

Small Group Worship – Palm Sunday

Provided by the faculty of the School of Church Music and Worship

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Visit www.artistictheologian.com/smallgroup for hymn accompaniments and PDFs.

Opening Call to Worship – Psalm 118:1-4

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

People: His faithful love endures forever.

Leader: Let Israel say,

People: His faithful love endures forever.

Leader: Let the house of Aaron say,

People: His faithful love endures forever.

Leader: Let those who fear the LORD say,

All: His faithful love endures forever.

Hymn: “Rejoice the Lord is King”

Scripture and Prayer Time (Psalm 118:5-6; 8-9; 14)

Reader 1: I called to the LORD in distress; the LORD answered me and put me in a spacious place.

Reader 2: The LORD is for me; I will not be afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me?

Reader 1: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in humanity.

Reader 2: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in nobles.

All: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Prayer Prompts

Confession:

- Perhaps through the distress of this difficult time, we have not called on the Lord.
- In the stress, it might be that our responses to others have been less than kind and gracious.
- Maybe we have not thanked him enough for protecting us and placing us in a “spacious place.”
- We confess our fear of things we cannot control and admit that we have lost control of the things we can ... the responses to others, our response to circumstances, and our own emotions.

Thanksgiving:

- We thank God for his Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we have our salvation, our strength, our witness, and our song.
- We thank God for hearing our prayers.
- We thank the Lord for knowing the details of every aspect of our lives.
- We thank God for answers to prayer we’ve already seen through the difficulties.



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Petition:

- We pray for those who have lost their jobs because of the economic impact of COVID-19, that they would seek and find refuge and help in the Lord.
- We pray for those who have lost loved ones and friends and that they would find their strength and hope and peace in the Lord.
- We pray that many would come to know Christ through this difficult time through the witness of faithful Christians who model “trusting in the Lord and finding refuge in Him.”
- We pray for wisdom for government officials.
- We pray for strength, stamina, and protection for health care workers, doctors, and nurses.
- We pray for our church pastors and leaders to guide and shepherd their flocks well.

Hymn: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” or “O Great God”

Scripture (Matthew 21:1-10)

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage at the Mount of Olives, Jesus then sent two disciples, 2 telling them, “Go into the village ahead of you. At once you will find a donkey tied there with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them at once.” 4 This took place so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled:

**Tell Daughter Zion,
“See, your King is coming to you,
gentle, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt,
the foal of a donkey.”**

The disciples went and did just as Jesus directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt; then they laid their clothes on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their clothes on the road; others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them on the road. 9 Then the crowds who went ahead of him and those who followed shouted:

**Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in an uproar, saying, “Who is this?”

Hymn: “I Am Thine, O Lord” or “All I Have is Christ”

Scripture and Closing Prayer (Psalm 118:25-26; 28-29)

Lord, save us! Lord, please grant us success! He who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed... You are my God, and I will give you thanks. You are my God; I will exalt you. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his faithful love endures forever.

Closing Prayer