

the
Practice



Learning *the*
Unforced Rhythms
of Grace

ORDER *of* PRACTICE
March 20th, 2016



Willow Creek Chapel

PALM SUNDAY INVITATION

This Sunday we join with churches around the world in commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as the start of Holy Week, by enacting a procession of palm branches. This procession invites you to participate in the joyful celebration of the Messiah's arrival, while simultaneously remembering that the crucifixion of Jesus is not far away.



CALL TO WORSHIP

In one voice, we call out to God:

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion, meek and lowly, sitting upon an donkey. Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice. Your throne is the throne of God, it endures forever; and the scepter of your kingdom is a righteous scepter. You have loved righteousness and hated evil. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**



Passing of the Peace

*"The peace of Christ be with you."
"And also with you."*



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, **“Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’”**

So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

They said, **“The Lord needs it.”**

Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, **“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”**

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.” *(Luke 19:28-40)*

DECLARATION

Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna in the highest! *(loud)*

“Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord”.

Hosanna in the highest! *(louder)*

“Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord”.

Hosanna in the highest! *(loudest)*

**Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest**

(repeat)

**I see the king of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes
I see his love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing**

**Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest**

(repeat)

**I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith
I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees**

**Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest**

(repeat)

**Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like you have loved me
Break my heart from what breaks yours
Everything I am for your kingdoms cause
As I walk from earth into Eternity**

**Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest**

(repeat)

PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION

Curtis Miller

THE PROCESSION

God our Savior, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; let these palms be for us signs of his victory and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

<<<Communal Procession>>>

CONFESSION

Jesus rode into Jerusalem not as a conquering king but in humility, the Servant King, ready to complete the task for which he had walked this world. Forgive us those times when we think too highly of ourselves and remind us always that you ask from us lives dedicated to service, to you and to our neighbours, wherever and whoever they might be. Enable us to take off our cloaks of self-righteousness and lay them down at your feet.

Silence

to confess our sins to God

**Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like you have loved me
Break my heart from what breaks yours
Everything I am for your kingdoms cause
As I walk from earth into Eternity**

ASSURANCE

‘Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord” – and you forgave the guilt of my sin.’
(Psalm 32:5)

**Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest**

(repeat)

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We come to the table because we
are perpetually invited.

**We come to the table celebrating
that God comes near to us.**

**We come to the table acknowledging our
participation with God and with others.**

**We come to the table remembering and
proclaiming God's story centered on
Jesus' life, death and resurrection.**

**We come to the table anticipating God's
healing in our own lives and of the
whole world.**

Prayer with Table

Pastoral Prayer

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died

Christ has risen

Christ will come again.

Holy Communion



Epic Practice Potluck Feast of Glory



Benediction

Ways to Celebrate Holy Week:

3/24 Maundy Thursday

Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton IL @ 7pm

Atonement Lutheran Church, Barrington IL @ 7:15pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Barrington Hills IL @ 7pm

2/25 Good Friday

Willow Creek, S Barrington IL @ 5pm & 7:30pm

St. Mark's Episcopal, Barrington Hills IL @ noon & 7pm

Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton IL

Stations of the Cross @ 1pm, 2pm & 3pm

Tenebrae Service @ 7pm

Atonement Lutheran Church, Barrington IL

Family Worship @ 3:00pm

Tenebrae Evening Worship @ 7:15pm

3/26 Holy Saturday

Willow Creek, S Barrington IL @ 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30pm

Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton IL @ 7pm

Easter Festival @ 12pm & 3pm

Atonement Lutheran Church, Barrington IL @ 8pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Barrington Hills IL @ 7pm

3/27 Easter Sunday

Willow Creek, S Barrington IL @ 9am & 11:45am

Church of the Res, Wheaton IL @ 6am, 9am, 11am

Atonement Lutheran, Barrington IL @ 8, 9:30 & 11am

St. Mark's Episcopal, Barrington Hills IL @ 9am & 11am

The Practice is an experimental gathering where we immerse ourselves in God's dream for humanity, practice the historic disciplines that align us with His dream, and carry each other along the way. We are learning to live out Jesus' teachings in the world. Vision / Practice / Tribe



We seek to be:

KINGDOM-FOCUSED.

Jesus has invited every one of us to join Him in healing and redeeming this world. Through the scriptures, story, and worship, we want to align ourselves with this good work.

EQUIPPERS.

According to Eph 4, the church exists to equip the people for ministry. Sunday night is not the main event, but a training ground to become the kinds of people who can live our actual lives the way Jesus would if He were in our place.

PRACTICE-BASED.

More of a spiritual gymnasium than classroom. The focus is on the practices and disciplines that form us into Christlikeness.

ECUMENICAL.

Relentlessly committed to humbly learning from other Christian traditions and practices.

EUCCHARISTIC.

Every gathering will culminate with communion to weekly anchor us in Christ's death, resurrection, and promise of return.

COMMUNITY.

The Christian life is not meant to be lived alone. We need each other.

A part of the Willow Creek community.



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