
We are Sent with God's Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" LUYH 149
stanza 1—all, stanza 2—men, stanza 3—women & children, stanza 4—solo

Palm Sunday

March 25, 2018



"Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:3-4)

In the early church, Easter, Lent, and baptism were all connected. Lent was considered and created to be a time of personal examination and learning for adult converts, culminating in an Easter morning baptismal celebration. Though traditions have changed, the connection between Christ's death and resurrection and our own baptisms remains a vital component to our faith. During our Lenten observance, we invite you to consider baptism, putting to death the old self, and rising anew with Christ. As you enter or exit the sanctuary, you are invited to pause at the baptismal font placed in the fellowship hall. Feel free to dip your fingers in the water or reverently observe and reflect on God's gift of baptism and your new identity in him—to remember and believe.

For more, visit: <https://www.reformedworship.org/article/march-1987/easter-baptism-ancient-tradition>

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Worship Participants

Pastor: Rev. Stanley Groothof ♦ Organ/Piano: Donna Brue ♦ Guitar: Jaren Brue
 Violin: Kinza Brue ♦ Vocalists: Ryan Smit, Anna Christians
 Worship Leader: Tom Clark ♦ Readers: Barb & Lee Mellema
 Sound: Kayt Frisch ♦ Projection: Dane Hibma ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome

*Call to Worship: "Hail and Hosanna" & Psalm 118:19-29 LUYH 147

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Song of Praise: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" LUYH 145

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession: "Come to the Savior Now" LUYH 613:1,3,4

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, our Lord, we shout hosannas to praise you.
With eager hands, we place our cloaks and palms on the path before you.
Yet, Lord, we confess that the mouths that seek to praise you
often deny or defy you.
And we confess that the hands that seek to serve you often become fists.
Lord, hear our silent confessions.

(We offer our silent prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon (based on Matt. 21:8-9, John 3:17, Eph. 5:1-2)

Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**For Christ came into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world through him should be saved.**

Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children.

**And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

Hosanna! Amen!

Song of Assurance: "My Worth Is Not in What I Own" verses 1,4,5
(also available on separate songsheet)

**1. My worth is not in what I own; not in the strength of flesh and bone,
but in the costly wounds of love at the cross.**

(continued on next page)

**4. I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light,
but I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross. (to chorus)**

Chorus:

**I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul.
I will trust in Him, no other; my soul is satisfied in Him alone.**

**5. Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness.
My value fixed, my ransom paid at the cross. (to chorus)**

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God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Blessing: "Jesus Loves Me" LUYH 709:1

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11 p.1531

Sermon: "The Two Palm Sunday Processions" Rev. Stanley Groothof

*Song of Response: "Meekness and Majesty" LUYH 157

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the Tuition Assistance Fund which helps support families who otherwise would still not be able to meet the financial obligations of Christian education.

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another

We Dedicate Ourselves to Holy Living

*Song: "What the Lord Has Done in Me" LUYH 800

*Philippians 2:5-8 p.1827