

**Welcome to Worship with
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church
2900 Ebenezer Church Road
Coats, NC 27521**



**Palm Sunday
Sixth Sunday in Lent
April 5, 2020**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“The Palms”

Faure

Candle Lighting and Prayer request book offered for the Prayer of Intercession

Gathering to Worship

Call to Worship Psalm 118

One: Blessed be he who enters in the name of the Lord

All: We bless you from the house of the Lord.

One: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

All: You are my God, I will extol you.

Hymn of Praise

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

verses 1, 3

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna, the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
For Christ our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice;
And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, O Lord, if we thought that in this time of pandemic all we needed was your healing, your forgiving, when what we really need is *you*, yourself. If our anxiety makes us fearful only for ourselves and our families, and not for every single person on this planet, for we all stand before you, forgive us. Forgive us if we thought we were self-sufficient, and this plague was necessary in order for us to learn how vulnerable we really are. Forgive us if we thought we were tightly bound only to those who believe as we do, and we required this plague to learn we are bound together in a fellowship of suffering. We ask you to hear us for the sake of your kingdom which Jesus, your anointed one, preached. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Receiving the Word: A Procession of Readings and Hymns

First reading. Mark 14:33-36

Hymn. "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Go to dark Gethsemane, you that feel the tempter's power; your Redeemer's conflict see;
Watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Second reading. Mark 14:37-50

Hymn. "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself;
O nobody else could walk it for him; he had to walk it by himself.

Jesus prayed for his disciples; he prayed alone for you and me.

O nobody else could bear such sorrow; he prayed alone for you and me.

Third reading. Mark 15:1-5, 12-15

Hymn. "Ah, Holy Jesus"

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended, that mortal judgment has on you descended?

By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you.

'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you.

Fourth reading. Mark 15:22-32

Hymn. "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

O Sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

Now scornfully surrounded with thorns thine only crown.

O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine;

Yea, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

Fifth reading. Mark 15:33-39

Hymn. "What Wondrous Love Is This"

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul. what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul,

For my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

Responding to God's Word

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna. I brought you through tribulation
and penitence, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock but you have given me gall and left me to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys of the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel, and you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters; I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

