

CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

April 13, 2025

Sunday Seminar 9:30 am | Sunday School 9:45 am | Worship Service 10:45 am

Worship Leader: Lisa Enns
Children's Time: Elsie Rempel
Scripture Reader: Kim Fast
Ushers: Ang Brennehan & Elsie Rempel

Visio Divina: Kathy Fast
Song Leader: Alisa Wiebe
Pianist: Verna Wiebe
Technician: Mike Smith

Lent 6: Palm Sunday

Christ Confronts our Expectations

GATHERING

Prelude
Children's Palm Processional
Welcome and Opening Words
Song: VT 315 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
Call to Worship (based partly on Luke 19:38)

One: As we worship this Palm Sunday, Christ confronts our expectations.

Many: Have we not been confronted enough?

One: In deep compassion, our Lord sets out a trajectory of full life.

Many: Form us fully, Jesus.

One: "Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

Many: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens."

All: Our Lord, it is time for you to work in and with us as we worship you!

Song: VT 314 *Holy Lord*

HEARING THE WORD

Time with Children
Song: VT 162 *The Love of God*
Scripture Reading: Luke 19:29-44

Visio Divina: This is a practice which allows us to encounter God with our sense of sight. It invites viewers into a slow, careful engagement with God through images, which we will be projecting onto the screen. Congregants will have guiding questions that they may wish to reflect on as they gravitate to a particular image or piece of art. This practice, based on the scripture that was read, invites reflection, meditation, prayer, an observation of a feeling or sensation, all savoured as a gift from God.

RESPONDING

Confession and Words of Assurance

All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.

One: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

Many: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.

One: We have not fully accepted your love for us. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Many: We cling to our expectations, and we do not make space for you to challenge them.

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please open our hearts to your love. Help us let go of our narrow expectations so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

Song: VT 579 *With Astonishment, Fear, and Wonder*

Offering of Ourselves

Sharing (livestream muted) and Prayer

SENDING

Announcements

Song: VT 815 *Sizohamba naye*

Benediction

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Luke 19:29-44

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.'

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.'