

***Service of Worship***  
***March 29, 2026***  
***Palm/Passion Sunday***

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*Psalm 118:29: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Welcome/Announcements

Special Music

Call to Worship

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?  
Hosanna in the highest!

Hymn of Gathering #775 **I Want Jesus to Walk with Me**

Prayer of Confession

**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.**

*Silent prayer*

With hope for tomorrow we pray. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 118:19-24 (p.598)

Music for Meditation

Scripture Lesson: Mark 11:1-11 (p.981)

Sermon

Rev. Todd Davidson

Offering

Doxology – Hymn #606 **Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People/Lord’s Prayer

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so we believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. We have seen it alive in the world. And even when our hearts ache, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, we remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. We remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. We remember that the good news really is good news, for we have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Hymn of Sending #197 **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

Benediction Poem: For the Sake of Tiny Resurrections (insert)

## For the Sake of Tiny Resurrections

We took the kids to the beach, a herd of children lathered in sunscreen.  
We spent most of the day building sandcastles, swimming in the shallows,  
wiping sand off their eyelashes and noses.  
Things changed when a small fish washed up on shore.

The children saw it first — a little body gasping to survive.  
They cried out — Quick! We have to save it!  
We grabbed our buckets. We sprinted to the waterline.  
We scooped up the dying fish and returned it to the waves.

The kids sagged with relief as the fish jolted to life,  
a tiny resurrection in front of our very eyes.  
Full of pride, I said to them—You did something good.  
Today, you saved a life. A seven-year-old with sun-kissed cheeks  
took the bucket from my hands and said, I'd like to save some more.

He spent the afternoon patrolling the waves,  
hoping to dole out mercy to any shore-washed fish.  
He carried his bucket around all day because love inspires love.  
Love will make you want to patrol the shoreline,  
sing Hosanna, witness a resurrection, save some more—  
one bucket of water at a time.

**By Rev. Sarah Are Speed**

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