

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

➤ ***Don't be afraid***

Call to Worship

Let us be joyful before God! Let us be jubilant this day. Let us sing praises to God's sacred name. Let us lift a song to the Holy One who protects orphans and widows and gives the desolate a home. Let us sing praises as we gather to draw wisdom and courage in this time of worship. Let us pray...

Prayer

We gather on this day to celebrate God's everlasting power – our Maker, ever creating. Christ on a donkey, our King – Holy Spirit, brooding over the world.

Holy, Holy, Holy, One God Almighty, your glory fills all the heavens and the earth!

We wrestle God in prayer, as Christ taught...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Like Jerusalem, O Christ, our sin must cause you to weep – for we confess, the things that make for peace are hidden from our eyes.

We seek your mercy.

Your house of prayer for all the nations, we have made a den of robbers.

God, forgive us.

With the crowds, we shout hosanna, little knowing who you really are.

Christ, show us grace.

Words of Hope

Do not be afraid. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee. Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!

Jesus tells us to ask for what we need in prayer – believe that we have received it – and it will be ours.

We are forgiven – thanks be to God!

➤ ***This is my Father's world***

Scripture **1 Chronicles 29: 10-13**

Then David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly; David said: *Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.*

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns and is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed and girded with strength.

The Lord has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord!

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.

Matthew 21: 1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, '*The Lord needs them.*' And he will send them immediately."

This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, *Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*"

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

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!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Message *(sent as a separate file)*

† Prayer

Loving and gracious God, we thank you that you have made us who we are and filled each one of us with a unique measure of your spirit.

As your love has been poured out for us, may we pour out our love for others. Give us, we pray, the strength to celebrate and use the gifts you give us, and to affirm the gifts of others.

Empower those who find themselves silenced by systems beyond their control. Encourage those who are imprisoned in jails of concrete and steel, prisons of injustice and corruption, and situations that are hopeless or unfair.

We pray for those who are sick and hurting in body, mind, and spirit; those who are grieving the loss of loved ones, dreams, and promises; and all who are victims of hypocrisy, greed, pride, and apathy.

Loving and gracious God, we thank you that you have made us who we are and given us Christ to help us be in relationship with you. Hear now the cries and concerns and celebrations of each unique spirit...

As your love has been poured out for us, O God, may we pour out our love for others. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen**

Blessing

Go into each place and every interaction knowing that the kingdom, the power, and the glory are God's. The world is alive with the grandeur of God. And may the grace of the risen Christ – the love of God – and the nurturing community of the Spirit embrace us all. **Amen**