

**Morning Worship**  
**March 25, 2018**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**We Gather in God's Name**

Greeting Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold  
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

\*Call to Worship

Kerr  
Dan Tillman

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in love.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Let us worship God.

\*Prayer of the Day

**God of salvation, our Lord entered his passion to raise us to life. In this holiest of weeks, help us to walk the way of the cross, that we may be raised in a resurrection like his and dwell forever in you, Eternal God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*Processional Hymn 196 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Call to Confession

All of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Yet we believe and proclaim that God yearns to be reconciled with us and to shower mercy on us. Let us confess our sins together, so that we may know the forgiveness of God.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned, and although we would like to deny it, we have forsaken you. We are ashamed of the suffering we cause — to you, ourselves, and the world you have created. Open the gates of your forgiveness and restore us in your love, for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(Time for silent confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

The majesty and power of the Creator are matched only by Divine mercy and love. Because of this love, made clear in Jesus Christ, we can rejoice that we are forgiven of all rebellion and strong-headedness. God is ever-present with us to guide us home. Friends, trust the good news of your salvation,  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**We Receive God's Word**

Children's Sermon

*Preschool-Kindergarten age children are dismissed to the Pray n' Play program held in the room beside the church nursery in the main Church building. Children who are in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade and higher should return to their seats in the congregation*

Anthem *Filled with Excitement*

Filled with excitement, all the happy throng  
spread cloaks and branches on the city streets.

There in the distance they begin to see,

There on the donkey comes the Savior Christ.

From every corner a thousand voices sing

praise to the One who comes in the name of God.

Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise,

Our triumphant song of joy: Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!

Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!

As in that entrance to Jerusalem,

hosannas we will sing to Jesus Christ,

To our redeemer who still calls today,

Asks us to follow with our love and faith.

From every corner a thousand voices sing

praise to the One who comes in the name of God.

Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise,

Our triumphant song of joy: Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!

Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Lesson Matthew 21:1-17

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Alan Arnold

“Leaving Expectations Behind”

**We Respond to God's Word**

\*Hymn 209 *My Song Is Love Unknown*

Reception into Membership of the Confirmands

(Caden Cauthen, Eva Goddard, Maylen Harris,  
Elizabeth Hydrick, Alice McLeod)

Introduction

Questions

Prayer

Service of Ordination and Installation

(Elders: Douglas Anderson, Cathy Chapman, Ashley Driggers,  
Sue Funderburk, Tom Hammer, Fred Harris, Libby Knight)

Opening Scripture (1 Cor. 12:4-7, 27)

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement of Purpose

The Constitutional Questions

Laying on of Hands

Prayer of Ordination and Installation (concluding with the Lord's Prayer)

**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.**

Declaration and Charge

\* Declaration of Faith (*Apostles' Creed*)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\**Gloria Patri* (hymn 581)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

Holy Interruption *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

Offering Invitation

Offertory *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

Flynn

\* Praise of God *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

**We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee**

Prayer of Dedication

**We Depart in God's Name**

\* Hymn 217 *On a Barren Hilltop*

\* Benediction and Sending

\* Choral Response *Take Us As We Are, O God*

\* Postlude *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

Shalk

The Palm is placed in the sanctuary today by the Rogers Family in honor of the Confirmation Class.

