

**Tech Script for Online Worship with the Moderator and Team
for Sunday, April 5, 2020 - Palm Sunday**

<p>Acknowledgement of Territory</p>	<p>As we gather today, I would like to ask us to take a moment to connect where we are to this virtual space that we're in. I ask you to take a moment to recognize the space you are in, and even more than that, to recognize the land upon which that space sits. For 10,000 years and more, there have been people living on this land, not just being responsible for this land, but being an integral part of it. This is the traditional territory – and, in many places in which we live, unceded territory – of the various Indigenous peoples of this land. Those of us who are settlers, descendants of settlers, and newcomers, need to acknowledge that reality; give thanks for the Indigenous peoples care for this land, past and present; for the fact that we are able to worship the Divine on it. We celebrate all of the Indigenous peoples of this land, and remember today the Elders and others who continue to be deeply devoted to their faith and relationship with the Creator, and those who are part of The United Church of Canada.</p> <p>In this time, it is important for all of us to recognize that we continue to live in broken relationship. This is a moment to recommit ourselves to working for right-relations each and every day. That is what a territorial acknowledgement is about – more than just pretty words– commitment to <i>working</i> for right relations.</p> <p>So, today, I join this virtual space, from Port Coquitlam, British Columbia – on the traditional, and unceded, territory of the Katzie, the Kwikwetlem, and the Sto:lo peoples. If you know the peoples of the land upon which you connect to this space, take a moment to reflect and give thanks, where you are. If you don't know, when worship is done, consider going to native-land.ca, typing in the name of your community, and learning a bit more.</p> <p>Thank you. May God bless this reminder, and help us to be people of truth and right-relations.</p>
<p>Call to Worship (Sung):</p>	<p>This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!</p> <p>Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu! We will rejoice and be glad!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">("This is the Day") Words and music copyright © 2003 by Bruce Harding. Evensong Worship Resources, www.evensong.ca Reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net, A711933 and/or CCLI, 11225440. Can be found at <i>More Voices</i> #122)</p>

<p>Lighting the Christ Candle</p>	<p>As we travel on the Way, we find that we travel both night and day - Sometimes, in our wandering, we need light to show us what is around. Sometimes, in our wandering, we need light as a signpost or guide. Sometimes, in our wandering, we need light to show us safe haven.</p> <p>We are on our own wilderness wander, through a time of change from our normal order of things. So, let us look to the light that shines in our lives and in our world, let us look to the light of Christ – to guide us, to strengthen us, to keep us moving on!</p>
<p>Opening Prayer:</p>	<p>I'd invite you to join with the community, and say this prayer, together.</p> <p>Will you let us walk with you, Jesus, on the road to Jerusalem; to hear the cheers of the crowd, with "hosannah" and more?</p> <p>Will you let us walk with you, Jesus, to the temple, to the challenge, to the room where you'll teach, share communion, and more?</p> <p>Will you let us walk with you, Jesus, to the garden, to prayer; though our eyes may be heavy, our hearts burdened, and more?</p> <p>Will you let us walk with you, Jesus, in this week we call "Holy," that, through trial and temptation, we might understand love, grace, and much more?</p> <p>Will you let us walk with you, Jesus... As far as we can go? Amen.</p>
<p>Singing Together:</p>	<p>And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide, (2x) And on this path, the gates of holiness Are open wide! Open wide! Open wide! Open wide, the gates are open wide!</p>

	<p>So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide. (2x) So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide! Open wide! Open wide! Open wide, the gates are open wide!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">("And on this path" Words copyright © 2000 Lynn Bauman. Music: Linnea Good, copyright © 2003 Borealis Music. Reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net, A711933 and/or CCLI, 11225440. Can be found at <i>More Voices #8</i>)</p>
<p>Scripture:</p>	<p>A reading from the Psalm 118</p> <p>O give thanks to [God], for [God] is good; [whose] steadfast love endures for ever! Let Israel say, ‘[Your] steadfast love endures for ever.’ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to [God]. This is [God’s] gate; the righteous shall enter through it.</p> <p>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 [Your] doing [God]; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that [God] has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, [God of all creation]! we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of [Adonai]. We bless you from [God’s holy house]. [For God] is God, and has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to [Adonai], for [God] is good, [whose] steadfast love endures for ever.</p>

	<p>A reading from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 21, beginning at verse 1:</p> <p>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Lord needs them.” And he will send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,</p> <p>‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’</p> <p>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,</p> <p>‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’</p> <p>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’</p>
<p>Reflection on Scripture in Word</p>	<p>Coming soon.</p>
<p>Musical Reflection on Scripture</p>	<p>A Palm Sunday Organ Instrumental (Jason Locke)</p>
<p>Gathering our Offerings</p>	<p>Take a moment to think about the gifts that God has placed in you. What is one way that you could use those gifts to love God, to love your neighbour, to love yourself in the coming week?</p> <p>If you would like to help your congregation during this rather tumultuous time, but you aren’t sure how, be in contact with your minister or the treasurer of your community of faith. As well, every congregation of The United Church of Canada is registered at canadahelps.org. You can make an electronic donation, though them, if you would like.</p> <p>I’d invite you to take a moment to offer to God the gifts in your heart – the actions of care, the resources that can help your neighbours and the world, as we sing together.</p>

<p>Prayer of Thanksgiving for the gifts</p>	<p>For all your goodness, God, we give you thanks. Thanks for the food we eat, and for the friends we meet, for each new day we greet, we give you thanks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(“For All Your Goodness, God” Words: traditional American Music: traditional German In the Public Domain - we give thanks for this gift of song. Can be found at Voices United #549)</p> <p>We do give you thanks, God of all creation, for the gifts in our hands, and the gifts in our hearts, help us to use all that we have to share your life, in all of its abundance, everywhere in your world. Amen.</p>
<p>Singing Together</p>	<p>Ride on, ride on, the time is right: the roadside crowds scream with delight; palm branches mark the pilgrim way where beggars squat and children play.</p> <p>Ride on, ride on, your critics wait, intrigue and rumour circulate; new lies abound in word and jest, and truth becomes a suspect guest.</p> <p>Ride on, ride on, while well aware that those who shout and wave and stare are mortals who, with common breath, can crave for life and lust for death.</p> <p>Ride on, ride on, though blind with tears, though voiceless now and deaf to jeers. Your path is clear, though few can tell their garments pave the road to hell.</p> <p>Ride on, ride on, God's love demands. Justice and peace lie in your hands. Evil and angel voices rhyme: you are the man and this the time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(“Ride on, ride on, the time is right” Words and music: John Bell, 1988, copyright © 1988 WGRG, The Iona Community. GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent. Reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net, A711933. Can be found at <i>Voices United</i> #126)</p>
<p>Commissioning and Benediction</p>	<p>Let us go in peace and in all that we do, let us do it for love, and by the power of the Holy Spirit.</p>

	<p>And let us always remember – we never alone! The peace of Christ holds us all creation. The love of the Creator enfolds all that has been, all that is, and all that will be. And the wings of the Holy Spirit carry it – in the moments of grief, and in the celebration of life made new – now, and always. Amen? Amen!</p>
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Let us go in peace, to love and to serve.
Thanks be to God!