



The Palm Branch

A VERY LARGE CROWD
SPREAD THEIR CLOAKS ON
THE ROAD, WHILE OTHERS
CUT BRANCHES FROM
THE TREES AND SPREAD
THEM ON THE ROAD.
THE CROWDS...SHOUTED,
"HOSANNA TO THE SON
OF DAVID! BLESSED IS HE
WHO COMES IN THE NAME
OF THE LORD! HOSANNA
IN THE HIGHEST!"

MATTHEW 21:8-9 (NIV)

Welcome!

If you are **visiting our church** today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please be sure to fill out the fellowship pad with your name and contact information when it is passed to you. This will help us serve you better. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family. Please join us in the narthex for coffee and refreshments after the service. Note: since many of our families with small children sit near the back of the church, visitors may wish to sit closer to the front to avoid any possible distractions during the worship service.

If you are unfamiliar with **our form of worship**, please feel free to speak with the pastor or one of the elders. We would be glad to help you understand the biblical rationale for why we worship the way we do. You may also visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at Redeemer: www.redeemertraversecity.org.

The **Lord's Supper** is observed every Sunday as the culmination of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Non-communing children are welcome to come forward with their parents and will be acknowledged by the pastor. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. Note: The inner ring of cups in each communion tray contains non-alcoholic wine; the outer rings contain wine.

Silent Preparation for Worship
Prelude

Order of Worship

Call to Worship Zechariah 9:9a

Pastor Dan Millward

†**Opening Hymn** “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Insert

†**Invocation**

Psalm 118:24-29

Pastor: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: O Lord, do save, we beseech You;

People: O Lord, we beseech You, do send prosperity!

Pastor: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;

People: The Lord is God, and He has given us light;

Pastor: You are [our] God, and [we] give thanks to You;

People: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

All: For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

†**God’s Greeting**

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

†**Response** (*in song*) “Thy Strong Word” v. 4

(Tune: Ebenezer)

God the Father, Light-creator,

To Thee laud and honor be.

To Thee, Light of Light begotten,

Praise be sung eternally.

Holy Spirit, light revealer,

Glory, glory be to Thee.

Mortals, angels, now and ever

Praise the Holy Trinity!

Confession of Sin

1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 2:12

Pastor: As the children of God, we are called to obedience and conformity to Christ. Like the Holy One who called us, we are to be holy in all our behavior, just as it is written: YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.

Yet, because of our flesh we fall short and do not live in a manner worthy of the God who called us into His own kingdom and glory. Therefore, let us repent, confess our sins, and seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

†=Congregation stands.

People: Gracious Heavenly Father, because of our fallen nature, we have not lived in accordance with Your holiness. We have transgressed Your laws and failed to keep Your commands. There are those we have hurt, and those we have failed to help. Our thoughts and desires are stained with sin. Therefore, merciful Father, we confess to You all our sins with which we have offended You. We are truly sorry for them and sincerely repent of them. And we pray according to Your boundless mercy, and for the sake of Christ, that You would be gracious and merciful to us. [Silent Confession] Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

from 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Pastor: Because of His great mercy, and for our sake, God has made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Through Christ, God has reconciled us to Himself, and has not counted our trespasses against us. Do you believe that Jesus Christ, by His perfect life, sacrificial death, and glorious resurrection, has atoned for your sins and satisfied the wrath of God toward you?

People: We do.

Pastor: In the name of Christ and by the authority of His Word, be at peace and know that your sins are forgiven.

Profession of Faith and Admission to the Lord's Supper

Matthew Scott

†**Hymn of Assurance** #470 "How Vast the Benefits Divine"

†**Prayer for Illumination**

Fred Weber

Old Testament Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

Reader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Epistle Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Sean Doran

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

†**Sermon Text Reading** John 12:12-16

Pastor Dan Millward

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "The Triumphal Entry"

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offering

Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at this time. Reservations are needed for the Maundy Thursday meal. Please indicate in the last box on the fellowship pad how many in your family will be attending.

Prayers of the People

Pastor: As people redeemed by the King who entered Jerusalem on a donkey so that He could leave carrying a cross, let us pray for ourselves, for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for those who cannot pray for themselves.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, as Your Son humbled Himself for our salvation, give to each of us and to every member of Your Church a confident faith in Christ's Passion for us, so that during this Holy Week and throughout our lives we humbly entrust ourselves and all those whom You place in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Your Son promised that when He was lifted up, He would draw all people to Himself. Turn unbelievers from their false gods to You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. Work through chaplains and missionaries. Give to each of us the courage to speak of our King who comes, righteous and having salvation. By the power of Your Gospel, put faith-filled hosannas into the mouths of people who now live without You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, in love for us Your Son became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Teach us to look to You in every temptation so that drawing strength from You, we resist Satan and our own sinful desires, obey Your commandments, and care for one another as Christ cares for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, give Your protection and guidance to our president, to our governor, and to all who make, administer, and judge our laws, so that every life is protected and so that citizens live under justice in our country and in every nation of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, come to the rescue of all who are sick, injured, facing surgery, or recovering from surgery, especially Dick Crowe and Dick Scott. Help them, heal them, comfort them, and encourage them in the way that You know to be best for each of them. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, on the night before Jesus Christ went to the cross, He gave us the gift of His holy Supper. Show us our sin, give us repentant hearts, and grant to us assurance of salvation, so that with confident faith we offer our praises to Him who comes to us in the name of the Lord, and with joy-filled hearts gratefully receive His body and blood which give us life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into your gracious care, heavenly Father, we place ourselves and everyone for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

All who are communicant members in good standing in any evangelical Christian church, or those who have been approved by the Session, may participate in the Lord's Supper. (Note about Communion wine: the outer rings contain wine; the inner rings contain non-alcoholic wine.)

Affirmation of Faith Heidelberg Catechism #1

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I, with body and soul,

both in life and death,

am not my own,

but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,

who with His precious blood

has fully satisfied for all my sins,

and delivered me from all the power of the devil,

and so preserves me

that without the will of my heavenly Father

not a hair can fall from my head;

indeed, that everything must fit His purpose

for my salvation,

therefore by His Holy Spirit

He also assures me of eternal life

and makes me heartily willing and ready,

always, to live for him.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right, and our greatest joy to give You thanks and praise, O Lord our God, Creator and Ruler of the universe. We ask You to set apart for Your holy use these common elements of bread and wine that they may strengthen and edify Your people. In Your wisdom, You made all things, and sustain them by Your power. You formed us in Your own image, setting us in this world to love and to serve You. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever proclaim to the glory of Your name:

Sanctus *(in song)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts. The

whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the

whole earth is full of his glo - ry. Ho - ly is the Lord.

Words of Institution & Breaking of the Bread

Communion Hymn #425 “Bread of the World in Mercy Broken”
#421 “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

Prayer after Communion *(in unison)*

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in Your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of Your Spirit, to live and work to Your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†**Closing Hymn** #235 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

†**Benediction**

†**Benediction Response** “Three-fold Amen”

Serving Today

Elder: Fred Weber

Guest Pianist: Albert Jordan

Sound Board: Meagan Van Til

Reader: Sean Doran

Today Pastor Millward is wearing a purple stole. Purple represents royalty and reminds us of the kingship and sovereignty of Christ. Purple is also associated with repentance from sin. This color is displayed during the seasons of Advent and Lent, which are times of preparation and penitence.

Announcements

After Today’s Service...

Please join us for some fellowship and light refreshment.

Next Sunday, April 12

Pastor Dan Millward will be preaching on Luke 24:1-9.

Hymns: #275 “The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

#267 “The Day of Resurrection!”

Insert “Lamb of God”

Insert “In Christ Alone”

#277 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

The Lord’s Supper will be celebrated. Make a time this week for preparation and prayer.

Wednesday, April 8, 7:00pm - Ladies’ Study will meet at Espresso Bay downtown.

Thursday, April 9 - 5:30pm - Maundy Thursday Communion Service followed by a **Fellowship Meal**. Reservations are needed.

Wednesday, April 15, 12:00pm to 1:00pm - Noon Hour Study Group will meet in the conference room at the church office.

Wednesday, April 15, and 29, 6:30pm to 7:30pm - Prayer Group will meet at the home of Joann Bissell. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday, April 26 - Monthly Covered Dish Luncheon following the morning worship service.

Thursday Mornings - 7:30am to 8:30am - Men's Bible Study meets in the conference room at the church office and is studying the book of Proverbs.

Points to Ponder

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

As the crowd shouted "Hosanna!" they waved palm branches and laid them in his path. The word hosanna was shouted as we cry "Long live the king!" However, hosanna referred to a palm branch.

Palm branches were symbolized peace, particularly peace that results from a crucial victory. When they waved palms and shouted "Hosanna" at Jesus, the people celebrated a victory over the Romans they expected their Messiah to achieve. This event became politically charged by revolutionary language and populist fervor. By it the masses intended one thing, and Jesus intended another.

Jesus did indeed come to defeat someone, but it was not Rome. Jesus waged a cosmic warfare against all the powers of sin and evil. The liberation he came to bring was not simply freedom from Rome but freedom from sin and Satan.

Second, they shouted "Blessed is the King of Israel, who comes in the name of the Lord!" They were not just celebrating a king; they indicated that this King was coming in the name of God. In saying this, they were using the vocabulary that was reserved for the Messiah, the One who would restore the kingdom to Israel. Too long had Rome subjugated their nation, and before Rome came a long list of foreign nations who had conquered their land.

Certainly Jesus was the King who had come to bring the kingdom of God, but the people were filled with political expectations. This explains why some of these same people later may have shouted "Crucify him!" Instead of leading them to victory against Rome, he meekly submitted to Roman arrest and trial. He had not lived up to their expectations and they were bitterly disappointed.

—R. C. Sproul, *Before the Face of God*, Book 1

April 5, 2009

Prayer Requests

FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT REDEEMER...

Health / Healing

- Dominic Nittolo - He will have surgery, Wednesday, April 15 to remove a screw in his ankle. Please pray for continued bone strengthening and growth in his leg.

Other Concerns

- Stephen Morrison - Please pray for Stephen's spiritual and physical strength and his mental focus as he finishes his very busy final semester and his thesis.
- Pray that we will raise the needed funds to complete the purchase of the Ninth Street facility.
- Pray that our church would have the evangelistic vision Christ commissioned us with, and also passion, wisdom, and boldness in reaching the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Prayer for our pastor, elders, and deacons - for their encouragement, strength, and joy in the work to which God has called them.

FOR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AND OTHERS...

Health / Healing

- Dick Scott (Tim's father) back in hospital.
- Dick Crowe - undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- Keegan Beyer - finished a three-year treatment plan for leukemia. Praise God for sustaining him during this time and please pray that Keegan continues to remain cancer free.

Our Country and Armed Forces

- Men and women in the military and their families.
- Pray for President Obama, his advisors, and other national, state, and local leaders.

Ministers, Missionaries, and Mission Churches

- Bristol family in Querétaro, Mexico; Hershberger family in Bulgaria; Thornton family in Ukraine; Nellie Vos in France; and the mission work in Burma.

FOR CHURCHES IN OUR PRESBYTERY...

- Trinity Presbyterian Church, DeMotte, IN - Pray for: outreach & Growth, formation of a Pastoral Search Committee, and a smooth transition to the calling of a new Pastor.
- Harvest Presbyterian, Medina, OH - Pray for: strengthened leadership to bolster our Committee structures. Praise for: Nine young people who made public profession and an 22 new adult members.
- Teaching Elder Paul Engle - Pray for: work on responding to 13 pastors in Doctor of Ministry class who have submitted final projects that this will expand and encourage their ministries.

*If you have any prayer requests or an update on a current request,
please contact David Peterson at 946-1700.*

The Session (Pastor and Elders)

Rev. Daniel Millward, Pastor	922-7270
David Schafer	946-5501
Fred Weber	947-0426

The Deacons

Jerry DeVries	938-2317
Forbes Husted	929-7291
C. J. Weber	275-3475

Call to Worship

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he...

—Zechariah 9:9a

Scripture Readings for this Week

Our Scripture readings are taken from the Daily Lectionary. It provides for reading twice through the New Testament and once through the Old Testament during a two-year cycle. The readings also reflect the seasons of the liturgical year. (Please note that during various seasons of the Church year, the Psalm readings often repeat.)

Sun.	Psalm 84:1-12	Zechariah 9:9-12	1 Timothy 6:12-16	Matt. 21:12-17
Mon.	Psalm 119:73-80	Jeremiah 12:1-17	Philippians 3:1-14	John 12:9-19
Tue.	Psalm 34:1-22	Jeremiah 15:10-21	Philippians 3:15-21	John 12:20-26
Wed.	Psalm 5:1-12	Jeremiah 17:5-18	Philippians 4:1-13	John 12:27-36
Thu.	Psalm 27:1-14	Jeremiah 20:7-18	1 Corinthians 11:27-32	John 17:1-26
Fri.	Psalm 22:1-31	Genesis 22:1-14	1 Peter 1:10-20	John 13:36-38
Sat.	Psalm 43:1-5	Job 19:21-27	Hebrews 4:1-16	Romans 8:1-11

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

P.O. Box 4113, Traverse City, MI 49685-4113

(231) 946-1700

www.redeemertraversecity.org

Worship: Sundays 10:00 a.m.