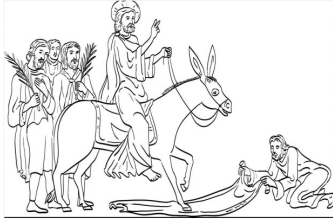


Sixth Sunday in Lent

PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026

Theme: Bridging to the Future - Reflecting in Humility and Anticipation



GATHERING

Prelude: "The Palms" Faure

Call to Worship

Leader: Lenten travelers, the journey to the cross begins with a procession into Jerusalem, a unique demonstration of Jesus' saving power

People: We cannot walk that very same path, but we can lift up praise to Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

Leader: As Jesus rides in, the crowds line the path and shout "Hosanna! Save us!"

People: He comes not on a mighty war horse, but he rides on the back of an humble donkey, a colt.

Leader: We come to call on Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!—despite the murmuring of the city. . .

People: Despite the wondering of who this person is who chooses humility over power, servanthood over strength.

Leader: Without tyranny, or schemes, or attempts to strike a deal, he gives up himself without a murmuring word.

People: We come to witness Jesus, the Messiah, the One who gives himself up in order to save!

Leader: Lenten travelers, it's such an irony, such a twist of expectations, and yet still to this day we are invited to embrace it.

People: So today, we come on the journey to Jerusalem, following a Messiah who models self-giving and sacrifice in order to gain.

Leader: Surely not of this world, we come to follow Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!

*Hymn: #198 "Ride On! Ride on in Majesty!"

*Prayer of the Day and Confession

O Christ who walks a weary road, we confess before God and one another our tendency to be as the Jerusalem crowds, professing faith with easy enthusiasm yet turning away in moments of stress. O God, we sing praises to you, happy of heart and strong of spirit when among others doing the same, yet in times of stress, so often becoming weak or seeking scapegoats to be targets of our anger.

We sometimes fail those we love and who have loved us, and turn against You, too busy to seek the best way forward or too shortsighted to trust and obey. Humble God, show us the way to enter all the Jerusalems of this world. Help us to leave fear aside, and instead with humility and courage draw upon the example of Jesus. As we have raised our palm branches high, so we raise our voices, shouting along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!"
Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem.

Words of Assurance

Your compassion, O God, is without bounds, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship and serve You again and again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast as Jesus was. AMEN

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a and Matthew 2:1-11

Sermon: "Donkey Rustling"

*Hymn: #196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Humble Savior, you ride into our lives not with force, but with invitation—calling us to follow, to risk, and to trust. When we bring our gifts, enable us to take the road where You lead. As those who laid down cloaks and waved palms, we offer what we have with hope in our hearts and praise on our lips. Use our offerings to proclaim your kingdom. May our gifts become love that confronts fear and peace that dares to speak truth to power. Save us, Lord, and use us. AMEN.

Announcements

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #363 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

*Charge and Benediction

Leader: Beloved, we head into the week trusting God to provide insight to know the way of Jesus and the courage to hold firm.

**People: Should the crowds try to lead us astray, we will instead seek the way of Jesus and the strength to follow God’s steadfast love that never fails.
AMEN**

Silent Prayer (*be seated*)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. AMEN

Postlude:
(Please remain seated)

“Ride On, O King, Ride On”

Gilbert Martin

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

Rev. James Shuler, Interim Pastor
Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

Leacock Presbyterian Church

First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in 1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.



**3181 Lincoln Highway East
Paradise, PA 17562
Telephone: 687-6619
www.leacockpres.org**