

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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March 24, 2024

Palm/Passion Sunday

10:30 a.m.

**\*Please rise, in body or in spirit.**

**Gathering Music**

Brian, John, and Paul

**Welcome**

*The Holy City*

Susan Brown

**\*Call to Worship**

Don Stanford

Leader: Come! From the city streets.

**People: Join the happy throng that gathers to honor Jesus!**

Leader: Come! From your busy homes and places of business.

**People: Put down your work in joyful celebration!**

Leader: Come! Lay down your sorrows and worries.

**People: Turn your eyes toward the Savior whom God has sent!**

Leader: Let all join in joyful song.

**All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus Christ who comes in God's name**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

No.197

**\*Prayer for the Day (unison)**

Don Stanford

**Almighty God, come among us again, in triumph, not with the trappings the world expects, but as the Servant who set us an example of humility and love. Astound us, not with garments of glory, but wearing the clothes of a worker, like one of us. Inspire us, as much by your obedience as through your words. Lead us past the gates of acclamation through the dark night of Gethsemane and the cross and beyond, as we, your worshipping people, wave our branches of victory to proclaim to the world that you, the Blessed One, are come into our midst. Hosanna! Hallelujah! Amen.**

**Call to Confession**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Oak Hill Community

**O God, we sing and praise you, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise you too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets for our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us, and we turn against you, too busy to seek you, too selfish to obey you. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship you again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast, through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

*Time for silent prayers of confession.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**\*Hymn**

*Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*

No. 198

**Peace**

Oak Hill Community

**Time for Growing Disciples**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Anthem**

*Lo, He Comes! Sing We Hosanna*

Chancel Choir

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Baptism is an act of welcoming, naming, and knowing one's identity within the community of faith and individually before God. Baptism is a recommitment of a creation to its Creator. It is a bond of love, an expression of faith and commitment.

### Call to the Sacrament

Baptismal Questions

Congregational Covenant

Elder: Do you as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Doris Finley by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church?

**People: We do.**

Elder: Please join me in the congregational covenant:

**People: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Doris Finley into Christ's church. Because we are all one in Christ, we promise to love, encourage, and support her as she grows in faith. Doris, we promise to share the good news of the Gospel with you and to help you study know love and serve Jesus Christ.**

### The Sacrament of Baptism

#### The Affirmation of the Community of Faith

Elder: Please stand to confess our own baptisms through "A Declaration of Faith."

**Unison: "We believe that in Baptism the Spirit demonstrates and confirms God's promise to include us and our children in God's gracious covenant.... Baptism sets us in the visible community of Christ's people and joins us to all other believers by a powerful bond.... For both children and adults, baptism is a reminder that God loves us long before we can love God.... God's grace and our response to it are not tied to the moment of Baptism, but continue and deepen through life."**

The Baptismal Prayer

#### Reception of New Members

Elder: Ms. Moderator, the following persons have been received into membership of this congregation by action of the Session:

Profession of Faith: Doris Finley

Reaffirmation of Faith: Quinn Caldwell, Betty Finley, Doris Finley, Jeannie Liechtenwalner, Lori Mullins, and Kimberley Thompson

#### Covenant Questions

#### Prayer

#### First Scripture Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Don Stanford

#### Second Scripture Readings

John 12:2-33

Rev. Wanda Lawry

#### Sermon

*Palms to Passion*

Rev. Wanda Lawry

#### Meditation

*Your Love Is Amazing*

Susan Brown

#### Offering

*You can make an offering online at [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org)*

Oak Hill Community

*place it in the plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary, or mail your check to the church.*

#### \*Response

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.**

**Moment for Mission**  
**Prayers of the People**

Brian Heuckroth  
Oak Hill Community

**The Lord's Prayer**

Oak Hill Community

**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.**

**Announcements**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**\*Closing Hymn**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

No. 215

**Benediction**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Postlude**

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

Susan Brown

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**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 118, 1-2, 19-29

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

<sup>19</sup>Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>20</sup>This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup>I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

<sup>25</sup>Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

<sup>26</sup>Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup>The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

<sup>28</sup>You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

<sup>29</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

*People: Thanks be to God!*

**Second Scripture Readings**

John 12:2-33

<sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." <sup>9</sup>When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup>So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, <sup>11</sup>since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

<sup>12</sup>The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!” <sup>14</sup>Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: <sup>15</sup>“Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!” <sup>16</sup>His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. <sup>17</sup>So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. <sup>18</sup>It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. <sup>19</sup>The Pharisees then said to one another, “You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!”

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

***People: Thanks be to God!***

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*Thank you for participating today in worship with Oak Hill. Please check our website for more information and updates: [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org).*



# 197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;  
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.  
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;  
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,  
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.  
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

TEXT: Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.  
 MUSIC: *Cesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt.

ELLACOMBE  
 7.6.7.6.D

# Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! 198

1 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the  
 2 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly  
 3 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of  
 4 Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly

tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur -  
 pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs  
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and  
 pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to

sues its road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.  
 now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.  
 won - dering eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 mor - tal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

This 19th-century Palm Sunday text is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century.

TEXT: Henry Hart Milman, 1827, alt.  
 MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes, 1862

ST. DROSTANE  
 LM

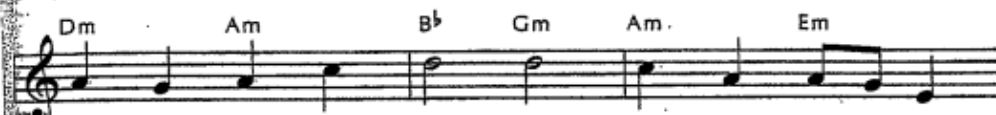
# What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing  
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What  
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to  
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous  
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my  
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my  
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul  
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul  
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

TEXT: American folk hymn, c. 1811  
 MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1965  
 Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

WONDROUS LOVE  
 12.9.12.12.9