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## Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We welcome you to join us on a transformative journey.

**Seeking God**, we strive to know God and love God.

**Serving others**, we follow our Servant Savior  
to help bring fullness of life to others.

**Sharing Christ's love with all**, we proclaim the  
unconditional love of Christ filled with joy and hope.

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**\*Please rise in body or in spirit**      **Liturgist: Elliott Boyle**

(On cover: Image from the 2019 Russian Mission Partnership  
Journey. Photo by Dr. Robert S. Smith)

### WE GATHER in GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

##### \*CALL to WORSHIP

One: When they had come near Jerusalem  
at the Mount of Olives,  
the disciples brought a donkey and a colt,  
and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

**All: A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road,  
and others cut branches from the trees  
and spread them on the road.**

The crowds that went ahead of him  
and that followed were shouting,  
**"Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

**\*HYMN** – *"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"* #197

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is 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.

##### \*THE THANKSGIVING & PRAYER of CONFESSION

We gather together in many sanctuaries  
**Raising our branches in joy!**

Joining all who wish to hear Jesus  
**longing for a message of welcome  
and acceptance on our journey.**

We gather together in this place.  
**Laying down our branches in fear.**

Wondering if we are able to walk with Jesus  
**through the week ahead,  
through anguish, accusations, despair.**

We gather together in this place.  
**Waving branches of prayer.  
Walking toward the Cross, and the empty tomb.**

Come, Jesus.  
Come through the streets.  
Come to find a space beside us at the table.  
Come to challenge our answers about

**Why tragedy comes  
Why poverty increases  
Why we are afraid.**

Come O Holy One.  
Speak to us in the silence  
**With wisdom greater than ours  
With love deeper than ours  
With transformation wider than ours. Amen**

##### \*ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

**It is the Lord who walks with and saves us;  
Who will declare us guilty?  
Because of the grace we received in baptism,  
We have nothing to fear.  
Thanks to be God. Amen!**

##### \*SHARING the PEACE

#### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

### READING of the PASSION ACCORDING to the GOSPEL of MATTHEW

#### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Holy One, our strength in suffering and our hope for  
salvation, lift up your Word of life and pour out your  
Spirit of grace so that we may follow faithfully on the  
way to the cross; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

#### MUSIC for PREPARATION

### THE PASSOVER MEAL – Matthew 26:17-35

**HYMN** – *"An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"* (vss. 1-3) #202

An upper room did our Lord prepare for those he  
loved until the end: and his disciples still  
gather there to celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own: to share his  
bread, his loving cup. Whatever burdens may  
bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.

And after supper he washed their feet, for service,  
too, is sacrament. In Christ our joy shall be  
made complete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.

### JESUS PRAYS in GETHSEMANE; JESUS' BETRAYAL – Matthew:36-56

**HYMN** – *"Stay with Me"* (3x) #204

Stay with me; remain here with me;  
watch and pray. Watch and pray.

### JESUS BEFORE the COUNCIL – Matthew 26:57-68

**HYMN** – *"Ah, Holy Jesus"* (vss. 1-2) #218

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

### PETER DENIES JESUS – Matthew 26:69-75

**HYMN** – *"My Song is Love Unknown"* (vs. 1) #209

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.  
O who am I that for my sake my  
Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

### JESUS SENTENCED to DEATH – Matthew 27:1-26

**HYMN** – *"Ah, Holy Jesus"* (vss. 4-5) #218

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation,  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,  
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,  
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,  
not my deserving.

### JESUS NAILED to the CROSS – Matthew 27:27-44

**HYMN** – *"Were You There?"* (vss. 1-3) #228

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

**DEATH of JESUS – Matthew 27:45-61**

**HYMN** – "Were You There?" (vss. 4-5) #228

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

**(Silent Reflection)**

**WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER** (sins...sin)

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING**

**PRAYER of DEDICATION**

**HYMN** – "What Wondrous Love Is This" #215

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!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,  
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

**\*BLESSING**

**Today we shout Hosanna.  
May this blessed word remain  
with us in the week ahead.  
May the Lord grant us all to follow  
faithfully where Christ leads us,  
and may we all know courage and certainty  
that God's Three-in-One presence  
will lead us ever closer to the grace  
of resurrection that is ours to share. Amen**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Chris & Hank Krueger, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, Joan Teckman, Stacey Winn, John & Jean Woodruff.

Email request to Judy Fisher, [fisherrh@miamioh.edu](mailto:fisherrh@miamioh.edu), or email the church office, [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

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**MINISTRY NEWS**

**Collection of Coin Banks:** In lieu of collecting our boxes on Palm Sunday this year, we would like to ask for any gifts that would ordinarily arrive through fish banks to swim upstream through online (<https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/Give>) giving this year! Until we gather for worship in person again, we encourage our young disciples to find a place somewhere in your home where you can display your fish bank as a reminder of the importance of serving our neighbors as Jesus served us.

**Morning Prayer:** Join us for a moment of daily morning prayer during Holy Week next week via Facebook Live. Each day, Pastor Lawrence and Pastor Marc will take turns leading a guided morning prayer leading up to Easter. Morning prayer will begin at 8:30 A.M. We hope you will join us through the Oxford Presbyterian Church Facebook page [\\*\(https://www.facebook.com/OxfordPresbyterianChurch/\)](https://www.facebook.com/OxfordPresbyterianChurch/).

**Maundy Thursday:** Please join us for a very special live streamed observance of Maundy Thursday and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper via Facebook Live next Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. As we observe the sacrament together, we invite you to prepare elements of your own at home (bread, grape juice, etc.), and we will partake of the Lord's Supper in a guided way together. If you have questions or would like assistance connecting to our church [\\*Facebook page](#), please contact the church office at [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

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**Oxford Presbyterian Church  
for a full ministry calendar, please visit:  
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>  
Lawrence Bartel, Pastor ~ Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor  
Kent Peterson, Music Director ~ Lynn Jacobs, Organist**

# Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday



**Sunday, April 5, 2020**



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