

**Order for Worship**  
**Palm / Passion Sunday**  
**March 28, 2021**

Prelude

Quartet

*The Palms*

Jean Baptiste Faure/arr. Dudley Buck

*O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay are strewn this day, in festive preparation.  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, e'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare;*

*Join all and sing, His name declare,  
let ev'ry voice resound with joyous acclamation:  
Hosanna! Praise to the Lord!  
Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!*

*His word goes forth, and people by its might once more regain freedom from degradation.  
Humanity doth give to each his right, while those in darkness are restored to light.*

*Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, of all Thy sons sing the emancipation;  
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem brings faith and hope to Thee forevermore.*

-English version by Theodore T. Barker

Welcome and Call to Worship

Steve Wilson

*Leader: We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people.*

**People: Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!**

*Leader: Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming King.*

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

*Leader: We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth.*

**People: (In a loud voice) Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Hymn of Praise

Please join in singing

*All Glory Laud and Honor*

*Hymnal, No.88*

**Refrain:**

**All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

**Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. (Refrain)**

**The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayers and anthems before Thee we present. (Refrain)**

**To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (Refrain)**

**Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)**

words: Theodulph of Orleans  
music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN/Melchior Teschner

## Prayer of Confession

Ronnie Bailey

**Today, O Lord, we remember how quickly we change. How fickle we are, how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next. We declare that we love our neighbors and then we turn our backs on the homeless, the mentally ill and the hungry. We speak up for change and justice in one breath, and then continue unjust practices in daily lives by what we consume and the needs we ignore. Forgive us, O God, for we are half-hearted believers, partial justice warriors. We tire easily and we forget, and we grow weary.**

....moment of silent prayer

**Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into Your vision of new life. In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Assurance of pardon

Please join in singing

*We Are Forgiven*

Hal H. Hopson

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.  
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN  
10.8.10.8

## Prayer for Illumination

Zechariah. 9:9-10

Ronnie Bailey

## Old Testament Reading

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God!**

## The Psalter Reading

Psalm 118:19-29

Ronnie Bailey

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God!**

Hymn

*One Day as Jesus Reached a Town*

Please join in singing

using tune: *FOREST GREEN*

**One day as Jesus reached a town outside Jerusalem,  
He sent His friends to find a colt and bring it back to Him.  
He said, "If any ask of you, 'What are you doing?' — say,  
'The Lord is near and needs the colt!' They'll send you on your way."**

**They soon returned and showed the Lord the colt that they had found.  
They spread their cloaks upon its back and also on the ground.  
When Jesus rode that humble beast, the crowds began to sing:  
"He comes to us in God's own name; how blessed is the King!"**

**"How blest is He!" the crowds proclaimed — yet did they understand?  
For other kings had entered there with troops at their command.  
This King, Messiah, did not come with might and strength and sword;  
No war horse but a peaceful colt was carrying our Lord.**

**May we who sing "Hosanna! Praise!" be mindful once again  
That Jesus came to bring God's peace, and peace is found in Him.  
May we who follow Christ recall His gentle, humble way  
And work to build a peaceful world to honor Him today.**

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Gospel Reading

John 12: 12-19

Don Ewing

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

*Misplaced Enthusiasm*

Don Ewing

Ministry of Music

*Hosannas in the Highest*

Douglas E. Wagner

*When our Lord came riding through Jerusalem, the day was fresh and clear,  
And above the noise of the city glad voices did He hear:  
Hosannas in the highest the people all did sing.  
Hosannas, hosannas to welcome Christ the King.*

*On a humble beast of burden, He rode through streets of dust,  
Robed not in regal splendor, for He was one of us.  
Hosannas in the highest the people all did sing.  
Hosannas, hosannas to welcome Christ the King.*

*Sing for joy and give Him honor. Behold, He comes this day,  
Through the open gates of the city, to make for us a way.  
Hosannas in the highest the people all did sing.  
Hosannas, hosannas to welcome Christ the King.*

- Charlotte Lee

Faith Community & Other Concerns, the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Steve Wilson

Hymn of Dedication

*We Long to Know Peace!*

**Please join in singing**

Using tune: *LYONS*

**"We long to know peace!" Jerusalem said  
As Caesar's great troops filled people with dread.  
As soldiers and armies marched in with great might,  
No justice was found and no peace was in sight.**

**"Hosanna! God saves!" they cried to the Lord.  
They called Him a King and looked for His sword.  
Would He fight their battles and turn things around?  
Then Christ rode a creature of peace into town.**

**"He isn't our king!" the crowd quickly turned,  
Rejecting the gift for which they had yearned.  
They mocked Him and killed Him, yet death did not win.  
Christ rose from the dead and brought God's peace again.**

**"We long to know peace!" O God, we still say,  
Yet when Jesus calls we turn Him away.  
O God, may we see in this non-violent King  
The peace that You offer, the life that You bring.**

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Charge and Blessing

Don Ewing

Postlude

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Michael Frank, Organ  
arr. Michael Burkhardt

**Palm/Passion Sunday** - Worship celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem amidst the joyful welcome of His followers and surprise of many residents. This day is the beginning of Holy Week. Purple is the main liturgical color for the season signifying penitence and preparation. Today we use the word "*Hosanna!*" many times. "*Hosanna,*" is a cry for salvation, while at the same time is a declaration of praise. The older interpretations, "*please save*" or "*save now,*" are also a popular understanding based on *Psalms 118:25*.

**The Quartet**

Soprano: Beth Michael  
Alto: Sandy Wahnsiedler  
Tenor: Doug Crist  
Bass: Shane Michael

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Thursday, **April 1<sup>st</sup> Maundy Thursday** in-person worship, 7:15 pm,  
Steve Wilson preaching – *The Other Holy Night* based on John 13:1-5, 12-15  
in-person worship, **limit 90 persons**  
Please call the church office to RSVP at 412-828-5770.

Sunday, **April 4<sup>th</sup> Easter**, 8:30 & 11 am:  
Steve Wilson preaching – *Easter Hope* based on John 20:1-18  
in-person worship, **limit 90 persons** each service  
Please call the church office to RSVP at 412-828-5770.

*Worship on Maundy Thursday and on Sundays will continue to be livestreamed.*

**Your OPC Family Cares About You!** Because there are times when you are ill, in the hospital or in emotional need and we don't know about it, please remember to contact the church office (412.828.5770) or a staff member (mstecik@oakmontpresby.org) so we may support you in your time of need. You are loved!

**Prayer Requests** - Members of our church will pray for you and anyone in need. Please send prayer requests to: [prayers@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:prayers@oakmontpresby.org) or contact Carol Heimerich at 412-242-1028.

**Why not listen to Sunday morning (9:30 am) educational speakers?** Send Steve Wilson an email at [swilson@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:swilson@oakmontpresby.org) asking to be added to the zoom invitations.

**April 4** – Easter – No Adult Education

**April 11 and 18** – Leanna Fuller on Family Systems

**March 30** – Oakmont/Verona Blood Drive at the Oakmont Borough Building 2-7pm.

#### OPC STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson	Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Donald R. Ewing	Parish Associate
Michael P. Frank, III	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Ronnie Bailey	Education Director for Children and Youth
Maureen Stecik	Program Staff Assistant
Dale Remai	Custodian
Tracy Messenger	Financial Secretary of Accounting
Marge Kuhn	Financial Secretary of Contributions
Roberta Erickson	Handbell Choir Director
Ron Burkert	AV Team Coordinator
Tracy Messenger and Carol Huber	Nursery Attendants

415 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oakmont, PA 15139

412-828-5770 (Office)

[www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org)

## One Great Hour of Sharing

There are two options for making a donation to One Great Hour of Sharing through Oakmont Presbyterian Church.

1. Write a check to Oakmont Presbyterian Church and write OGHS on the memo line, OR
2. Click the Giving Online link at the bottom of the Generosity page on the church web site at [www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org).
  - a. Log-in to the site and click the *Add Transaction* button
  - b. In the box labeled *Oakmont Presbyterian Designated Donation* enter the amount of your gift to OGHS
  - c. Be sure to select the appropriate donation frequency in the bottom half of the box and click the *Continue* button
  - d. Choose the account from which you wish to make your donation
  - e. In the Notes box, enter *OGHS* and click the *Process* button.

*Thank you for your continued support of Oakmont Presbyterian Church and the One Great Hour of Sharing.*

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way  
that Presbyterians come together every year  
to work for a better world.



OGHS gifts are helping Black Women's Blueprint, a survivor-led ministry, in addressing issues of trauma. Client-members support one another in working to end gender-based violence, and to heal the places where its impact is seen. This ministry also provides food and housing assistance, and addresses the critical and unmet needs for women and survivors of violence.

Thirteen-year-old Trinity White Plume lives on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota where there is only one grocery store. Thanks to gifts from OGHS and partner organization Owe Aku, new garden projects put people in charge of their own food supply, nutrition, health and well-being. Trinity has learned to plant and tend the gardens, which include medicinal and ceremonial plants, and helps teach others to increase food security in their community.





## Oakmont/Verona Communities

### Save Lives – Feed Families Blood Drive

**TUESDAY, MARCH 30**  
**2 P.M. TO 7 P.M.**

Oakmont Borough Building  
767 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakmont

SAVE | FEED   
LIVES | FAMILIES

To make an appointment:

- Visit [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org) and click the "Log In" button. On the new window, choose Donor Login (previous donor) or New Donor (haven't donated with Vitalant before), and search with group code C5300082, or
- Call 412.209.7000

Your blood can save as many as three patients' lives. When you donate at this Save Lives - Feed Families blood drive, a contribution will be made on your behalf to the Riverview Community Action Corporation Food Pantry to help feed as many as 25 families in need.  
*Funding made possible by the Blood Science Foundation*



Vitalant is now testing blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies. Appointments strongly recommended.  
Learn more at [vitalant.org/antibodytest](https://vitalant.org/antibodytest)

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