



Sunday Morning Worship

April 14, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday

**Our mission: to join God in making connections
with God
with each other
with creation
with our own true selves.**

kxcalgary.com

Knox United Church is a member of the the Affirming Ministries Program,
a network of United Church congregations and ministries that declare themselves to be
fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations
and gender identities.



Ministers: Rev. Dr. Greg Glatz and Rev. Dr. Dave Holmes

Music director: Chellan Hoffman

Welcome to Sunday worship at Knox. Grab a coffee and join a conversation before the service, or enjoy some time alone. The prelude will begin about five minutes before worship. At that time, we encourage everyone to take a seat and reflect in silence.

Sunday worship is a spiritual practice in which we gather in community to deepen our experience of God connecting people to God, connecting people to each other, connecting people to their own selves, and connecting people to creation.

Welcome children! The Studio in the NW corner of the sanctuary is staffed and set up so that kids can enjoy activities created especially for them as they engage with the worship service.

How to follow along. An asterisk indicates places in our worship where the congregation is invited to stand in body and/or spirit. VU stands for Voices United (the red hymnal) and MV stands for More Voices (the spiral-bound hymnal).

Today's theme. In this Palm Sunday story, we see a side of the Pharisees that we don't often see -- that they were, in all likelihood, the group most supportive of Jesus. Here they are trying to keep Jesus safe by getting him to quiet the crowd -- which, in using Messianic language for Jesus, is setting him up to be killed for treason. The crowd, on the other hand, is full of all the "deeds of power" that Jesus has done, and is euphoric. They think a new day is dawning. In this case, though, it is the Pharisees who are correct: this Messianic language, however we understand it today, would result in Jesus' crucifixion. And yet the crowd is also correct, for if they were silent, Jesus said, the very stones would shout. The dawn of a new day always seems more complex than we think: what are the stones around Calgary shouting to us now, if only we had ears to hear? Today we look at the practice of DISCERNMENT.

Gathering the beloved community

Prelude Benedictus (Karl Jenkins) - Knox Choir

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."

Welcome ~

Passing the Peace ~

Processional Hymn* All Glory, Laud and Honour (VU 122)

Listening for the voice of God

Scripture Lesson Luke 19:28-40

(Two processions, two visions, two Kings... Look out!)

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 30 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. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" 32 So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They said, "The Lord needs it." 35 Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 37 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, 38 saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." 40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Choir Anthem Traveling the Road to Freedom (John Bell)

– see insert for lyrics

Today's Message +

If these stones could speak

Dave Holmes

Responding to God's call

Candle Lighting +

We light a candle for many purposes: to illuminate darkness, dedicate prayers, solidify intentions, offer blessings, evoke Spirit, or to nourish grateful living. Candle lighting connects us to a stillness within and to a global community contemplating change and transformation in our world.

If you choose, you can also make an offering or fill out a prayer request card. Members of our healing ministry are available for anointing and blessing prayer.

This morning you are also invited to take a stone (the stones come from “the Pit” underneath the Annex gym) and write on it a word or two that indicate what you think the stones are saying to us today. If the downtown streets, if the foothills and mountains and farmers’ fields could speak, what might they say?

Music: O Sacred Head (music: Hassler, 1601; harm. Bach; words: Paul Gerhardt, 1656)

– Knox Choir; Geritt Voordouw, flute; Chellan Hoffman, organ

*Verse 3 What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and, should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.*

Prayers of the People ~

During the prayers of the people, we remember our family, friends, our city, and people around the world. We will close our time of prayer by **singing** the Lord’s Prayer, which is on the laminated sheet in the pews.

Recessional Hymn* Ride On, Ride On in Majesty (see insert)

Blessing* +

Postlude Epilogue (Gilles Leclerc)

Thank you for worshipping at Knox today.
Coffee and cookies are served in Knox Hall (the gym) after the service.