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the good news is...

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inspiring us to act

## ***Welcome to Greystone***

*At Greystone everyone is welcomed and affirmed as God's beloved creation.*

*Wherever you are in life and faith:*

***You are valued.***

***You are loved.***

***You belong.***

### **Palm Sunday Was a Protest**

by Nicolette Faison

Inspired by Mark 11:1-11

12"x24" Acrylic, marker, paper collage on canvas

*Palm Sunday Was a Protest* is a sister piece to *LL Cool J* in that the inspiration was also stained glass. Unlike *LL Cool J*, *Palm Sunday Was a Protest* contains a bit more detail emphasizing the hectic energy that is found in movements. Each segment is meant to capture the eye but the central subjects are in black and white, contrasting the brilliant color palette.

The order of colors is intentionally a rainbow as a nod to the Queer community. The piece contains a sunrise behind the iconic Palm Sunday donkey, which is an ode to the Sunrise Movement. Accompanying the donkey are crowds of people with fists raised in the air, a common sight at any protest. The phrase, "No Justice, No Peace" sits around a "power to the people fist" symbolizing resistance. This symbol was first utilized by labor and liberation movements in the early 1900s. I personally associate the fist with the Black Power movement of the 1960s. Along the bottom of the piece, the grassroots of the image, are palms, a nod to the biblical story.

The crowd depicted in this artwork is inspired by the 100,000 who gathered strong in Budapest, Hungary, in June, 2025. The Hungarian parliament had outlawed Pride as part of a larger systemic effort to take away the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community in Hungary, and a "wider effort to curb democratic freedoms ahead of a hotly contested national election next year."

*Palm Sunday Was a Protest* is an ode to modern movements. This piece visually aligns how Palm Sunday is talked about with the active work happening today. Resist fascism. Resist occupation. Do justice.

—Rev. Nicolette Faison

# The Worship of God

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

## Gathering Music

"Filled with Excitement (Mantos y palmas)"  
GBC Worship Band

HOSANNA  
Words by Rubén Ruíz Ávila  
trans. Gertrude Suppe  
Music by Rubén Ruíz Ávila arr. Alvin Schutmaat

"Hosanna! Hosanna!"

Words and Music  
by Christian Mclvor © 2019

"Shower the People"

Words and Music by James Taylor

"Hammer and a Nail"

Words and Music by Emily Ann Saliers

## Prelude

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"  
Sandra Hunt

by James Ellis and Oliver Holden  
arr. Lloyd Larson

## Welcome

Bo Prosser

## †Call to Worship

One: Will you follow?

Will you lay down your coat?

Will you lay down something important?

Will you shout "Hosanna"?

Will you join the parade?

Will you sing, even if your throat is hoarse?

Will you cut down a palm branch?

Will you wave it in the air?

Will you follow the one riding on a donkey?

Will you let this good news inspire you to act?

**All: We will. We will sing. We will pay close attention.  
We will worship. We will follow.**

One: Hosanna in the highest!

**All: Hosanna in the highest.**

† Please rise in body or spirit.

## † Processional Hymn

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

ELLACOMBE  
Words by Jenette Threlfall  
Music from *Gesangbuch der Herzog!*

“Hosanna, loud hosanna,” the little children sang;  
Thro’ 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.

From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor 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 Heav’n, our King;  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!

## Children’s Sermon

April Alston

## Centering Song

“I’m Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table”  
(Excerpt)

Traditional Black Spiritual

I’m gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord;  
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, Hallelujah.  
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table; I’m gonna  
Sit at the welcome table one of these days.

## Call to Confession

Anna Beth Cross

## Prayer of Confession

All: Jesus of Nazareth,  
we know that you spent your days teaching and healing.  
You marched through the streets and walked on water.  
You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables.  
Your good news was not confined to conversation.  
It was not confined to the Temple.

**Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world.  
Holy God, we long for a faith like that.  
Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith  
to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon.  
Inspire us to love as you loved.  
Inspire us to act.  
With hope for tomorrow we pray, amen.**

## Words of Forgiveness

One: Church family,  
whether or not you wave your palm branch,  
whether or not you live out your faith,  
whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions,  
God will never stop loving you.  
Jesus will never stop marching for you.  
The Spirit will never stop listening to you.

**All: We are claimed, loved, and held in grace.  
What good, *good* news. Amen!**

## Offertory Anthem

“Those Who Wait”  
GBC Choir

Words by Pamela Stewart  
Music by Craig Courtney

## †Doxology

“O Bless the Gifts”

LAMB OF GOD  
Words by Samuel Longfellow, alt.  
Music by Twila Paris

**O bless the gifts our hands have brought;  
and bless the work our hearts have planned.  
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;  
The rest, O God, is in Your hand.  
(Repeat)**

## †Prayer of Dedication

Steve Little

## Scripture

Matthew 21:8-11, Psalm 40:1-5

Sandra Millican

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*the good news is... inspiring us to act*

Bo Prosser

†**Hymn of Response #300** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

ST. THEODULPH  
Words by Theodulph of Orleans  
trans. John M. Neale  
Music by Melchior Teschner

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,  
who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One.

The company of angels are praising Thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things created make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present.

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the praise we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

**Celebrating Community**

Christian McIvor

**Benediction**

Bo Prosser

†**Sending Song**

“Tell Me Something Good”  
(Chorus)

Words and Music by  
Christian McIvor ©2026

Tell me, tell me something good.  
Together, ground us in the ways we should  
Live out a love and faith so radical  
That we could bring great hope and joy for all.

**Postlude**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”  
Pam Weis

Setting by John Carter

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Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed  
Cover Art: "Palm Sunday Was a Protest" by Nicolette Faison  
A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones,  
where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love  
by word and deed to all people.*

*Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6*

### **Greystone Staff**

April Alston, Associate Minister, Children and Preschool  
Anna Beth Cross, Associate Pastor of Faith Formation and Administration  
Christian McIvor, Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts  
Bo Prosser, Interim Pastor  
Steve Rose, Property Manager  
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