ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH 130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

Sunday, March 25, 2018, 9:00 am

Palm Sunday

Welcome & News of the Community

Music: "All Glory, Laud and Honour" VU #122 vss. 1,4

Refrain:

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel, and David's royal son, now in the Lord's name coming, our King and blessed one. **R**

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king. **R**

Basket of Blessings

Gathering Words:

One: Gather with the crowds to await the coming of Jesus.

All: We have taken his words to heart; we are moved by his compassion.

One: Rejoice with the disciples, that God's anointed One has courageously chosen to enter the city.

All: We know that Jesus will face trouble; we will stand with him.

One: Cheer with the crowd, "Blessed is he who comes in God's name."

All: Blessed indeed! "God's Kingdom is close, Hosanna in the Highest!"

Prayer of Confession:

One: It's the sixth Sunday of Lent, God, your time to help us get ready for Holy Week and Easter. We think of those who turned away from Jesus during his earthly ministry.

All: And we remember that we, too, turn away.

One: Peter was the one Jesus entrusted to "build his church." He was so willing to step out in faith. And he was the one who denied... who chose the way of darkness rather than light.

All: We too deny Jesus – even when we feel so very close to him. We refuse to follow his example. We hold back from service. And in the face of social pressure, we fail to witness to his love for us.

One: We extinguish the sixth candle with the confession that we have allowed others to define us, rather than the light of Christ.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: As the shadows gather, God has good news for each one. "You are loved. You are forgiven." God is good.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism and Reception of Members:

One: Do you believe in one God; Creator, Son and Holy Spirit?

All: I do, by the grace of God.

One: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, will you turn from the

forces of evil and work for good?

All: I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as Saviour and

Lord?

All: I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this

congregation to share in the life, work and ministry of Jesus

Christ?

All: I will, God being my helper.

Music: "Hosanna! Loud Hosanna!" VU #123

Hosanna, loud hosanna
the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang;
to Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victory palm branch waving, and singing clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,

content that little children should on his bidding wait.

'Hosanna in the highest!'
That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; earth, let your anthems ring.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his humble presence eternally rejoice!

Children's Time

Sharing the Story: Matthew 26:69-75

Focus on the Word

Music: "Were You There?"

VU #144 vss. 1,3,5

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: Having testified to our faith in Jesus, go into the world to

carry on what Jesus began.

All: We have learned what Christ taught; help us to be peacemakers in our relationships and communities.

One: Be assured of God's continuing love and blessing, now and

forever.

All: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name.

Hosanna!

Music: "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

VU #127

vss. 1,2,4

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry:
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.