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March 29, 2015

LENT 6

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.

All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

* Gathering Hymn VU #750 – *“Lift Up the Gates Eternal”*

Kayla Mueller Story – Kim Wark

Joyful Noise – *“Ride to Jerusalem”*

(children process with palms)

Call to Worship

One: Our stories of faith are not the same.

All: We discover God in our own way, in places special to just us.

One: In the midst of such diversity one thing binds us together.

All: Our God is real. Our God makes our lives and our world rich in all the ways that matter.

One: Let us celebrate our faith in worship!

Bible Adventures – *“One, Two, Three, Alleluia!”*

Children’s Time / The Lord’s Prayer

* Hymn VU #123 – *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*

(off to Bible Adventures)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

We love a parade! Yes, kind God, even in church. In the noise and giggles of children and the bustle of palms we have come to worship you. We are eager to celebrate with hymns filled with ‘hosannas’.

Part of being human is trying to steer a safe, easy course through life. We’d rather go to parties than to work. We’d prefer to dance with another instead of argue. We’d rather ignore that Palm Sunday leads us first, to Good Friday, and not directly to Easter.

Forgive us for trying to rush past the hard parts of your story. Open our eyes to the breadth of Jesus’ life---the strength, steadfastness and courage---even as it took him to death. All of this was for us. All of it reflected your love. Enfold us in your grace, we pray. AMEN

Words of Assurance

The Word

📖 Scripture Reading – Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29
Mark 11: 1-11

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – *“Isn’t it ironic”*

Anthem – *“Jesus the King”*

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

The Response

Announcements

* Offering / Response (VU #389 – vs. 4)

**God of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day’s dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!**

Pastoral Prayer

* Hymn MV #92 – *“Like a Rock”*

* Benediction / Response

**Go, my friends, in grace,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Where you go, God is there,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Come again, my friends,
To worship and to pray.
Where we meet, God is here,
Benedictus Deus.**

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator
Myrna Hagues, Organist
Judi Olson-Chiswell, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Laura Steidl, Music Director
Jessica Steidl, Joyful Noise Director
Gina Grant, Custodian
Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers