



*Entry into the City, 1990. Artist: Swanson, John August<sup>2</sup>*

## ***Service for the Lord's Day***

**April 13, 2025**

**Palm Sunday**

### ***Gathering Around the Word of Worship***

**Gathering Music**

Mike Kanan

**Striking of the Hour**

**Prelude**

*Intrada VI & VII*

Hans Leo Hassler  
transcr. Nathaniel Brown

**Welcome**

***We Rise in Spirit and in Body***

**Call to Worship** (responsive)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

**Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!**

Lo, your king comes to you;

**triumphant and victorious is he,**

humble and riding on a donkey,

**on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

**Opening Hymn 196**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession** (unison)

Loving God, you rode a donkey and came in peace, humbled yourself and gave yourself for us. We confess our lack of humility. As you entered Jerusalem, the crowds shouted "Hosanna: 'Save us now!'" On Good Friday they shouted "Crucify!" We confess our praise is often empty. We sing "Hosanna," but cry "Crucify." As the crowd laid their palms in front of you, you took no glory for yourself. We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way. We do not stay true to your will. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to follow in the way of obedience. Amen.

*Silence is observed for Personal Confession*

**Confessional Anthem**

KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ, have mercy upon us,  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**Declaration of Good News** (responsive)

In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven!

**I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**Passing the Peace of Christ** (responsive)

Today we welcome into the City of God the Prince of Peace. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Anthem**

*Sing Hosanna!*  
Children's Choir

Jacob Tilton

**A Time with Young Christians (children welcomed to the front of the sanctuary)**

***Hearing the Word***

*All Sit*

**Prayer for Illumination** (unison)

Holy God, shine your light through the darkness of this world into every corner of our hearts. As we read the many words of Scripture, may we recognize the presence of your one true Word, Jesus Christ, who bears your love into the world. Amen.

**Old Testament Reading** (responsive)

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever!

**Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.' Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.**

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. 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 the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he 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 the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.**

**Anthem**

*Antiphonal Hosanna*

G. Alan Smith

*All Stand*

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 19:28-40

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

*All Sit*

**Sermon**

*Should We Celebrate?*

Special Guest

### ***Responding to the Word***

*All Stand*

**Response Hymn 166**

*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

**Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

based on Philippians 2:5-11

**We trust in God, the source of all hope, even as we call on God to meet us in places of hopelessness. We commit to be disciples of Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself and was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the father. Amen.**

*All Sit*

**Offering**

*Call to Offering*

## Offertory

*Here I am to Worship*

Tim Hughes

*Light of the world,  
You stepped down into darkness,  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You,  
Hope of a life spent with You.*

### **Chorus**

*So, here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God!  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me!*

*King of all days,  
Oh so highly exalted,  
Glorious in Heaven above,  
Humbly You came to the earth You created,  
All for love's sake became poor.*

### **To Chorus**

### **Bridge**

*I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross!  
I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross!*

### **To Chorus**

*All Stand*

## **Doxology**

## **DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)**

**God, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for all that you have graciously poured out on us. As we begin Holy Week and walk the final steps to the cross, we give you thanks for the greatest of all gifts — the gift of yourself to your people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All Sit*

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

*A Moment of Silence*

*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.*

## ***Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World***

*All Stand*

## Closing Hymn 197

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

ELLACOMBE

## Benediction

## Postlude

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Craig Phillips

<sup>1</sup>Parts of today's liturgy are adapted from liturgy by Ginna Bairby.

<sup>2</sup>**JOHN AUGUST SWANSON** makes his home in Los Angeles, California, where he was born in 1938. He paints in oil, watercolor, acrylic and mixed media, and is an independent printmaker of limited edition serigraphs, lithographs and etchings.

*This colorful rendering of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem displays a large crowd all intently focused on him. They wave flags and palms as they follow Jesus in hope of changing circumstances. Among the crowd are also soldiers prepared to intervene should the crowd get too rowdy. Jesus sits peacefully atop a donkey, resigned to his future suffering and death. The sky is stormy, foreshadowing the coming Passion of Christ. This beautiful painting inspires in the viewer a similar hope for social justice, love, and peace.*

# Sermon Notes

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 horizontal blue or grey lines spaced evenly apart, typical of notebook paper. The lines extend across the entire width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical lines, text, or other markings on the page.

**USHERS:** Polen and Thomison families

**COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE:** Keelin Murrell, Johnna Smith, Aletheia Burt, Mack Overfelt, Wyatt Edmonds and Jeremiah Simpson

**LAY READER:** Claire Ellington

**MEDIA PERSONNEL:** Laura Parkerson

**NURSERY:** Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez

**LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY APRIL 20:** Acts 10:34–43 *or* Isaiah 65:17–25; Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24; 1 Corinthians 15:19–26 *or* Acts 10:34–43; John 20:1–18 *or* Luke 24:1–12.

## **TODAY**

**DEACON OF THE WEEK** this week will be Kim Ferguson. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** will meet today at 9:15 a.m. It will conclude an hour later in time for 10:30 a.m. church service.

**THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP** will be dining at Thai Thai Restaurant, 712 Chestnut Street today. Parking is behind the restaurant. You can order mild to spicy depending on your preference. This group is for people who like to go out to eat after church and enjoy visiting with others. We welcome you to join us.

**EASTER LILIES** will be available for purchase to honor or to remember loved ones on Easter Sunday. A form is available inside your Sunday bulletin and outside of the church office doors. To reserve a lily or make a donation in honor of those special people, complete the form and return it to the church office by Tuesday, April 15.

## **COMING UP:**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** is on April 17, we will gather together in the Fellowship Hall for an all-church potluck meal followed by our Maundy Thursday worship service in the sanctuary. The main dish will be ham and rolls and we are asking everyone that is attending dinner to participate by bringing a salad, vegetable, or dessert. The meal begins at 6 pm and worship will start at 7 pm.

**THE PRESBYTERIAN COOKING CLUB** Welcomes new members to come join their small group as they help prepare dinner for Maundy Thursday. We will gather in the church kitchen at 4:00 p.m. on April 17 to prepare ham, rolls, and drinks. We hope you decide to join us and we look forward to seeing you. Call the church office or contact Mary Evans at [maryameliaevans@gmail.com](mailto:maryameliaevans@gmail.com) (270-791-7205) to express your interest.

**GOOD FRIDAY** is on April 18. Service will begin at 12 noon in the sanctuary

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE:** Please join us April 20 for an Easter Sunrise service in the courtyard next to the Fellowship Hall at 7:30 am followed by breakfast in the Fellowship Hall starting about 8:30 am. If there is rain the service will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

**EASTER CELEBRATION SERVICE** will begin at 10:30 am on April 20 in the sanctuary.

## **OTHER NEWS**

**COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE** is Tuesday April 15, our collaborative all-community worship service will begin at 12 noon, and will be held at First Christian Church on State Street. Pastor Kyle Otterbein will give the message and communion will be served.

**YOUTH SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY** Our Youth will be leading service on Sunday, May 11. They will be honoring all mothers with a special token of love. Plan to join the Youth in honoring these special women of our church.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** Sunday Morning Circle meets the second Sunday in each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor. Circle 9 meets the second Monday in each month at 12:00 noon at a member's home; Tuesday Evening Circle meets the second Tuesday in each month at 7:00 p.m. at Diane Simmons' home; Wednesday Morning Circle meets the second Wednesday in each month at 9:30 a.m. in the 10th Street Parlor. An exact location for Circle 9 meetings will be provided on the church bulletin's calendar and in the 60-second email.

**ART EXHIBIT** We are pleased to exhibit *RHYTHM AND SHAPE: The Art of Laurin Notheisen*. Lauren Notheisen's art will be on display in the Fellowship Hall from March 28-May 22. Everyone is welcomed to come and enjoy this Spring Exhibit.

**SIXTH ANNUAL GIVEAWAY** Cecelia Memorial will be taking donations for the upcoming 6th Annual Giveaway!! They will be accepting anything from clothing to household items to toys. The date for the event will be May 10. Thank you for your help in advance.

**FELLOWSHIP PICNIC** Plan to join us on Sunday, May 18 for our Fellowship Picnic. There will be plenty of food, fun, and fellowship. More information will be available at a later date.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be June 8-12 from 5-7:30. The theme is Wild Wonder. Children will be invited to delight in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all living things by immersing them in the wonders of the created world.

**LAY READERS NEEDED FOR MAY/JUNE** A signup page is online for lay readers in the coming weeks. If you are willing to serve one Sunday, please scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date. Lay reader information will be emailed on the Friday prior to the date. Thank you!



**NEWSLETTER FOLDERS/SEALERS** A signup page is online for upcoming months for Newsletter folders/sealers. If you are willing to volunteer to help in the office with this task, scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date, contact Robin by phone at 270-843-4707, or email at [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org).



## WELCOME VISITORS!

*We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by the minister, officers, and congregation.*

**Clerk of Session:** Debbie Trickey    **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

**Elders:** Class of 2025- Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; Class of 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden  
**Deacons:** Class of 2025- Barbara Brindle, Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey; Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan

### The Presbyterian Church Staff

*Transitional Pastor*  
*Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director*  
*Children's Music Director*  
*Organist*  
*Financial Administrator*  
*Treasurer*  
*Office Coordinator*  
*Director, Preschool Learning Center*  
*Custodian*  
*Clerk of Session*  
*Sound Attendant/Sunday Sexton*

*Rev. Kyle Otterbein*  
*Dr. Wayne Pope*  
*Mrs. Beth Pope*  
*Dr. Nathaniel Brown*  
*Mrs. Terry Johnson*  
*Mr. Steve Moore*  
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*Ms. Kimberly Watkins*  
*Mr. Cedric Whitney*  
*Mrs. Debbie Trickey*  
*Ms. Laura Parkerson*

**Visit Our Church Website:** <https://bgpres.org>



**Donate Online:** The church website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, accepts online donations. Just go to our website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan this QR code:



### Calendar

#### Sunday, Apr 13

##### **PALM SUNDAY**

8:30 a.m. Fellowship  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Children's Music  
9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Circle  
9:45 a.m. Godly Play  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out Grp  
5:00 p.m. Youth Grp

#### Monday, Apr 14

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love  
12:00 p.m. Circle 9  
5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

#### Tuesday, Apr 15

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
11:00 a.m. Special Care  
12:00 p.m. Community Worship Service

#### Wednesday, Apr 16

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group  
5:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, Apr 17

6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Dinner  
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

#### Friday, Apr 18

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group  
12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

**The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101**

270-843-4707 • [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

**Pastor Kyle Otterbein • [kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org](mailto:kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org) • 319-400-6546**