



Palm Sunday  
Youth Sunday  
April 13, 2025



## University Presbyterian Church

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
(225)383-0345 • [www.upcbr.org](http://www.upcbr.org)

Pastor: Mamie Broadhurst

Choir Director: Ross Cawthon   Organist: Christopher Cunningham   Ministers: The people of this church  
Audio/Visual: Gus Rowland/Tom Shelton/Griff Campbell

Palm Sunday  
Youth Sunday  
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*Whether you are worshipping in the sanctuary or online, at any time in the course of the service, you are invited to light a candle signifying a concern, a desire for healing, a confession, or a prayer of thanksgiving that, though private, you would like to remember in the midst of our worship.*

*Please speak aloud the bold portions of the liturgy in the bulletin.  
The asterisk \* is an invitation for worshipers to rise in body or spirit as able.*

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE Corinna Storin

WELCOME Mamie Broadhurst

INTROIT *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*  
*Arr. Robert J. Powell*  
*Concordia Press, 2012*

*Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us did fast and pray,  
Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.*

*As Thou with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,  
O give us strength in Thee to fight, in Thee to conquer sin.*

*As Thou did hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and chiefly live by Thy most holy Word.*

*And through these days of penitence, and through Thy passion tide,  
Yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us, abide.*

*Abide with us that so this life of suffering over past,  
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!*

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Henry Rowland

On this day, Jesus marched

**in between the city walls and the Temple,  
in between joyful Hosannas and doubtful whispers,  
in between oppressive poverty and greedy power,  
in between rampant fear and hope unfurled.**

On this day, Jesus marched between what had been and what could be.  
On his way he got caught in another messy middle.

**Christ is not afraid of messy middles, so we'll try not to be either.  
May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.**

Hosanna in the highest!

**Hosanna in between!**

HYMN

**Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man**

*The youth will sing through once. Feel free to join in the next 2 times.*

Zacchaeus was a wee, little man,  
And a wee, little man was he.  
He climbed up in a sycamore tree,  
For the Lord he wanted to see.  
And as the Savior passed that way,  
He looked up in the tree,

*Spoken:* And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down from there!"

For I'm going to your house today.  
For I'm going to your house today.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Violet Stroope

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**God, sometimes we are selfish,  
sometimes we're too quick to judge.  
Sometimes we're both.  
Help us show mercy to those who have wronged us.  
Help us to be more thoughtful and open-minded.  
Help us to realize what we're doing wrong and to do better.**

A TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

**Forgive us for forgetting what you taught us.  
Guide us to be more like Jesus -  
to be more generous  
and to think more deeply. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Corinna Storin

Where we are quick to judge,

**God is merciful.**

When we fail to forgive,

**God invites us to try again.**

We are known. We are loved, and we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

Amen.

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

*Hymn 447 We are Forgiven*

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.**

**Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (2x)**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Jonah Savicki-Kelly

**As we listen to your word,**

**May we also listen for your word,**

**So we may hear your word,**

**And go and do your word.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Sofia Savicki-Kelly

Luke 19:1-10

SERMON

UPC Youth

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

\*HYMN (*page 9*)

***Zacchaeus Was a Tax Man***

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

*This morning Josie Costello, Hattie Knapp, Connor Strain, and Violet Stroope take their next step in the journey of faith following a time of preparation and examination.*

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION AND SCRIPTURE

QUESTIONS TO THOSE BEING BAPTIZED

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Mary Mikell

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Hattie by word and deed, with love and prayer? **We do.**

Will you encourage her to know and follow Christ and try to show her by your own example what it means to be a faithful member of Christ's church? **We will.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Lauren Cooper

BAPTISM

WELCOME

HYMN 486 v. 1

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

QUESTIONS TO THE CONFIRMANDS

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture these young people by word and deed, with love and prayer? Do you? **We do.**

Will you listen to them, recognizing that their gifts and witness can nurture and guide your own journey with Christ and Christ's church? Will you? **We will.**

PRAYER

WELCOME

HYMN 486 v. 4

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

### Stuttgart: Child of Blessing

Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign,  
Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed!  
Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.  
Child of God, your lov-ing Par-ent, learn to lis-ten for God's call.

with this wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.  
Fresh from God, re-fresh our spir-its; in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.  
Back to God we hum-bly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.  
Grow to laugh and sing and wor-ship; trust and love God more than all.

## OFFERING of GIFTS

*Reflect on your response to the work of Christ in the world today, and consider making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. Online giving is available. See the announcements for more information.*

INVITATION

Connor Strain

OFFERTORY

*Untitled*  
*Composed by Jude Raetzsch*

\*DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Riley Shaffer

**Gracious God,  
Use us, and what we have gathered here today,  
to serve this community and the wider world.  
We give thanks for the one who offered his own self  
as a blessing for all. Amen.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Throughout Lent we will celebrate the Lord's Supper, also known as the Eucharist. All who wish to partake in Christ's table are warmly invited to join.*

*All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of age or understanding. (PCUSA Book of Order W-3.0409)*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Josie Costello

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mamie Broadhurst

God be with you  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to God.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, and everything in between...

**Our Mother and Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Hattie Knapp, Nora Costello, Jonah Savicki-Kelly,  
Sadie Knapp, Corinna Storin

*All worshipers are invited to come forward (lectern/left side) or backward (pulpit/right side) by the center aisle, take the bread and dip it into the cup, and return to their pew by the side aisles.*

*For those who prefer, communion will be served directly to your seat. The elements consist of grape juice and gluten-free bread.*

### ANTHEM

*Bread of Heaven*

*Composed by Faye Lopez*

*Lorenz Corp 2024*

*Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.  
With the true and living Bread, ever let our souls be fed.  
Vine of heaven, fill me till I want no more.  
O thy cross I look and Live;  
Lord, Thy wounds our healing give.  
Day by day, our strength supplied through the life of Him who died;  
Lord of Life, O let it be rooted, grounded, built on Thee.  
Lord of heaven, may we love You more and more.  
As we take this bread and wine in these moments may we find  
Bread of Heaven.*

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Nora Broadhurst Williams

WE CONTINUE GOD'S STORY

SCRIPTURE LESSON  
Luke 19:28-40

Hattie Knapp

HYMN No. 197 (page 10)

**Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

*The congregation is invited to leave the sanctuary and enter the courtyard,  
waving their palms as we sing*

\*CHARGE and BENECTION

UPC Youth

As you leave this place, you are in the messy middle  
between Palm Sunday and Easter.  
There is a lot that will happen this week.  
We hope you will be able to find God in all of it.

This week we invite you to move through this world  
with an open heart,  
with a curious mind,  
and with the confidence that you do not go alone.  
God is with you in the mountains.  
God is with you in the swamps.  
God is with you in all the places in between.

Believe that good news, and go in peace knowing that God is....  
**Everywhere.**

POSTLUDE

*Were you there?*

*David Hurd*

*Birnamwood Publications , 2002*

*Many thanks to Gos Rowland, Tom Shelton, and Griff Campbell  
for their work livestreaming the service this morning.*



## Zaccheus Was a Tax Man

1. Zac - chae - us was a tax man who one day climbed a tree,  
 2. O Lord, you saw Zac - chae - us, so wealth - y, yet a - lone.  
 3. It was - n't just the tree - top that helped Zac - chae - us see;  
 4. O Christ, you bid us wel - come and help us all to see.

for he was short in stat - ure and said "he could not see.  
 You said, "Come down, and hur - ry! I'm com - ing to your home."  
 your love and wel - come showed him how dif - ferent life could be.  
 May we re - spond by build - ing a just so - ci - e - ty.

And yet he had a prob - lem that mat - tered e - ven more:  
 For you broke bread with sin - ners and saw with - in each one  
 He said that he'd start o - ver and work to make things fair;  
 Then chil - dren won't be hun - gry and all will share your bread.

he did - n't see the suf - fering his greed had caused the poor.  
 a per - son loved and treas - ured, God's daugh - ter or God's son.  
 he'd speak the truth, bring jus - tice, and find new ways to share.  
 Then those who now must strug - gle will live in joy in - stead.

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2010 (Luke 19:1-10)  
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Mann, 1881

ANGEL'S STORY  
 76.76 D  
 alternate tune: AURELIA

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## 197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;  
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,  
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;  
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,  
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait,  
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.



Palm Sunday

everything [in] between righteousness & mercy



## Zacchaeus

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 19:1-10

Digital painting

I had a lot of fun discovering new layers to this familiar story. I learned that Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore fig tree, which was a food source for poor people because the fruit was bitter and generally undesirable.<sup>9</sup> I had always imagined a fruitless tree, but the presence of fruit opened up interesting avenues to explore. The root word for sycamore tree is σῦκον, meaning “fig,” and as I did a study of other key words in the text, I noticed this same root word in συκοφαντεω, or “defrauded,” which was used to describe what Zacchaeus did to his community. It was curious to me that the root word for “defrauded” was “fig,” so I dug deeper to find that the Greek word was from the phrase “fig-informer” or a person who would notify authorities if one was exporting figs from Greece without paying a tax. It seemed that these “fig-informers” would use the threat of exposure to extort money from fig farmers. This is where the word “sycophant”

comes from, which evolved to more generally describe a “malignant accuser from love of gain,” which perfectly describes Zacchaeus.<sup>10</sup>

Jesus calls Zacchaeus out of his identity as “sycophant” into his new identity as “repentant host” who invites Jesus into his home and redistributes his ill-gotten wealth. Zacchaeus’s clothing holds a repeated pattern of four figs and halves of coins, referencing the fruits of his transformation.

The area where Zacchaeus sat in the tree is fruitless and dying. His actions were destructive and oppressive to his own community. The crowd is correct in grumbling about him; their anger is righteous, but Jesus offers mercy. In this visual metaphor, Jesus removes him from the tree so it has a chance to heal and nourish the whole community. Jesus’ clothing is patterned with suns, representing righteousness, and water, representing mercy, because it is through his merciful actions that righteousness for the community is achieved.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

<sup>9</sup> *Fauna and Flora of the Bible*, by United Bible Societies. (United Bible Societies, 1980). 179-181.

<sup>10</sup> For discussion of the word “sycophant” (Strong’s G4811), please see: [blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4811/kjv/tr/0-1/](http://blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4811/kjv/tr/0-1/)

*About the Worship Leaders:*

*Youth from 6th-10th grades were involved in the development of this service. Thanks to each and all of them for their reflections and the liturgy they wrote for the service today. They wrote the sermon and had good conversations about judgment and forgiveness. Thanks also to Samantha Hartmann and Alvin Raetzsch for their leadership as youth advisors this year, as well as for the extra help from Meredith Veldman and Larry Reynolds in preparation for this Sunday.*



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*Worship services at University Presbyterian Church are filmed. While most of the footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. If you have concerns, please speak with one of the ushers who can direct you to locations where being recorded is less likely.*

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