

## The Palm Passion Sunday, March 28, 2021

United Church of Christ, Neillsville - Pastor Jacoba Koppert

### PRELUDE

Karen Mohr

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All glory, laud, and honor to thee,  
Redeemer, King, to whom the lips  
Of children made sweet hosannas ring!

### RINGING OF THE BELL

### WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Holy One, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

With hosannas and praise, we greet the One  
who calls us.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of  
the Most High!**

This is the day that God has made.

**Let us glad and rejoice in it!**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you sent Jesus into the world; we  
promised to claim him as our Lord and  
Savior. At times we have praised and  
followed him; but too often we have  
betrayed, denied and abandoned him.  
Frequently, we have failed to speak a word  
of hope to those in despair, forgetting what  
faith in Jesus has done for us. At times, we  
have not stood up and acknowledged him  
when others have ridiculed him and our  
faith. All too often, we have neglected  
those in need, choosing to keep for  
ourselves our time, treasure, and talents.  
Forgive us Lord for all the times when we  
have turned away from you and our faith.**

### THE CHILDREN'S PARADE

**HYMN**      *"All Glory Laud and Honor"*

All glory, laud and honor to thee,  
Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present

Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The true and blessed One;  
To thee before thy passion, they sang  
Their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises;  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King,

### WE OFFER OUR PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### SCRIPTURE READINGS (Common English Bible)

#### **Predictions about the Disciples leaving Jesus**

Mark 14:27-31      Pastor Jacoba

<sup>27</sup>And Jesus said to them, "You will all become  
deserters; for it is written,  
'I will strike the shepherd,  
and the sheep will be scattered.'

<sup>28</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to  
Galilee." <sup>29</sup>Peter said to him, "Even though all  
become deserters, I will not." <sup>30</sup>Jesus said to him,  
"Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before  
the cock crows twice, you will deny me three  
times." <sup>31</sup>But he said vehemently, "Even though I  
must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of  
them said the same.

## **Jesus in Prayer** Mark 14:32-42 Barb Petkovsek

<sup>32</sup>They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup>He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. <sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup>He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." <sup>37</sup>He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour?" <sup>38</sup>Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup>And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. <sup>41</sup>He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

## **Arrest** Mark 14:43-52 Mike Perkl

<sup>43</sup>Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. <sup>44</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." <sup>45</sup>So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. <sup>46</sup>Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. <sup>47</sup>But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>48</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? <sup>49</sup>Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." <sup>50</sup>All of them deserted him and fled.

<sup>51</sup>A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, <sup>52</sup>but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

## **A Hearing before the Sanhedrin**

Mark 14:53-65 Pastor Jim Mohr

<sup>53</sup>They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. <sup>54</sup>Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. <sup>55</sup>Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. <sup>56</sup>For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. <sup>57</sup>Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, <sup>58</sup>"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" <sup>59</sup>But even on this point their testimony did not agree. <sup>60</sup>Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" <sup>61</sup>But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" <sup>62</sup>Jesus said, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

<sup>63</sup>Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? <sup>64</sup>You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. <sup>65</sup>Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.

## **Peter Denies Jesus**

Mark 14:66-72 Pastor Jacoba

<sup>66</sup>While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. <sup>67</sup>When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." <sup>68</sup>But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. <sup>69</sup>And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." <sup>70</sup>But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." <sup>71</sup>But he began to curse, and he swore an

oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about."<sup>72</sup> At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

**Trial before Pilate** Mark 15:1-15 Barb  
15As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate.<sup>2</sup> Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so."<sup>3</sup> Then the chief priests accused him of many things.<sup>4</sup> Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."<sup>5</sup> But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

<sup>6</sup> Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked.<sup>7</sup> Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection.<sup>8</sup> So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.<sup>9</sup> Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"<sup>10</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.<sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead.<sup>12</sup> Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"<sup>13</sup> They shouted back, "Crucify him!"<sup>14</sup> Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!"<sup>15</sup> So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

### **Jesus Is Tortured and Killed**

Mark 15:16-41

Pastor Jim

<sup>16</sup> Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort.<sup>17</sup> And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.<sup>18</sup> And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"<sup>19</sup> They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to

him.<sup>20</sup> After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

<sup>21</sup> They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.<sup>22</sup> Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).<sup>23</sup> And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it.<sup>24</sup> And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

<sup>25</sup> It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him.<sup>26</sup> The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."<sup>27</sup> And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.<sup>29</sup> Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days,<sup>30</sup> save yourself, and come down from the cross!"<sup>31</sup> In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself.<sup>32</sup> Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

**The Death of Jesus** Mark 15: 33-41 Pastor Jacoba

<sup>33</sup> When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.<sup>34</sup> At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"<sup>35</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."<sup>36</sup> And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."<sup>37</sup> Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.<sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.<sup>39</sup> Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

<sup>40</sup> There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of

Joses, and Salome. <sup>41</sup>These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

**Jesus Burial** Mark 15:42-47 Mike  
<sup>42</sup>When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, <sup>43</sup>Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>44</sup>Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. <sup>45</sup>When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. <sup>46</sup>Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. <sup>47</sup>Mary Magdalene

and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

## SILENCE

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

**Karen Mohr**



The poster features a central illustration of a wooden bowl of soup with a spoon and a loaf of bread. To the left is a cross with a sunburst behind it. The text is arranged as follows:

**Free  
Lenten  
Lunch**

**March 28, 2021**

Curbside Pick-up

**11:30 am - Noon**

**Neillsville United Church of Christ**

**515 West 2nd Street**

### Announcements

Welcome to our service of worship! We are glad you have joined us in-person, through the internet or on the radio. We pray you will experience God's love and know you too are called to follow Jesus.

- 10AM in person Sundays. Masks and social distancing required. *Please do not come if you feel ill.*
- 10AM Sunday Our service can be found on YouTube "UCC-Neillsville" and our website "Neillsvilleucc.org"
- 11AM Sunday Radio Broadcast WCCN 98.5 FM; 1370 AM
- Children's Time will be added to our closed Facebook page on Sunday
- 7:15 Wednesday March 31 CD for 7<sup>th</sup> graders

**We would like to thank Lorraine Shaw for sponsoring this week's radio broadcast as she remembers her family.**

Vanco is now available for online giving. Directions can be found at [neillsvilleucc.org](http://neillsvilleucc.org) or by calling Emile Miller. Vanco

is one option for offering your support for UCC. We will gratefully receive your financial gifts in the form most convenient for you. Thank you for your generosity.

On March 28, there is a free curbside pickup Lenten Lunch at the UCC starting at 11:30. If you have not done so already, please return your quart containers!



### **Holy Week:**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, Maundy Thursday, there will be a 7pm in person church service.

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Good Friday, the sanctuary will be open from 12pm-3pm for individual prayer.

Devotional prayer material will be available.

April 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday, 10am Sunday church service in person, online and on the radio.