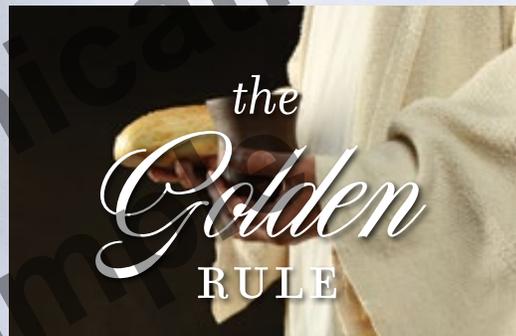


SERMON *on the* MOUNT

A SERIES of SERVICES *for* HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP KIT

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

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# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

### ABOUT “SERMON ON THE MOUNT”

This series for Holy Week takes parishioners through some of the most familiar teachings of Jesus from his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 and relates them to the events surrounding Christ's life, death and resurrection. In the process, the services will powerfully reveal that the cross itself is the ultimate sermon on the mount for our journey of faith in this sacred season.

For each service the kit contains • sample bulletins with complete orders of service • sermon • children's message • prayers • music for the accompanist

### ORDERING INFORMATION

Additional resources are available from Creative Communications for the Parish. Contact us for current pricing and availability. Call us at 1-800-325-9414. Or visit our website:

[www.creativecommunications.com](http://www.creativecommunications.com).

## **A Complete Series For The Weeks Of Lent Is Available:**

Those who desire may supplement this service with other services for all of Lent. They are available as a kit and include all the Leader's Guide features described above. The kit includes a CD-ROM (Mac/PC) in RTF format with text of services and of bulletins, plus PDF files of the kit, and PowerPoint documents for use on screens. Kit Code **SMMU**

### **Ash Wednesday**

Blessed Are You • Matthew 5:1-11

We who are poor in spirit, who mourn, and who hunger and thirst for righteousness are called blessed by our Savior in his Sermon on the Mount. Ash Wednesday reminds us that though we have been brought low by sin, our Lord will bless us with new life in him through the cross.

### **Week 1**

Salt and Light • Matthew 5:13-16

Christ calls us to be salt and light in this world of sin. We who have tasted and seen his great love for us on the cross can spend our Lent savoring his salvation and shining with his glory and grace in the places where he has put us.

### **Week 2**

Prayer and Fasting • Matthew 6:5-18

Lent is a season of prayer and fasting. We grow in our relationship with Christ by communicating with him, and we learn more about him and ourselves by giving up those things that can distract us from our connection to him.

### **Week 3**

Do Not Worry • Matthew 6:25-34

So much of our lives, even in Lent, is spent worrying about what might happen or what has happened. Christ teaches us to stop being anxious, but simply to trust that he knows what is best and will take care of us to the very end.

### **Week 4**

Judge Not • Matthew 7:1-5

We live in a very judgmental world, so Jesus' advice not to judge sounds radical to our modern ears. When we leave all judgment up to God, we free ourselves to look at one another through fresh and forgiving eyes.

## Week 5

Build on Rock • Matthew 7:24-27

We build our lives on very shaky foundations, and then we are surprised when things start collapsing. Jesus reminds us in his teachings that the only solid foundation is himself, the Rock of our salvation. On him alone we build.

### Bulletins For The Six-Week Kit:

Code **SMMP** • Pre-printed bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code **SMMS** • Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code **SMMR** • Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 14"

### You can also order the Ash Wednesday service alone:

#### Ash Wednesday

Blessed Are You • Matthew 5:1-11

We who are poor in spirit, who mourn, and who hunger and thirst for righteousness are called blessed by our Savior in his Sermon on the Mount. Ash Wednesday reminds us that though we have been brought low by sin, our Lord will bless us with new life in him through the cross.

#### Code **SMM3** • Kit

Code **SMMB** (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code **SMMF** (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code **SMMK** (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

#### Other Resources:

Code **SMM1** • Bookmark • 7" x 2 1/2"

Code **SMM7** • Promotional Bulletin Insert

Code **SMM8** • Display Posters • 11" x 17"

Code **PHSMM** • Cloth Banner Suitable For Worship

#### Bible Study Resources:

Code **SMMSG** • Sermon on the Mount Student Guide

Code **SMMLG** • Sermon on the Mount Leader's Guide

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

### PALM SUNDAY: ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

### NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Sermon on the Mount special service for Palm Sunday. In this service we remember that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people asked, "Who is this King of Glory?" They were seeking one who saves when they shouted, "Hosanna!" They were knocking on the door for a new future. What they did not know was that Jesus was opening the door to everlasting life through the cross.

### BULLETIN NOTICE

In this service for Palm Sunday, we remember that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people asked, "Who is this King of Glory?" They were seeking one who saves when they shouted, "Hosanna!" They were knocking on the door for a new future. What they did not know was that Jesus was opening the door to everlasting life through the cross.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

## MAUNDY THURSDAY: THE GOLDEN RULE

### NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Sermon on the Mount special service for Maundy Thursday. In this service we remember that Jesus lived out the Golden Rule the night he was betrayed, but with a twist. He taught his disciples to do to others as he had done to them: washing their feet, forgiving their sins and loving them unconditionally.

### BULLETIN NOTICE

In this service for Maundy Thursday, we remember that Jesus lived out the Golden Rule the night he was betrayed, but with a twist. He taught his disciples to do to others as he had done to them: washing their feet, forgiving their sins and loving them unconditionally.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

## GOOD FRIDAY: THE TREE AND ITS FRUIT

### NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Sermon on the Mount special service for Good Friday. In this service we remember that Jesus preached that good trees can be recognized by their fruits. Despite its appearance, the tree of the cross on Good Friday proved to be the best tree of all, because by Christ's death upon it came the fruit of everlasting life.

### BULLETIN NOTICE

In this service for Good Friday, we remember that Jesus preached that good trees can be recognized by their fruits. Despite its appearance, the tree of the cross on Good Friday proved to be the best tree of all, because by Christ's death upon it came the fruit of everlasting life.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

## EASTER SUNDAY: TREASURES IN HEAVEN

### NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Sermon on the Mount special service for Easter Sunday. Easter reminds us that Jesus taught to lay up treasures in heaven and not on earth. His resurrection is a wake-up call to us all that while the things of this earth are temporary, we have the precious gift of life with him forever awaiting us.

### BULLETIN NOTICE

Easter reminds us that Jesus taught to lay up treasures in heaven and not on earth. His resurrection is a wake-up call to us all that while the things of this earth are temporary, we have the precious gift of life with him forever awaiting us.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

### PALM SUNDAY: ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

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# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

### PALM SUNDAY: ASK, SEEK, KNOCK ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn and Response ..... All Glory, Laud, and Honor

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The company of angels is praising you on high,  
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Hosanna!

**C** Hosanna in the highest!

**P** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**C** Hosanna in the highest!

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C** The Lord, strong and mighty.

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C** The Lord who comes on a donkey.

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C** The Lord Jesus is his name.

**P** Hosanna!

**C** Hosanna in the highest!

The Reading of the Palm Sunday Gospel Lesson.....Matthew 21:1-9

### The Blessing of the Palm Branches

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Confession and Absolution

**P** As we follow Jesus down the road, through the gate and into the holy city of Jerusalem, we are reminded that it is our sin that has put him on this path.

**C** **Most merciful God, you sent your one and only Son Jesus to pay the price for our sin. Instead of glorifying him, we glorify ourselves through our selfishness and the idols we create and worship. Instead of walking with Jesus, we walk away from him. We are sinful in thought, word and deed. By our evil action and inaction we lock the door to the future. But by his life, death and resurrection Jesus opens it again for us. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us and restore us that we would live to your glory, love you and serve our neighbor.**

**P** The very purpose of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem was to make his way to the sorrow, pain and suffering of the cross. By his perfect life and action your sins have been forgiven and you have been redeemed. Jesus flings wide open for you the door to eternal life. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

Hymn of Response ..... On My Heart Imprint Your Image

On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares and pleasures never may your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation.

Old Testament Reading ..... Zechariah 9:9-12

Epistle Reading ..... 1 John 5:13-15

Gospel Reading ..... Matthew 7:7-11

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn ..... Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
Through 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.  
Oh, may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice  
And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

Sermon

Offering

Prayers

*Each petition ends with the following response:*

**P** Hosanna!

**C** Hosanna, Son of David.

Lord’s Prayer • Benediction

Closing Hymn ..... Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

Drawn to the cross, which thou hast blessed  
With healing gifts for souls distressed,  
To find in thee my life, my rest,  
Christ crucified, I come.

Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,  
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;  
Yet now to thee with contrite tears  
Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain;  
Let nothing of my sin remain.  
For cleansing, though it be through pain,  
Christ crucified, I come.

And then for work to do for thee,  
Which shall so sweet a service be  
That angels well might envy me,  
Christ crucified, I come.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY:

ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

COMPLETE SCRIPT FOR WORSHIP  
LEADERS

- If desired, an **Environmental Projection** is shown on a screen or on the walls of your worship space to set the tone for the service before the service begins or throughout the service at various points:

[https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/palm-sunday-background-green-tropical-tree-610613663?src=aQ\\_RR5Nf8tq9f6DvRvb1OQ-1-6](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/palm-sunday-background-green-tropical-tree-610613663?src=aQ_RR5Nf8tq9f6DvRvb1OQ-1-6)

- The **Opening Hymn and Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Valet Will Ich Dir Geben 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead, with the pastor and congregation reading the lines of the text after the fourth refrain responsively:

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The company of angels is praising you on high,  
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Hosanna!

**C** Hosanna in the highest!

**P** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**C** Hosanna in the highest!

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C** The Lord, strong and mighty.

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C The Lord who comes on a donkey.**

**P** Who is the King of Glory?

**C The Lord Jesus is his name.**

**P** Hosanna!

**C Hosanna in the highest!**

- **The Reading of the Palm Sunday Gospel Lesson**, Matthew 21:1-9, is read by the pastor or other worship leader:

**P** Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village in front 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, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

- **The Blessing of the Palm Branches** is read by the pastor or other worship leader:

**P** O Lord, God Almighty, please bless these branches and the people who bear them that you would be praised and your name be glorified. As we trace the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem, and ultimately to the cross and empty tomb, remind us that through these holy acts you have opened the door for us to everlasting life. Amen.

- **The Opening Hymn** continues, sung by the congregation to the tune Valet Will Ich Dir Geben 76 76 D:

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King.

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- The **Confession and Absolution** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

☐ As we follow Jesus down the road, through the gate and into the holy city of Jerusalem, we are reminded that it is our sin that has put him on this path.

☐ **Most merciful God, you sent your one and only Son Jesus to pay the price for our sin. Instead of glorifying him, we glorify ourselves through our selfishness and the idols we create and worship. Instead of walking with Jesus, we walk away from him. We are sinful in thought, word and deed. By our evil action and inaction we lock the door to the future. But by his life, death and resurrection Jesus opens it again for us. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us and restore us that we would live to your glory, love you and serve our neighbor.**

☐ The very purpose of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem was to make his way to the sorrow, pain and suffering of the cross. By his perfect life and action your sins have been forgiven and you have been redeemed. Jesus flings wide open for you the door to eternal life. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

☐ **Amen.**

- The **Hymn of Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Der Am Kreuz 87 87 77 88, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares and pleasures never may your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation.

- The **Old Testament Reading**, Zechariah 9:9-12, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

☐ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule

shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

- The **Epistle Reading**, 1 John 5:13-15, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

- The **Gospel Reading**, Matthew 7:7-11, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

- The **Children's Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

*(Object: a precise amount of money, such as \$1.23 or \$.54.)*

Ⓟ *(Have the money already in your pocket before the children come forward.)* If you can guess what I have in my pocket, I will give it to you. You have to tell me exactly what it is. You can't just come close. You must tell me precisely what I have in my pocket, and if you do, you can have it. *(Allow the children to spend some time guessing what's in your pocket.)*

*(After they have spent sufficient time guessing, get the money out of your pocket and show them what it is.)* This is what you could have had if you would have guessed what it is. But that was pretty hard, wasn't it? Without any clues at all, it's difficult to know something unless somebody tells us what it is.

Jesus never does that to us. He never makes us guess what gifts he has for us. He always knows what's best for us. He clearly tells us what's best for us in the Bible. So when he teaches us how to pray, he tells us to ask very specifically for what we need. If we're sick, we should ask him to make us healthy again. If we are having trouble at school, we should ask him to give us clear thoughts. If we need forgiveness, we should tell Jesus our sins and ask him to forgive us.

When we pray, Jesus tells us to ask, seek and knock. That means that we should be specific and persistent. Even when it feels like things aren't going our way, Jesus says, "Keep on asking. Keep on praying." The people who gathered in Jerusalem to welcome Jesus on Palm Sunday didn't know what they really needed. They just thought that Jesus was going to give them money and power.

But Jesus knew they needed forgiveness more than anything else. That's why he went into Jerusalem to die on the cross. He did it so that they would have the forgiveness they needed. Jesus went to the cross for us, too. Because Jesus died for us, we have the best gift of all: Every single one of our sins is forgiven. We don't ever have to wonder about that. More than that, when we really need something (not just want something), Jesus tells us to ask, seek and knock. When we do, he will take care of us better than anyone else. So keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking. Jesus knows what is best for you.

Dear Jesus, you have taught us to ask you for the things that are best for us. You always know what we need. Thank you for giving us the best gift of all: the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

- The **Sermon Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Ellacombe 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
Through 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.  
Oh, may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice  
And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

- The **Sermon** is delivered by the pastor:

**P** As a boy I prayed for a motorized Flying Tiger model airplane. This is before remote control—the plane was on the other end of a wire. For several years I prayed for that plane and did not receive it. Fast forward 20 years, and I am a young pastor. I mention in a sermon that sometimes we pray, asking our heavenly Father for something, and the answer is simply, "No."

“We trust that our Father knows best, and we move on,” I said. The next Sunday at the close of worship, our organist went into “Off We Go into the Wild Blue Yonder,” and our staff walked up the aisle with a much more sophisticated version of a Flying Tiger model airplane. We went out that afternoon and flew it. It was amazing.

Fast forward another 15 years, and I am speaking at a conference in Florida. I share that story. The next day a local man who heard the story comes forward and says he would like me to have something. It was a patch, one of several he had, from the Flying Tiger Squadron of World War II fame. He had flown with the Flying Tigers. I like to say that I’m waiting for the next segment of the story—a real airplane?

Jesus teaches in the Sermon on the Mount that our prayers to God are not cold requests to a distant deity, who must be coaxed and appeased. Our prayers are voiced in a deep, trusting relationship like that of a parent and child. So we call God, “Father.” Just as we expect good parents to do what is best for their kids, we expect God to do what is best for us.

Prayer is very much a matter of asking and receiving, but it is also more. It is seeking over time and finding. We can be knocking at the door with the same request not for a day but for years. Along the way, prayer is the means by which we discover the will of God for our lives, that will which is always good, pleasing and perfect (Romans 12:2). It’s what we expect from a good parent, good parenting.

Emily Dickinson, at least in her poetry, struggled with the efficacy of prayer. She wondered in verse if God was listening when she prayed. She wrote:

Prayer is the little implement  
Through which men reach  
Where presence is denied them.  
They fling their speech

By means of it in God’s ear;  
If then He hear,  
This sums the apparatus  
Comprised in prayer.

(Emily Dickinson. *Complete Poems*, 1924.)

There is an iffiness to Emily's prayers, a wondering if God listens. In another poem she shares the disappointment that comes from a long-term prayer apparently unanswered.

There comes an hour when begging stops,  
When the long interceding lips  
Perceive their prayer is vain.  
"Thou shalt not" is a kinder sword  
Than from a disappointing God  
"Disciple, call again."

(Emily Dickinson, *Complete Poems*, 1924.)

Who has not wondered at times, as we pray, if God is really listening. Who has not fatigued in knocking at the same door with the same request only to find silence on the other side? Jesus' teaching on prayer carries no such doubts. He is utterly confident that our heavenly Father hears our prayers and answers us.

This assurance is especially important for what we might call aspirational prayer. This kind of prayer expresses a deep desire before God that may take time before it becomes real in our lives. People in recovery understand aspirational prayer. So do those who face long-term illness or burdensome grief. In aspirational prayer we pray again and again, We keep on asking. We keep on seeking. We knock again and again. Emily to the contrary, our "long interceding lips" do not perceive our prayer to be a waste of time. This is our heavenly Father. In the very act of asking again and again, in the very process of taking our aspiration to him, we are confident we are heard and will be answered.

Palm Sunday brings with it such a confidence in aspirational prayer. As Jesus rides into Jerusalem on his way to the cross, he is the Father's answer to his children's prayers over centuries for a Messiah and Savior. Some saw it exactly as it was. Others were caught up in a revolt against Rome and wanted a revolutionary leader. Many, no doubt, were just at the beginning of a process of aspirational prayer which would have them finally see Jesus as the promised anointed one. Those who were Jews, though, knew the prophecies of Isaiah and Zechariah. They knew the cherished legacy of prayers for the coming of the Messiah and could not help but wonder.

For us who follow the one on the donkey we know where he is heading. We see the Passion before him. Once again we will walk the Way of Sorrows with him. We will listen to him pray deep and hard prayers in the Garden. We will hear his prayerful shouts from the cross. He aspired not to greatness but to service, not to power but to sacrifice. He came to fulfill the aspirational shout, "Hosanna!" by laying down his life to save us all.

This Son of God has taught us to pray just as he prayed, as a child seeking an answer from our

heavenly Father. Today, as on the first Palm Sunday, all of our aspirations find their “yes” in Jesus of Nazareth. So we continue to ask, to seek and to knock, aspiring in prayer to know him and to follow where he leads. Amen.

- The **Offering** is collected at this time. If desired, this **Mini Movie** (purchased by you from Worship House Media: [worshiphousemedia.com](http://worshiphousemedia.com)) is presented on a screen at this time for reflection on the theme of the service:

<https://www.worshiphousemedia.com/mini-movies/50664/this-is-palm-sunday>

- The **Prayers** are spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

*Each petition ends with the following response:*

**P** Hosanna!

**C** **Hosanna, Son of David.**

+

**P** Hail, O King of Glory. You call us to ask, seek and knock. When we seek you, we are knocking on the door for a new future. Because of your life, death and resurrection, our future is eternal and everlasting. Hosanna!

**C** **Hosanna, Son of David.**

**P** Hail, O King of Glory. You have given your church the gift of prayer. When we ask, seek and knock, you respond with the gifts that are best for us. You sometimes even use us as your instruments of service to answer prayers in the lives of others. Make us willing to be used for your kingdom’s good. Hosanna!

**C** **Hosanna, Son of David!**

**P** Hail, O King of Glory. Though kings and kingdoms would sometimes try to usurp your authority, you are always Lord over all. Use the governments of this world to bring peace and justice everywhere that your Gospel would have free course. Hosanna!

**C** **Hosanna, Son of David!**

**P** Hail, O King of Glory. As ruler over all, it is well within your power to bring health and healing to those who need it. Please use medicine, doctors, nurses, therapists and each of us to bring comfort and help to the people in our lives who are ill. Where it is your will, restore the sick to wholeness. Hosanna!

**C Hosanna, Son of David!**

**P** Hail, O King of Glory. We thank you for restoring to life all those who have gone before us in the faith. We are thankful for friends, relatives and fellow members of your church who now live with you in glory. The way they lived their earthly lives continues to inspire us on our journey of faith. Thank you for their life and example. Hosanna!

**C Hosanna, Son of David!**

**P** Into your hands, Lord Jesus, we place all of our needs, knowing that you are the King of Glory who answers when we ask, seek and knock. Amen.

- The **Lord's Prayer** is spoken in unison at this time.

- The **Benediction** is spoken by the pastor:

**P** The God of all grace, who opens the door for a new and eternal future, bless you with every blessing as you journey with him to the cross. Rejoice and be glad! Amen.

- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Dustan 888 6, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Drawn to the cross, which thou hast blessed  
With healing gifts for souls distressed,  
To find in thee my life, my rest,  
Christ crucified, I come.

Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,  
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;  
Yet now to thee with contrite tears  
Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain;  
Let nothing of my sin remain.  
For cleansing, though it be through pain,  
Christ crucified, I come.

And then for work to do for thee,  
Which shall so sweet a service be  
That angels well might envy me,  
Christ crucified, I come.

# SERMON *on the* MOUNT

## A SERIES of SERVICES for HOLY WEEK

### MAUNDY THURSDAY: THE GOLDEN RULE

#### MUSIC GUIDE

Isleworth 888 6 (Opening Hymn).....	120-121
Isleworth 888 6 (Hymn of Response).....	122-123
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The image displays a musical score for the piece 'Isleworth 888 6'. It consists of four staves arranged in two pairs. The top pair of staves uses a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom pair of staves uses a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is written in a style typical of a folk or traditional tune, featuring a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Creative Communications Sample' is overlaid diagonally across the lower half of the page.

- The **Opening Hymn and Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Isleworth 888 6, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead, with the pastor and congregation reading the lines of the text after the second verse responsively:

O God of mercy, God of might, in love and pity infinite,  
Teach us, as ever in thy sight, to live our lives in thee.

And thou, who cam'st on earth to die that our lost world might live thereby,  
O hear us; for to thee we cry, in hope, O Lord, to thee.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

**C** For this is the Law and the Prophets.

**P** On the night he was betrayed Jesus served his disciples with perfect love.

**C** He washed their feet.

**P** He forgave their sins.

**C** He loved them unconditionally.

**P** Through his actions Jesus teaches us to do unto others as he has done to us.

**C** Wash feet. Forgive. Love.

**P** Do unto others as Jesus has done unto you.

**C** For this is his perfect will.

Teach us the lesson thou hast taught: to feel for those thy blood hath bought,  
That ev'ry word and deed and thought may work a work for thee.

All are redeemed, both far and wide, since thou, O Lord, for all hast died.  
Grant us the will and grace provide to love them all in thee!

Tune.....Isleworth 888 6

The image displays a musical score for the piece 'Isleworth 888 6'. It consists of four staves of music, arranged in two pairs. The top pair of staves (treble and bass clefs) shows the first system, and the bottom pair shows the second system. The music is written in 4/4 time and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The notation includes various rhythmic values such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and chords. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Creative Communications Sample' is overlaid diagonally across the center of the page, partially obscuring the musical notation.

- The **Hymn of Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Isleworth 888 6, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

In sickness, sorrow, want or care, may we each other's burdens share;  
May we, where help is needed there, give help as unto thee!

And may thy Holy Spirit move all those who live to live in love  
Till thou shalt greet in heav'n above all those who live in thee.

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