

***Prayer of Dedication and Affirmation of Faith** A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor

and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed

and blessing the children, healing the sick

and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,

forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

***Gloria Patri (581) and Charge**

Mark 12:28-31

Which commandment is the first of all?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

And the second is this:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these.

***Sung Benediction 166 (verse 4)** “Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days”

Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,

an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.



**The congregation is invited to stand.*

The Maundy Thursday service begins at 7:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

The Good Friday service begins at 5:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

Scripture passages are read from the NRSV. The Prayer of Confession and Prayers of Intercession are from *Feasting on the Word* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2014). Montreat Presbyterian Church is an Earth Care congregation.

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**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018, 9:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Henry Hart Milman (1827)

*Ride on! Ride on in majesty! Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road with palms and scattered garments strowed.
Ride on! Ride on in majesty! The winged squadrons of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.*

Ritual of Fellowship

Chimes of the Trinity

***Call to Worship**

Matthew 21:6-11

The disciples brought the donkey and the colt,
and put their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them.

**A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road,
and others cut palm branches
and spread them on the road.**

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

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!”

***Hymn 196**

“All Glory Laud and Honor”

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned,
and although we would like to deny it, we have forsaken you.

We are horrified by the suffering we cause—
to you, ourselves, and the world you have created.

Open the gates of your forgiveness
and restore us in your love, we pray,
for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 575 (unison) “Lord, Have Mercy”
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response 602 (unison) “Holy Lamb of God”
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Holy Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace; grant us your peace; grant us your peace.

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the Psalter (responsive) Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Voluntary “Near the Cross” William Doane/Carter
Margaret Neale, pianist

Gospel Reading John 12:12-16

This is the gospel of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem “O Blest Are They Who in Their Love” (GTG 208) Weed/Morgan
Vocal Ensemble

Sermon “Sightings” Keith Grogg

Prayers of Intercession/Taizé Hymn 227 “Jesus, Remember Me”

*Between prayers, the minister prays, “Hear our prayer,”
and the congregation responds by singing,*

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Minute for Mission One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory “How Brightly Beams the Morning Star” Philip Nicolai/Carter

***Doxology 607**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.