

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

“Sit Up” Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Lifting Up Our Hearts

Lord, as we remember how Christ the King entered Jerusalem to the sound of joyful shouts, increase our faith and listen to our prayers, that we may praise you every day, by living always in him. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gathering Music

Gathering Up

Music for Centering “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

arr. John Carter

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

LifeCare Alliance

Nicole Envid

Entering God’s Presence

“Hosanna!”

Carol McClure, 2011

Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Humble and riding on a donkey,

People: we greet you;

Leader: Acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children,

People: we cheer you;

Leader: moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power,

People: We salute you: Christ our Lord.

Leader: You are giving the beast of burden

People: a new dignity;

Leader: you are giving majesty

People: a new face;

Leader: you are giving those who long for redemption

People: a new song to sing.

Leader: With them, with heart and voice, we shout:

People: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

***Hymn**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

#197

We Acknowledge What’s Up

***Call to Confession**

Leader: Make no mistake ... “You Raise Me Up”.

**People: When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary
When troubles come and my heart burdened be
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence
Until You come and sit awhile with me
You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on Your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be**

Words and Music by Brendan Graham and Rolf Lovland

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***Prayer of Confession**

Peace-loving God, our first instinct in fighting oppression is often to take up weapons, utter fighting words, and lash out with vitriol. But Jesus demonstrated humility and patience, even against his mortal enemies. In this moment of quiet, we lift up to you those things we’d like to give up for good ... for the sake of The Good. Amen.

(Silent prayer of confession)

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: In the name of Christ, we are forgiven.

People: In the name of Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen!

***Response Hymn**

“Change My Heart, O God”

#695

The Word Uplifts

Prayer for Illumination

What's Up? with Children

Scripture Reading

John 12:12-16

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Music For Soaring “The Simplest and the Best” Alfred Fedak, 2014

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang.
Through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
From Olivet they followed amid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.
“Hosanna in the highest!” that ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
Now may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

Sermon “Sit Up” Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

Building Up

***Affirmation of Faith** Palm Sunday Affirmation

We believe in the God who is the pillar of fire and the pillar of cloud.
We trust in our Holy Parent who judges and shows mercy.
We hope in our Creator who is faithful to all that is seen and unseen.
We believe in the Jesus who rode in triumph into Jerusalem.
We trust in the Messiah who was crucified, died, and was buried.
We hope in the living Christ who walked out of the tomb.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of faith and formation.
We trust in the Breath of Life who stirs, sustains, and sanctifies.
We hope in our Advocate who brings to us, and through us, the gift of God's peace.

*Hymn

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Insert

“Let My Prayers Rise Up”

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the
lifting up of my hands as an of - fering to you.

The musical notation is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Text: Psalm 141; Marty Haugen
Music: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen
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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.

Uplifting Messages of Support

*Response

“What R U Up 2 for My Sake?”

What are you up to for my sake? What are you up to “for the
Good?” Would you come now, follow, join, up? Let us take up, wake up a -
new; Let us build up, fill up with you! Let us lift up the gifts we
raise up. For the sake of, for the shape of, heaven on earth.

The musical notation is in 3/2 time, key of D major. It consists of four staves. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Words: Dr. Marcia McFee
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*Prayer of Dedication

Living It Up

- *Closing Hymn** “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!” #198
- *Blessing for the Journey**
- *Congregational Response** “On Eagle’s Wings” (refrain) #43
- *Music For Movin’ On Up**
 “Improvisation for Palm Sunday” Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
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Pastors: Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood
 Steven A. Watters

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd
Organist: Carol Welk

Liturgist: Joyce Lloyd

Joyce Lloyd and her husband, Tom, moved from Pittsburgh, PA, to London, OH, in 1974. They had just graduated from college and were newlyweds. Joyce and Tom were anxious to start their new life together and to start new jobs. London turned out to be a very welcoming town. They were able to find new friends and a new church family.

Joyce has a twin sister, an older sister, and an older brother, who live across the US, giving them a chance to visit some beautiful cities. Joyce is fortunate to have her brother-in-law, John, and sister-in-law, Margaret, living nearby.

Retirement is the best job Joyce has ever had, allowing her to enjoy more time with Tom, their dog, Sasha, and their cat, Meow Mix. Even in retirement there never seems to be enough time to be involved in as many volunteer projects as she would like. Joyce enjoys her time with friends, and being outside walking the dog or working in the yard. Goal in life: “Make me an instrument of your peace.”

