

Ephraim Moravian Church
Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Order of Service

Welcome & Announcements

“The Holy City” – by Stephen Adams

Call to Worship: *Philippians 2: 5-11*

Hymn #786: “Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng!”

Rejoice, O pilgrim throng! Rejoice give thanks and sing
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king!
(Refrain) Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Lift up your standard high! March on in firm array!
As pilgrims through the darkness wend, ‘til dawns the golden day!
(Refrain)

Prayers of the Church & The Lord’s Prayer

Congregational Sung Response:

*Open my ears that I may hear, voices of truth thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ears everything false will disappear
Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see
Open my ears illumine me, Spirit divine. Amen.*

Scripture Readings: Mark 11: 1-11

Reflection

“Les Rameaux” (“The Palms”) – by Gabriel Fauré

Sermon

Hymn #343: “Ride On! Ride On, in Majesty”

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Hear all the tribes hosanna cry
O Savior meek, your road pursue
With palms and scattered garments strewed.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
The wingéd armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes
To see th’approaching sacrifice.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Your last and fiercest strife is nigh
The Father on his sapphire throne
Awaits his own anointed son.

Benediction

“Crown Imperial” - by William Walton

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Reflection - “Prelude to the Greatest Act of Love” - by Barbara Axelson

Palm Sunday, that prequel to not only Easter but Good Friday, is the pointer, the marker, to the great gift of salvation.

The language of love was expressed in ancient times by the people who were moved to cast palm branches ahead of Jesus on his humble mount. They were told, ‘Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!’ And they did. We are encouraged, as the hymn commands to ‘March on in firm array,’ undaunted in the face of life’s ever-present disappointments and temptations, to cling to remembrance that all is not yet known and that we will see the ‘dawn of the golden day.’

Jesus did His part to usher in the Golden Day, and we are tasked to do our own part. We are invited to give voice to the blessing of the Kingdom of God. That is our witness to the world, to worship and to honor the One who died for our sins and who gives us life everlasting.

So many this week will think they’ve seen Easter, by surrounding themselves with marshmallow chicks, chocolate bunnies, colored eggs and baskets galore, but we are privileged to see the very glory of the eternal God and the undying hope of all ages. Thank you, Gracious Father!

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Pastor.....Dawn Volpe
Music Director.....Colin Welford
Guest Singer.....Scott Ramsay



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