

Make some joyful memories! At the end of Lent, we will use your photos to create something very special out of the collection of people photographed in and outside our church.

Liturgist: And now sisters and brothers of Jesus, we remember that the God we worship is never confined to *this* one holy place. So go and travel with God who is found in ordinary and surprising places, who is found in and through you!

All people: *We are travelers on the road to freedom, a community of grace, with good news for all we meet – for ALL people.*

Pastor: Travel lightly then, but travel together, and learn as you go - you are Jesus' disciples, the mission is urgent, the journey is long.

All people: *We will take heart.*

Pastor: When the way is uncertain, shadows are sinister and dangers threaten,

All people: *We will not be afraid, for we are in God and God is in us.*

Pastor: Go in peace. And may our Holy God surprise you on the way. May Christ Jesus be your company, and the Spirit lift up your life.

All people: *Amen! May it be so!*

POSTLUDE *Exiting the Passion* (Bell)

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING & CHOIR RECESSION

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

Worship Series: *Entering the Passion of Jesus*¹

The Parade: Risking Reputation

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

PRELUDE

Entering the Passion (Bell)

Kevin Crone, piano

CANDLELIGHTING & CHOIR PROCESSION

GREETING & WELCOME

Pastor: Welcome to this year's Lenten journey. Because the events of Christ's Passion, which take place during the last week of his life, don't receive enough time in our worship and study, we will take the next six weeks to look more closely at those events between Palm Sunday and the Last Supper. These stories are critical to our identity as followers of Jesus and our faith journey. The hope is that by zooming in and taking a closer look at Christ's Passion and putting ourselves into the story by adding drama and art to the scripture story, we will be opened to a deeper conviction and commitment for our role in continuing the powerful message of Jesus the Christ. So, welcome as we enter the Passion.

INTROIT

Entering the Passion

En - ter. ___ En-ter the pas - sion. ___ En-ter the place we be-long,

6 not just look-ing on. For this is our pas - sion. ___ En-ter the pas - sion. ___ 1.

13 2. *ritenuto* En-ter the sto - ry... ___ En-ter the pas - sion... ___ En-ter His pas - sion... ___

Pastor: Jesus' ride into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week was full of risk. Rather than a nice impromptu celebration, it can be seen for the carefully planned and significantly symbolic event that it was – an event that would

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THE KING OF GLORY COMES



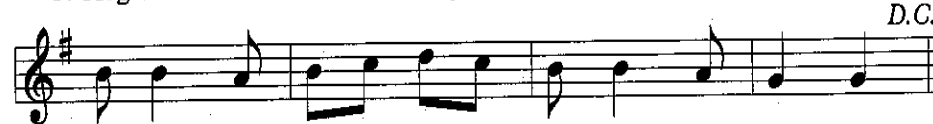
The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.



1. Who is the King of glo - ry; how shall we call him?
2. In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
3. Sing then of Da - vid's son, our Sav - ior and broth - er;



He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
 he goes a - mong his peo - ple cur - ing their ill - ness.
 in all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: God be with you!

Congregation: **And also, with you!**

Pastor: Let us lift our hearts to God!

Congregation: **It is right to give our thanks.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Divine Artist, Creator of heaven and earth. Your brushstrokes evoked the whole of your palette, making all creation into your colorful images. You breathed into us the breath of life and framed us within the Story of Love. When we turn away, and our love fades like a work of art long neglected, you restore us to original glory. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. With your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All sing: *Seraphic Hymn* *Hymnal #522*

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. You knew we needed a closeup encounter with you, and so, you zoomed in the lens, to meet us

face to face, by coming to earth in the person named Jesus, born of Mary. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. He provoked the powers-that-oppress in a Jerusalem parade that proclaimed a different kind of power that put him at great risk.

All people: ***Holy God, your work astounds us in its power and promise. By his baptism our call is established; by his suffering, our pain is companioned; by his resurrection, our own lives are renewed. By this sacrament and that of baptism, the Spirit lives in us.***

Pastor: In that last week of Jesus life, events both public and private began to lead to a moment in which he surrounded himself with his dearest friends. Who among us would not do the same if we knew our time was drawing to a close? Time stood still—life in stark relief—as he took bread, gave thanks to you, O God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

All people: ***“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”***

Pastor: When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, O God, gave it to his disciples, and said:

All people: ***“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”***

Pastor: And now, O God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the love of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by your love. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. Through your Son Jesus Christ we pray:

All people: ***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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

(ELEMENTS ARE SHARED)

All people: ***Holy Jesus, no words can express our humble gratitude and amazement that you should choose to travel the passion for us. How amazing is it that each of our lives is so valuable to you that you would lay yours down to reach us? May your sacrifice, not be in vain. May the bread and wine transform us more and more into your likeness and remain with us as we journey out to share your message of love and grace in the world. Amen.***