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church  
is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

Parents, please escort your children to the restrooms.  
Please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.  
Thank you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

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## WE GATHER to be NURTURED

*Ringing of the Bell*

Prelude “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” *Henry Belcombe*

§ Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Gospel Lesson Luke 19:28-40

*Leader:* This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

§ **Processional Hymn UMH #278** “**Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**”

*Procession of Pastor, Children & Youth, and the Choir into the Sanctuary*

The Service of Diminishing Lights

§ **Call to Worship**

*Leader:* O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

*People:* **God’s steadfast love endures forever!**

*Leader:* Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People:* **Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

*Leader:* The Lord is our God, and has given us light;

*People:* **Great is our God, and we give thanks to the Lord.**

*Leader:* Hosanna to the Son of David!

*People:* **Hosanna! Save Us, O God. Hosanna! God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

—Based on Psalm 118:1, 27-28; Matthew 21:19. Rev. Mindi, Rev-o-lution website, rev-o-lution.org.

## WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

Children’s Message “Hosanna!” *James L. Crow*

*A presentation on Christ’s entry into Jerusalem by our Children’s Ministry*

2024 Easter Cantata *What Love Is This?*

*Larson, McDonald, Nix, Parks, & Shackley*  
Presented by the Chancel Choir & Guest Vocalists

# What Love Is This?

## SUFFERING SERVANT - CONQUERING KING

Music by Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald, Brad Nix, Marty Parks, & Larry Shackley

Orchestration by Ed Hogan

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### Sing Forth His Glorious Name

Let all the people sing out His praise;  
let ev'ry nation rejoice!  
Glorious praise will fill the sky,  
the heavens break forth in song!

Mountains and hills will sing out His praise;  
all of the earth will rejoice!  
Trees of the field will clap their hands,  
and the rocks will sing for joy!

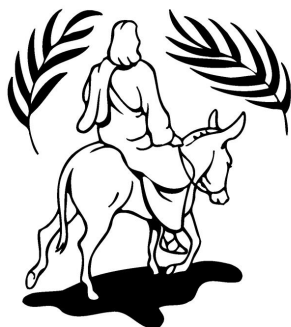
*Refrain:* Sing hosanna!  
Let ev'ry voice proclaim!  
Sing hosanna!  
Lift up His holy Name!

Jesus, Savior,  
ever His truth shall reign!  
Sing hosanna! Hail the King!  
Sing forth His glorious Name!

Glory and honor we bring to You;  
praises we joyfully sing!  
All power and praise be given You,  
our Savior, our Lord and King!

Tender, compassionate are Your ways,  
righteous, exalted and true.  
Mighty defender, our strength and shield,  
forever Your kingdom will reign! (*Refrain*)

### Narrator:



The streets of Jerusalem echoed in song and with shouts of “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” For the followers of Jesus, this was truly a day of celebration as their King triumphantly rode into town on a donkey’s colt accompanied by jubilant praise. Hiding in the shadows of those same streets, however, skeptics and ruthless religious leaders gathered, sowing seeds of hate and doubt as they plotted to bring an end to this humble Teacher’s influence.

### Hiding in the Shadows

Hiding in the shadows of Jerusalem,  
skeptics whisper in the crowd.  
The streets resound in song;  
hosannas fill the air.  
The praise is strong and loud!

Palms are held up high,  
the Lord is passing by.  
“Blessed is the King!  
Lift up your voice and sing!”

Hiding in the shadows of Jerusalem,  
skeptics whisper in the crowd.  
Hiding in the shadows of Jerusalem,  
seeds of hate and doubt are sown.  
Religious leaders scheme;

the evil plans are made: betrayal by His own!

The leaders watch and wait,  
their hearts are filled with hate!  
“Remove this devious fraud!  
He is no Son of God!”

Hiding in the shadows of Jerusalem,  
seeds of hate and doubt are sown.

Ah, holy Jesus, how have You offended,  
that mortal judgment has on You descended?  
By foes derided, by Your own rejected,  
O most afflicted.

Hiding in the shadows of Jerusalem,  
seeds of hate and doubt are sown.

### **Narrator:**

Surely these evil schemers could find an ally among those closest to the so-called Messiah. After all, anyone can be bought if the payment is adequate! And so the plan was hatched: a plan that would ultimately mean securing the aid of a willing disciple; one who would betray Jesus for a few pieces of silver.

### **A Price We Can Pay**

They call Him a King  
and they call Him a Savior,  
but this man's behavior is out of control.  
He questions the priests,  
the scribes and the Pharisees,  
this Nazarene's heresies are bad for the soul.

*Refrain:* How can we stop this man?  
This miracle worker from Galilee?  
Have we done all we can?  
We'll lose all we have if the crowd has its way.  
There must be a price we can pay.

The rabble adores Him,  
the children befriend Him,  
we can't apprehend Him in front of them all.  
We must find a way that's quick and that's quiet,  
we can't risk a riot, there can't be a brawl.  
*(Refrain)*

I will bring you Jesus of Nazareth,  
I will discover a way,  
far from the rabble and far from the crowd.  
What are you willing to pay?  
Thirty pieces of silver, thirty pieces of silver.  
*(Refrain)*

### **Narrator:**

Jesus and His disciples had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish Passover. As they gathered to share the Passover meal, Jesus told them of difficult days yet to come. He told them of betrayal and that He would soon be leaving them. Then He took the bread, broke it, and gave it to them: "This is my body given for you." In the same way, He took the cup saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood which is poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

### **Do This in Remembrance**

My friends, I have longed for this moment,  
and this Passover meal we can share,  
but in a short while I must leave you,  
and no one can follow Me there.

So take this bread: this is My body.  
Take this wine: this is My blood,  
shed for forgiveness, to set captives free.  
Do this in remembrance of Me.

According to Thy gracious word,  
in meek humility,  
this will I do, my loving Lord,  
I will remember Thee.

Thy body broken for my sake,  
my bread of life shall be, shall be;  
Thy cup of blessing I will take.  
I will remember Thee.



### **Narrator:**

After the meal, Jesus went with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane. The burden of grief was overwhelming as Jesus anticipated the events which were to come and all that His followers would soon experience. He poured out His heart in anguish: 'Abba, Father, if it is possible, take this cup from Me. Yet, not my will, but Yours be done.'



## Gethsemane

No welcome at the garden gate,  
no light beneath the ancient trees;  
the twisted trunks in shadows stand  
while branches rattle in the breeze.  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane, Gethsemane.

No leaf found on the olive tree,  
no healing oil, no sign of peace;  
no comfort from the chosen friends,  
no solace in Gethsemane.  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane, Gethsemane.

“Abba, take this cup from me,  
yet not my will, but Yours be done.”

A soul with sorrow overwhelmed  
now bears the weight of destiny.  
Alone He drinks the bitter cup  
and goes to die for you and me.

Kneel with the One who knows your pain  
and feel His touch so tender.  
Then in a whispered “Not my will,”  
find strength in full surrender.

“Abba, take this cup from me,  
yet not my will, but Yours be done.”

### Narrator:

The solitude of a remote garden was suddenly shattered when an angry mob led by Judas arrived armed with swords and clubs. They seized Jesus, arresting Him and taking Him to Caiaphas, the High Priest, and the teachers of the Law. In a night marked by betrayal, false accusations, and a mock trial, Jesus was sentenced to a criminal’s death: crucifixion on a cross. In one final act of love, Jesus offered no resistance as He was handed over to the very people He had come to save.

### What Love Is This?

What love is this the angels mourn?  
His diadem a crown of thorns,  
the King is now a thing of scorn.  
No other love is so transformed.

What love is this who stumbles now,  
and then moves on without a sound  
to bear His cross before a crowd?  
No other love is so profound.

What love is this? How can it be?  
He gives His life so willingly,  
His arms outstretched for all to see.  
No other love would die for me.

What love is this, love so divine  
that out of love for me You died?  
How marvelous to call You mine!  
O wondrous Love, now I am Thine.

### Narrator:

Jesus was led to Golgotha where He was nailed to a cross between two criminals. As witnesses mocked Him, a company of soldiers divided up His clothes in a final act of humiliation. Darkness came over the whole land as the sun stopped shining and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Calling out in a loud voice, Jesus said: “Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit.” And then He died on the cross.



## Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Jesus, keep me near the cross;  
there a precious fountain,  
free to all, a healing stream,  
flows from Calvary's mountain.

Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
love and mercy found me;  
there the Bright and Morning Star  
shed His beams around me.

*Refrain:* In the cross, in the cross,  
in the cross be my glory ever.  
Jesus, keep me near the cross

till my ransomed soul  
shall find peace and rest beyond the river.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day  
with its shadow o'er me. (*Refrain*)

Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand,  
just beyond the river. (*Refrain*)

~ Rest ~

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## WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory

§ Doxology UMH #95

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

## WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #298

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

§ Benediction

As Jesus set his face toward Calvary and the cross, let us enter this Holy Week focusing our hearts and minds on the extraordinary love that motivated and enabled Jesus to lay down his life for us. Go from this place knowing that you are held by the same love that held our Lord. In the name of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

*Mary McDonald*

**Facetime by the Big Bell**



# Announcements

**We welcome you, member or visitor**, as we join in worshipping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

- **The Lenten Study covering *Simon Peter* by Adam Hamilton will conclude today in the Parlor after worship.**
- **Midweek Lenten Services conclude during Holy Week on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.** Join us as we hold our final 30-minute service of the season in the Sanctuary at 12 Noon.
- **The Maundy Thursday Service** “Come to the Table” will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary.
- **The Good Friday Tenebrae Service** will be at 12 p.m. (Noon) on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel.
- **We will hold our next Waffles and Worship service on Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8 a.m. in the Dining Room.** This year offers a unique opportunity to share breakfast and praise God on this most special of holiday mornings.
- **Please join us at 10 a.m. on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> for our Easter Resurrection Celebration Service.** Our chancel choir will conclude this year’s Cantata with a presentation of the final song “Crown Him the Lord of Life!” from *What Love Is This?*
- **The church will be closed Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** in observance of Easter.
- **Court Street UMC’s United Women in Faith (UWF) is holding a luncheon on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12 p.m. in our dining room.** All women and men are invited to come for a program featuring guest speaker J. Hanley, Winnebago County State’s Attorney. Interested persons should RSVP to Donna Dow at (815) 963-3020 by 12 Noon of March 31<sup>st</sup>. The meal is \$10 per person.
- **The Domestic Violence Subcommittee** will meet on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in the Library. Everyone is welcome to attend this committee’s monthly meetings. April marks Child Abuse Prevention Month, symbolized by a blue ribbon.
- **Garden Bazaar** order forms are due Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. If you need a copy or would like additional copies for friends and family, they are available in the Narthex, online, and at the office.



**We thank the following people for making this  
worship meaningful and special.**

Court Street UMC Chancel Choir:

Barb Adam, Jim Gibbons, Verlette Gorman, Randiann King, Bill Pittenger,  
Nancy Shindel, Joan Tunnell, Lorelle Wandell, Dick Wang, and Loyd Wollstadt

Guest Vocalists:

Rev. Calvin Culpepper, Brian Ginn, Shelby Hildreth, and  
Timm Adam as Jesus & Judas

Dorothy Powell, *Narrator*

Jack Armstrong, *Director of Music*

Andrew Mertzenich, *Organist*

Steve Ripley & Krysta Tilges, *Video Techs*

Stan Tunnell, *Sound Tech*

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**Ushers:** DuWayne Stanis Team

**Acolyte:** Kaylee Bulliner

**Van Driver:** Jeff Mann

**Liturgist:** Dorothy Powell

**Livestream Techs:** Krysta Tilges & Ella Anderson

**Facetime Host:** DuWayne Stanis



Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!  
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!  
See, your king comes to you,  
righteous and victorious,  
lowly and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.



**Zechariah 9:9, NIV**

