

PEWEE VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Learning, Glorifying, Celebrating, and Following ...”

GATHERING ...

Gathering Music and The Ringing of the Bell

PREPARING ...

***Opening Litany**

Katie Blackerby Weible, Patrick Long, Ashia Stoess, Rev. Joel Weible

***Hymn 197** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

Prayer of Confession (*Matthew 21:1-11*)

Ashia Stoess

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them.”

God, forgive us for the times when we do not trust your word and do not follow where you lead. We long to be the ones who can go into the village ahead of you. Forgive us when we play it safe.

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: “Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

God, forgive us for forgetting that you are always coming toward us. You are drawing near, like a king on a donkey. Help us find you in our midst.

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Creator God, forgive us for the moments when we choose greed over generosity, or when we choose our self-image over our loyalty to you. Give us the courage to be unabashed in our faith. Give us the strength to throw our coats on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

God, give us the conviction to shout your name from the rooftop. Give us the wisdom to sing, “Hosanna!”

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

WITH HOPE IN OUR HEARTS, WE PRAY TO YOU, O GOD, FOR THE CHRIST FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Family of faith, there will be days when we withhold our praise. There will be days when we dare not follow. There will be days when we ignore God’s call, when we choose comfort over courage, and ourselves over others.

People: But even on those days, even on our worst days, we belong to God.

Leader: Speak and believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **Nothing can separate us from God’s love. We are loved, forgiven, and sent out to serve.**

ALL: HOSANNA! WHAT WONDEROUS LOVE IS THIS?

Response 215 What Wondrous Love Is This (*stanza 1*) WONDROUS LOVE

During Lent, please stay seated as we sing the response

HEARING ...

Sacred Space: A Time for Young Disciples

Ashia Stoess

Anthem King Jesus Rides in Majesty

Scripture Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon SEEKING: WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?

Rev. Weible

***Hymn** Land of the Seeking (*see insert*)

S. LAJOYE

RESPONDING ...

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

We believe in a God who walks headfirst into the world’s suffering, who lights a candle in the darkest night, who pulls back the curtain so we can see the stars.
(continued on back...)

We believe in a God who does not shy away from the truth, who is bold in seeking justice, and humble in taking power.
We believe in a God who sees our hurt and wraps love around it, cocooning us in hope, tethering us to one another.
We believe in a God who is always carrying us from the pain of the world into the hope of a new day.
We believe that is where God is headed. That is where we must follow. This is what we believe. May it be so.

Time of Giving Thanks

Announcements

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offertory Were You There?

arr. D. BLAIR

***Doxology 606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

God of all true power and glory, we thank you that once again we have arrived with Jesus in Jerusalem, not with a sword to challenge the powers of this world, but with Love to transform them. May these gifts be a sign of the offering of our whole selves in this season. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (*see insert*)

Serving Communion: Margaret Hill, Jamie Kingsley,
Patrick Long, Ron Warren

SENDING ...

***Hymn 220** Go to Dark Gethsemane
(*stanzas 1-3, only*)

REDHEAD 76

***Charge and Benediction**

The Ringing of the Bell

** Please stand in body or spirit*

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church



***“We have found in this church a spiritual home
where we learn to serve others,
enjoy and glorify God,
celebrate differences,
and faithfully follow the Lord Jesus Christ.”***

Sunday Morning Worship

April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. As we gather around this table, we gather as part of the universal body of Christ.

This is not a Presbyterian table, but God's table.

Around this table we renew our commitment and enact our faith. All who profess faith in the saving Love of Christ are invited.

The body broken is restored to wholeness; lifeblood poured out brings healing to our world.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise. We praise you, joining our voices with angels and Archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

O God, your name be praised, for in Jesus Christ you come to visit and redeem your people. Help us to understand Christ's rule, strongest among the oppressed, among the victims, among the hurt and broken ones.

Sung Response, Hymn No. 580 LAND OF REST

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Through the bread we break, help us to understand Christ's triumph revealed when love speaks the healing and freeing word.

Through the cup we share, help us to understand glory revealed on a cross.

Sung Response, Hymn No. 582

LAND OF REST

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

When we have been refreshed may we sing with children and beings of light:

Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the God's name to visit and redeem God's people! Amen.

Words of Institution: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Communion of the People of God

(Please wait to partake of the elements until all are served.)

Thanksgiving after the Meal (unison)

In this place, at this table, we have touched and tasted the signs of your love; we are filled by your love that we may leave this house of worship and walk with Love itself to the cross that waits. Give us courage in the coming week. Amen.