**ST. ANDREW’S UNITED CHURCH**

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**Ministers: The people of St. Andrew’s**

**Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton**

**Ministry of Music: Lynn Sloan**

**April 10, 2022**

 **6th Sunday of Lent**

**WE GATHER**

**Introit - He Came Riding on a Donkey -124**

**Triumphal Entry**

L: Sing for joy! The Master comes!
P: Riding on a colt, he enters in victory!
L: If all shouting stopped, the rocks would ring with joy.
P: But there will be some who will not sing or shout.
L: There will be some who will cling to their fear.
P: Be ready, O Jerusalem, for your king truly is coming!
All: Hosanna in the highest! AMEN.

**Welcome and Announcements**

**With great joy we welcome our Lord Jesus and you! The journey has been long and we have longed to enter the Holy City. We invite Jesus to come into our hearts and our lives, humbly, patiently, encouraging us to learn and grow, to embark on journeys of hope and healing. Open our hearts today to hear Christ’s words, as we sing praise to Him. Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord’s Name. AMEN.**

**Acknowledging Our Territory**

One: For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on their traditional territory and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. Help us to become better neighbours so that we might live together in better ways.

**All: For we are all kin in Christ, “All My Relations,” with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.**

**Extinguishing the Candle:**

**Loving God, there are so many choices before us every day. Choices offered by our friends, our families, our culture, our own past. Some of them encourage the well-being of the earth, ourselves and our neighbors; others are destructive. Help us to distinguish between them. May we learn from the choices of Jesus and embody compassion, justice, and inclusion in all we say and do. Amen.**

**Opening Prayer -**

Save us Lord!
**Hosanna!**
Praise the Lord!
**Alleluia!**
To you who triumphed over death, we sing our praise.
Your steadfast love endures forever.
As we face your death
and recall the week of your suffering,
may we do so with a joy
that anticipates the celebration
of your resurrection;
may we do so with the confidence
to turn to you
in both life and death. Amen.

**Gathering Hymn: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna - 123**

**Prayer of Confession and Approach –**

Lord Jesus,
we are a fickle people,
quick to turn away.
We are quick to flock to you when all is well,
but we are prone to scatter
when there is opposition or criticism.
Too often we have kept silent before you,
afraid to proclaim your praise.
It is easy to join the crowd
as you ride triumphantly into Jerusalem—
singing our joys and expectations,
dancing our hopes and dreams.
It is far more difficult to stand by you
as the crowd cries for your crucifixion.
Forgive our weakness
when we turn away.
Strengthen us for the journey ahead
as we relive your suffering and death,
that we might stay beside you to the end.
Give us the courage to shout our hosannas,
not only today, but each and every day. Amen.

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading: Luke 19: 28-40**

**Meditation: Don’t Rain on My Parade**

**Hymn of Meditation: Ride On, Ride On in Majesty - 127 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Dedication**

What can we offer
that you have not already offered us?
What can we do
that you have not already done for us?
Lord Jesus Christ,
in your gifts to us,
you have provided us the way
to live and serve you.
In both your triumph and your suffering,
you deserve our praise.
Through the gifts we now offer,
we express our longing to serve
and to follow wherever you go. Amen.

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

You are on your way to Jerusalem, precious Lord.

You are one your way to suffering and to death

for the sake of our freedom and our salvation.

This is mystery and wonder.

Our hearts overflow into songs of praise.

“Hosanna!”, we cry with the crowds.

“Blessed are you who comes in God’s name!”

Yet, you puzzle us:

you puzzle us with your suffering love

that is more powerful than our brokenness;

you puzzle us with your freely chosen humility

that brings blessings in our weary places;

you puzzle us with your forgiveness

that summons us beyond our hurt.

Liberating Saviour,

you make us uncomfortable

so that you can lead us

into more life

and deeper wonder;

so that God can take who we are

and break us open,

and bless us

and give us to the world.

Grant us grace

to welcome this holy restlessness,

that we may live by the power of your Spirit,

and in your name. Amen.

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn -** One Bread, One Body **- 467 VU**

**Communion Prayer**

One: God be with you.

**All:  And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks for the peace of God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

In the streets, In our homes,

Here beside this table, We give you thanks, O Holy One.

We give you thanks for giving us a story.

Even when we do not understand its meaning,

Even when we doubt it happened this way,

Even when we want to rush ahead to the end,

We know that you have given us this story

in which to live and move and have our being.

We remember that your story did not begin with this parade,

but began when you came to move over the waters of creation.

We remember the tragedies that came to your people.

And we know that you were not silent.

You gave your people a story. You gave your people a rainbow.

You gave your people a song. You gave your people peace.

Gather here with us now, O Holy One,

Speak to us through this bread and this cup.

Remind us of all the stories we’ve ever heard about you.

Fill these symbols with your peace

So that we might find your peace within ourselves

**Words of Institution**

On the night Jesus was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks and said, “Drink, This cup that is poured out for you is the promise of God, made in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it remember me.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life

Jesus Christ, the True Vine

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**Final Hymn: In the Quiet Curve of Evening - 278 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

Passing from joy into sorrow and on to elation,
**we come to Christ this holy week.**
Today is only a part of the story.
**Jesus’ triumph leads to his death,**
**his death to his resurrection.**
May the journey of this week lead you
into the fullness of Christ’s love.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Lenten Services**

 **April 13th - Taize Worship**

**April 15th - Good Friday service - 10:30 a.m.**

**April 17th - Easter Sunday**

 **All Mid-week services start at 1:00 p.m. Please be sure you have proper attire for Yoga Prayer.**

**UCW meeting on April 12 at 11am. A chairperson is needed for this meeting.**

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**Board Meeting on April 14 at 10:30am.**