

24 March 2024

Palm Sunday

St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!

H in the highest
Hosanna!

A green palm frond graphic, rendered in a stylized, sketchy manner, positioned below the word 'Hosanna!' and extending towards the right.

Mark 11:9,10 ESV

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326

St. John's Evangelical Church

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“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

Nursery is provided off the sanctuary for Infants – Kindergarten.

Welcome & Announcements (Greet online viewers)

Prelude

All Glory

M. Theosophy

Randy Rogers & Cinda Shea, organ/piano duet

Prayer of Confession

The Master Needs Your Donkey

L: Lord, we are too nervous to ask for help from one another.

C: The Master needs your donkey, but we're afraid to ask.

L: Lord, we are afraid to give You what you ask.

C: Help us realize that what we have is just a gift from You.

L: Lord we are too proud to lay our cares before You.

C: Help us to lay our cloaks on the colt, on the road, on Your way.

L: Lord, we have been quiet in our praise, our shouts of Hosanna sound like mice whispering.

C: Put palms in our hands; help us in grace to stand.

L: Lord, we have looked from the pinnacle of the temple, craving, protecting, and manipulating power.

C: We have told You time and time again, make the crowds pipe down!

L: Break our hearts of stone; let us see Your steadfast love, and bring forth Your Kingdom in this place.

C: Lord, forgive us for what we have not asked; forgive us for what we have asked that was not needed, for what we have kept that was needed, and for what we have given that was unjust. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News. Christ came riding a donkey of peace and reconciliation, not a charging war horse of judgment.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Glory to God, Amen.

* Gloria Patri

* Call to Worship **Psalm 31:14-16**

L: But I trust in You, O Lord;

C: I say, “You are my God.

L: My times are in Your hand;

C: rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

L: Make Your face shine on Your servant;

C: save me in Your steadfast love!

Hymn #131 *All Glory, Laud & Honor*

Let Us Pray Unto the Lord:

The Pastoral Prayer

Missing Person: Journey Harris – Toledo, OH

Mission of the Month: Celebrate Recovery

The Lord’s Prayer (*Debts/Debtors*)

Children’s Message **King for a Day** Mark 11:9

Chancel Choir *Hosanna, Blessed Is He* Berry

Giving of Tithes and Offerings:

Offering Prayer

Offerings can be placed in the baskets in back of sanctuary

Scripture **Isaiah 40:4-9**
Mark 11:1-11

Sermon **Hosanna in the Highest!**

*Hymn #134 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

*Benediction

Postlude *Hosanna in the Highest* Ellacombe

*— Those who are able, please stand

Scripture Readings (NRS):

Isaiah 40:4-9:

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.’
⁶A voice says, ‘Cry out!’
And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
‘Here is your God!’

Mark 11:1-11:

¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples ² and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’ ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and He sat on it.
⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

‘Hosanna!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

¹¹ Then He entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when He had looked around at everything, as it was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.

This was written a long while ago, and yet it remains apropos for our day. I hope this speaks to your soul as it has for mine (Pastor Randall) for nearly fifteen years:

Making Peace Possible

An ancient tradition says that Jerusalem means City of Peace. Through the centuries Jerusalem has been anything but a city of peace. It has been attacked, destroyed, and plundered on numerous occasions. Today it is the eye of a storm that is causing death and destruction.

Jesus rode into Jerusalem to become its messiah. He came not at the head of a conquering army but riding on a donkey, the animal we refer to as an ass. He came not to play God but to *empty himself and take the form of a slave*. He came to face rejection: *With that, all deserted him and fled*. Mark’s picture of Jesus’ rejection is bleak. There are no disciples around at the end, no relatives, not even God: *Why have you forsaken me?*

What will it take to make us understand the meaning of the cross, how Jesus made peace possible by his own suffering and dying? We keep thinking that we will bring peace by killing others in war; Jesus showed us that we bring peace by dying for others.

“That earthly peace which arises from love of neighbor symbolizes and results from the peace of Christ who comes forth from God the Father. For by His cross the incarnate Son, the Prince of Peace, reconciled all men with God. By thus restoring the unity of all men in one people and one body, He slew hatred in His own flesh. After being lifted on high by His resurrection, He poured the Spirit of love into the hearts of men. For this reason, all Christians are urgently summoned ‘to practice the truth in love’ (Eph. 4:15) and to join with all true peacemakers in pleading for peace and bringing it about.” [Vatican II, *Church in the Modern World* (1965), 78]

Gerald Darring

Sermon Notes

24 March 2024

Scripture: **Isaiah 40:4-9; Mark 11:1-11**

Sermon: **Hosanna in the Highest!**

1. On this Palm Sunday, for what particular things are you crying out, “Hosanna” (“Lord, save us”)? What in your life needs saving? What in our church, community, and culture needs deliverance by the hand of God?

2. In response to God’s work, what is your message from Him to the world (**Isaiah 40:6-9**)? How are you proclaiming that message (to whom, where, and in what ways)?

3. How do you emulate Jesus as He travels from Palm Sunday through His Passion (the suffering and Crucifixion)? How can you be at peace with yourself in your unique calling at its trials?

4. At the end of your days on this earth, what do you hope to accomplish for the Lord that will cause Him to say, “Well done, good and faithful servant?” What will you do now to faithfully live out those goals?

Sola Scriptura (by Scripture Alone)

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Missing Person: Today we pray for Journey Harris missing from Toledo, OH.

Community Palm Sunday Service w/ KHS Chorale: Tonight at 7 pm.

Maundy Thursday Service (communion): March 28 at 7 pm

Good Friday Prayer Times: March 29 at Noon and 6 pm

Community Easter Sunrise: March 31 at 7 am at Boy Scout Lake's small pavilion. Please bring a lawn chair.

Carl Lotz Scholarship Applications: Purpose: To provide a scholarship to a Hardin County student or church member who plans to further their education and/or training for their career. Application, eligibility requirements, and procedure list is available online at <https://forms.gle/p3Zdp3zHfsJmaqB16>. Deadline to apply is April 30 (Must complete All 3 steps).

Cookie Donations for the Bike Blessing: If you can make cookies for the Bike Blessing on May 19, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church. Thank you!

Bike Blessing: May 19 at 11:30 am

Kids Activity Bags: We would like to provide kids activity bags again each week. If anyone would like to donate a prepackaged snack or items for the bag, that would be great.

Wednesday Night Organizer Needed: We are looking for someone who would be willing to organize the Wednesday night program for next year. This would include working with the Christian Ed Committee in selecting a curriculum/program and having it prepared for the teachers each week.

Seeking Bed Ministry Leader: We are looking for someone to take over the Bed Ministry along with others to be on a committee to assist. Please contact Anna LaWarre or the church office for more information.

Nursery Subs Needed: If you would be willing to help out in the nursery periodically when needed, please contact the church office.

Confirmation: Any students that are in 7th grade or above who are interested in a confirmation class to join the church, please contact the church office or Pastor Randall. The class would probably start in the fall.

New Member Class: Interested in joining the church? Please contact Pastor Randall or the church office about a New Member Class. We will try to find a time that is convenient for all participants.

Entering Church using South or East Entrance: During the wintry and potentially icy months, entrance will be available through the east and south doors. Thank you!

Coffee Hour News: Coffee Hour is offered as a time of fellowship in our

lobby, and we hope you have time to greet one another before worship. If you take beverages into the sanctuary, please advise ushers of any spills. If spills are not cleaned up promptly, it creates stains on the carpet. Thank you for your understanding.

Bulletin Announcements: due by Friday at 8:30 AM.

Children's sermon: If you would like to be added to the Children's sermon list, please contact the church office.

Office Hours: 8:30-10:30 am & 12:30-2:30 pm, Monday – Friday unless there is a delay/cancellation. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Week at a Glance

Today, 3/24:	9:00 AM Women's Bible Study – FH 10:00 AM Worship Service 7:00 PM Community Palm Sunday Service 7:00 PM NA Meeting – Chapel
Tuesday, 3/26:	6:00 PM Women's Ministry 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery – Chapel
Wednesday, 3/27:	5-7 PM Kid's Night 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice
Thursday, 3/28:	6:30 PM Cub Scouts – Chapel 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, 3/29:	12:00 PM Prayer – Sanctuary 6:00 PM Prayer – Sanctuary Online Viewing of the Passion Play
Saturday, 3/30:	7:30 AM Men's Bible Study – Chapel 9-10:30 The Chosen Bible Study – FH

Week at a Glance:

Attendance (3/17): 77

Envelopes: \$5110

Loose Offering: \$90

Loose Ones: \$7

Mission (March): \$20

Ushers:

3/24: Janice Rall & Joy Van Horn

3/31: Carol Wilcox & Carol
Cornell



*Please join us for the Second Annual Blessing
of the Bikes hosted by St. John's Evangelical
Church and God's Thunder.*



May 19, 2024

211 E. Carrol St., Kenton, OH

11:30 - Coffee and Cookies served

12:00 - Blessing of the Bikes

Open invitation to all to attend Worship

Service beginning at 10am.

Hosted by:

*St. John's Evangelical Church
and Christian Motorcycle
Association, God's Thunder*

