

# Quispamsis United Church

*Lent: The Stones we Carry*

**March 28th, 2021 – Palm Sunday**

**Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley**

**Music Director: Stephen Alexander**

**Hymn Leader: Lynn MacDonald**

**Reader: Chris Young**

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**Centering Passage:** *I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.*

*-Psalm 118:21-23*

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of Territories**

**Celebrations & Announcements**

## GATHERING TOGETHER

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this candle in celebration, in anticipation, in hope. The light of Christ burns bright to show us where we are and where we are going. Let us follow this light through this time of worship and beyond.

**Prelude**

St. Theodulph - Georg Kaufmann

### **Greeting (Responsive):**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **Call to Worship (Responsive):**

Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.**

He comes with joy and hope.

**He comes to set us free from fear.**

Hosanna!

**Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven.**

## **Opening Prayer**

Instead of us coming to you, you come to us, O Christ, humble and yet a king. We welcome you with branches waving, with voices raised, and with hopes high. On a donkey you ride, and what a beast to bear a person - a force - that would change the world. May we feel that we can do as much as a donkey: to bear you to the places in our lives where you need to be. Inspire us as we celebrate your place within our hearts. Guide us through this time, in the midst of the unknown in our lives, that we may walk more closely through the dark times of your life. We ask this in your strong name O Christ. AMEN.

**Hymn:** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna VU 123

- 1 Hosanna, loud hosanna  
the happy children sang;  
through pillared court and temple  
the joyful anthem rang;  
to Jesus, who had blessed them  
close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises,  
the simplest and the best.**
  
- 2 From Olivet they followed  
'mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving,  
and singing clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
content that little children  
should on his bidding wait.**
  
- 3 'Hosanna in the highest!'  
That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer;  
earth, let your anthems ring.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his humble presence  
eternally rejoice!**

## **Theme Conversation**

## **Stone Liturgy (Responsive):**

God, Help us to reach beyond our expectations

**when we are tempted to limit our vision based on what we know or have known.**

Give us the forethought to understand that creation has more potential, your people have more to offer than what is on the surface.

**Give us the courage to admit those times where our own expectations have gotten in the way of living faithfully into your call for us and unjustly separated us from each other and from you...**

*(silent reflection)*

Forgive us for the times when we were stuck waiting on what we expect rather than follow you on the way.

**When we are tempted to close ourselves to unexpected possibilities, may we search for and cling to your Spirit alive and moving in our lives. Amen.**

## **Today's Scripture: Luke 19:29-44**

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.'

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Sung Response:** VU 824

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.**

**Anthem:** He Came Riding on A Donkey – Gordon Light

**Message** Life in Interesting Times

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn:** All Glory Laud and Honour

VU 122

**Refrain**

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

- 1** You are the King of Israel,  
and David's royal son,  
now in the Lord's name coming,  
our King and blessed one. R
  
- 2** The multitude of pilgrims  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present. R
  
- 3** To you, before your passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise. R
  
- 4** Their praises you accepted;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
great author of all goodness,  
O good and gracious king. R

**How Can I Give?**

### **HOW CAN I GIVE TO MY CHURCH DURING A PANDEMIC?**

1/ If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to QUC by sending the funds to QUC@nb.aibn.com. Do not forget to send a separate email with the answer to your security question.

2/ go to [www.CanadaHelps.org](http://www.CanadaHelps.org) and search for Quispamsis united Church. You can give to the church by using your credit card. The address says Gondola Point, do not worry, that is us.

3/ you can sign up for a pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can cancel this at any time. Contact Brion Crossman at 849-6003 for details.

4/ mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

**Offertory Dedication Hymn:** Grant Us, God, The Grace VU 540  
**Grant us God the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

**We lay at your feet, O Christ, all that we are as we welcome you one again into our hearts; into our lives. Bless what we give in time, talent, and treasure. Bless us as we strive to be your people in trying times. May all that we have and all that we do be a part of the building of your kingdom of peace and love. AMEN**

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others & Lord's Prayer**

### **SENDING FORTH**

**Hymn:** Ride On! Ride On In Majesty! VU 127

- 1 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry:  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**
- 2 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**
- 3 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
The winged squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.**

**4 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.**

**Commissioning (Responsive):**

In a world of both immense beauty and terrible suffering, we have taken this holy moment to open our hearts to the journey of Jesus,

**to journey with him from desert to palms, in solidarity with all who struggle and strive,  
all those who suffer and grieve.**

As we go into the shadows of the coming week, into the silent unknowing that is before us, may we carry in our hearts the crucified Christ.

**May our hearts open like a waiting tomb, a tender womb.**

And in the sheltered silence may we cradle all that is wounded, all that is broken, all that is touched by evil and violence, until,

**Until we feel the pulse of new life begin to stir again... for God is not done with us yet.**

**Benediction**

Go now with the love of God in your hearts, the peace of Christ in your hands, and with the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the Good News you have heard this day.

**Choral Closing:**    May God's Sheltering Wings                    MV 214

**May God's sheltering wings  
Her gathering wings protect you  
May God's nurturing arms,  
Her cradling arms sustain you  
And hold you in her love,  
And hold you in her love.**

**Postlude**                    Fugue in G Major - Buxtehude