



April 13, 2025

“Taking Risks
for Love”

Palm Sunday
Bible Sunday

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

Restrooms: main level (exit front left), lower level (at foot of entry stair/elevator)

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

...as we settle into sacred time and space

Ring the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “Hosanna to Christ”

Ruben Avila

...acknowledging the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Singing Bowl & Opening Words from a Neighbor

Tibetan singing bowls took form in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE.
In some Buddhist traditions, they accompany meditation and chanting.
They now contribute to spiritual practices and well-being in many spaces.

***Call to Worship** *(responsive)*

Cry out, people of faith! Rejoice and praise God!

If we would not sing praise, the very stones would cry out!

Cry out, people of faith, for Jesus draws near to Jerusalem.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name!

Blessed is Jesus, who did not turn back for fear of the cross. Let us praise the God who loves us, shares in our suffering, and grants us courage for the path of faith.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name!

***Processional Hymn (NCH #213)** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

all verses

All are invited to wave a palm frond as we sing!

Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace

Centering Ourselves

...in stillness and breath

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

God of all times and places, we confess that we would rather join the crowds than stand alone. We prefer the popular point of view to a solitary witness for justice and truth. We'll sing "hosanna" when everyone else does, yet we sometimes avoid taking risks in your name. We admit our lukewarm response to your love. We trust that the way of Jesus can save us from aimlessness and sin. Be patient with us, we pray. Help us understand our own guilt. Then pour out your forgiveness such that we are forever transformed. Amen.

Musical Interlude

...to accompany our quiet prayers

Assurance of Grace

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

A Time With Children and Youth

Sung Invitation

...as young people come forward

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...

Singing "Happy Birthday"

Bill Stokes (4/17), Jackie Savage (4/19)

Wondering Together about Palm Sunday

Presentation of Gift Bibles

Turning age 4 - gr. 2 | *Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible*
Entering gr. 3 - gr. 12 | *Deep Blue Bible (Common English Bible)*

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Young Ones: God be with you

All: And also with you

Sung Affirmation

...as young people depart or return to families

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

Children's Activity | Children (age 3 - gr. 4) go downstairs with Cindy and Wendy
Youth Group | Youth (gr. 5-12) go with Telae to their main-level meeting space
Nursery | Families with infants & toddlers are welcome to utilize the downstairs nursery
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!

Proclaiming God's Love

Reading from the gospels | NRSV (New Testament, p. 105)

John 11: 45-57

Reading from the gospels | NRSV (New Testament, p. 83)

Luke 19: 28-40

Reading from the gospels | NRSV (New Testament, p. 47)

Mark 11: 15-18

Reading from a contemporary voice | from Rev. Ellis Miller

"Coming Out with Jesus"

Here ends the readings.

Thanks be to God.

As reparations for use of Black spirituals, we support Walk West (St. Paul):
a music learning community rooted in the African-American cultural experience,
where people of all ages and backgrounds can gather, explore, and grow through music.

Morning Message

“Taking Risks for Love ”

Responding To God’s Love

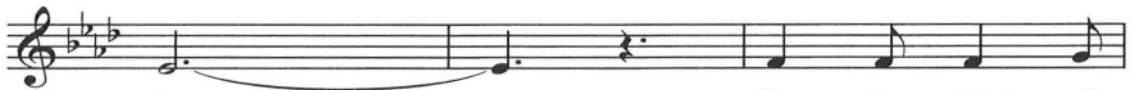
Prayer Song

“I Choose Love”

Following the choir’s lead, joining in anytime



| | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-------|----------|----------|
| 1. In | the midst | of | pain,___ | I choose |
| 2. In | the midst | of | war,___ | I choose |
| 3. When | my world | falls | down,___ | I will |
| 4. In | the midst | of | pain,___ | I choose |



| | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|-------|-------|
| love._____ | In | the | midst | of |
| peace._____ | In | the | midst | of |
| rise._____ | When | my | world | falls |
| love._____ | In | the | midst | of |



| | | |
|----------|----------|-------------|
| pain,___ | I choose | love._____ |
| war,___ | I choose | peace._____ |
| down,___ | I will | rise._____ |
| pain,___ | I choose | love._____ |



| | | | | | |
|------|-----|-------|-------|------------|------------|
| In | the | midst | of | pain,_____ | sor - row |
| In | the | midst | of | war,_____ | hate and |
| When | my | world | falls | down,_____ | ex - pla - |
| In | the | midst | of | pain,_____ | sor - row |

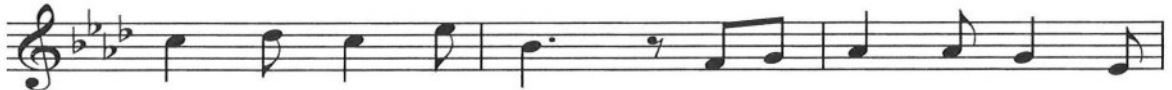
From: *Roll Down, Justice!* (CGBK72).

Text: Lindy Thompson.

Music: *I Choose Love*, by Mark A. Miller.

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fall - ing down like rain, I a - wait the sun a -
 an - ger keep - ing score, I will seek the good once
 na - tions can't be found, I will climb to ho - ly
 fall - ing down like rain, I a - wait the sun a -



gain, _____ I choose love. _____ I choose
 more, _____ I choose peace. _____ I choose
 ground, _____ I will rise. _____ I will
 gain, _____ I choose love. _____ I choose



love. _____
 peace. _____
 rise. _____
 love. _____

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
 Please tell Pastor Clare if you prefer yours not be added to our printed Prayer Corner*

...God, in your love **Hear our prayer**

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
 Holy and blessed is your true name.
 We pray for your reign of peace to come,
 We pray that your good will be done,
 Let heaven and Earth become one.
 Give us this day the bread we need,
 Give it to those who have none.
 Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
 From each one to each one.**

(cont'd on next page...)

**Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

*We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)
Blue electronic giving cards represent gifts made electronically.*



Offertory

“Hosanna, Hosanna”

Norwegian Tune

***Offertory Response**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of true power and glory, we thank you that Jesus rode into Jerusalem to challenge those in power – not with a sword, but with love and courage. We dedicate these gifts and our lives to ministries of love and compassion. May we follow in the courageous way of Jesus. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

***Closing Hymn (NCH #216) “All Glory, Laud, and Honor!”
verses 1 & 3**

We are again invited to wave a palm frond as we sing!

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**
...online and onsite: smiles, eye contact, gestures (refraining from touch)

*Postlude

Today Following Worship:

10:30am | All are welcome downstairs for refreshments and good company!
11:00am | Maundy Thursday liturgists rehearsal

PRAYER CORNER

- *For **Kathy Whiterabbit**, as she continues to heal from a total knee replacement.
- *With Kathy Whiterabbit, we pray for her husband's nephew-in-law, **James**, in the wake of recent job loss. And for all who face uncertainty in the current economy.
- *For a friend, **Sterling**, who lives in a VA home and struggles with the effects of Agent Orange. And for all our Veterans who struggle with mental and physical health challenges.
- *With Bob and Cheri Schwartz, we pray for granddaughter, **Bea**, as tests determine how best to support her with mental health challenges.
- *With **Randy Gutzmann**, we give thanks for waking up with excitement to come to church to journey together in faith.
- *Gratitude for the **Andersen Foundation's** immense generosity towards those who have lost their jobs.

A New Book Discussion is Coming...

April 27 & May 4

Join us for a post-Easter discussion of Jennifer Harvey's book, *Anti-Racism as a Daily Practice*. It is full of real-life stories that guide us in making antiracism an ongoing commitment for the well-being of our democracy.

Copies are available at Valley Bookseller (tell them you're with the St. Croix United Church book group and get 15% off) and the Washington County Library.

Questions? Contact Mary Maren Bjork
(marenmary@yahoo.com), Adult Faith Formation Team.





Week at a Glance:

Gentle Tai Chi | **April 14, 7 pm** | @ Church

Garden Gathering | **April 17, 9:30 am** | @ Church

Local Outreach Team | **April 17, 1 pm** | @ Church

Maundy Thursday Service | **April 17, 6:30 pm** | @ Church & Livestream

Speaking of Good Friday | **April 18, 6:30 pm** | @ Church

Easter Early Service | **April 20, 7:30 am** | @ Lakeside Park, near Beach House

Easter Breakfast & Easter Bunny | **April 20, 9 am** | @ Church


Indoor Easter Egg Hunt | **April 20, 9:30 am** | @ Church

Easter Worship | **April 20, 10 am** | @ Church & Livestream

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek & Jane Hanson (ushers), Kathleen Dennison (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Cindy Baker & Wendy Staberg (age 3 – gr 4), Cindy Siegel (youth group), Kim Klisch (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie, Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Sue Favilla (altar decor)



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"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

213

Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.

Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
 We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
 The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
 "Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
 Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Jennette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
 Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen
 katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

216

Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1854; alt.

Matt. 21:8-9

1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
 2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da - vid's roy - al line,
 3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
 whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.

The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,

our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Brought to France by Charlemagne, Theodulph became bishop of Orléans but was later imprisoned by Charlemagne's successor. According to legend, he was released when the king, Louis the Pious, heard him sing this hymn from prison.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
 (VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
 Melchior Teschner, 1615
 For another setting, see 217