



Eastminster United Church

April 9, 2017

Palm/Passion

*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

"The Christianity that called to me, through the stories I read in the Bible, scattered the proud and rebuked the powerful. It was a religion in which divinity was revealed by scars on flesh. It was an upside-down world in which treasure, as the prophet said, was found in darkness; in which the hungry were filled with good things, and the rich sent out empty; in which new life was manifested through a humiliated, hungry woman and an empty, tortured man."

- Sara Miles

Palm Parade

Hosanna (Taize)



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho san - na in ex - cel - sis!

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Words of Welcome

Dale Hildebrand

Call to Gather

One: Tell the daughters of Mt Zion: Look! Your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey.

**All: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest!**

One: When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was excited and people asked: "Who is this person?"

All: And the crowd replied: This is Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee.

One: Gather in the streets! Raise branches in joyous celebration!

All: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of God. Hosanna in the highest!

*Opening Hymn

VU #123 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Territorial Acknowledgement and Candle Lighting

Opening Prayer

God of weary travellers, we are tired from our journeys, and yet you call us forward and invite us to walk a few more steps down the road. We wonder what lies ahead, what the future will bring in our lives, in our church, in your world. Accompany and strengthen us for what lies ahead. Amen.

Introit

I'm No More than a Colt

Andrew Donaldson

Children's Choir and members of Toronto Community Orchestra

*"I'm no more than a colt," says the donkey bearing Jesus.
"Yet I have chosen you," says Jesus on its back.*

*"I'll always carry you," says the donkey bearing Jesus.
"I must go on alone," says Jesus on its back.*

*"A king upon a colt?" says the donkey bearing Jesus.
"A king who comes in peace," says Jesus on its back.*

*"And will you think of me," says the donkey bearing Jesus.
"I will remember you," says Jesus on its back.*

*"These coats are not for me," says the donkey bearing Jesus.
"Yet you may walk on them," says Jesus on its back.*

The children are invited to Church School in the Hurndale and Jackman Rooms

We Share in Word and Song

Faith Story

My Signs of God's Grace

Pat Roy

Greek Scripture

Matthew 27:11-54

Henry Moller

Meditation

From Palms to Nails

Rev. Sarah Miller

Anthem

Were You There?

Mia Makaroff, for Rajaton

How long, O Lord? Wilt thou forget me forever?
How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

Lighten my eyes lest I sleep the sleep of death,
lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him,"
lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O, sometimes it causes me to tremble,
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there?*

How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have
sorrow in my heart all the day, my flesh trembles in
awe of thee,
and yet I dwell in deep sorrow, O Lord.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb.

But I have trusted in thy steadfast love.
My heart shall rejoice in thy salvation,
I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully
with me.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
Consider and answer me O Lord, my God

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Offertory

"Stabat Mater Dolorosa"

Giovanni Pergolesi, 1736

Soloists: Sarah Hallikas and Joy Klopp; with members of the Toronto Community Orchestra

Pergolesi's meditation on the crucifixion depicts Jesus' mother weeping at the foot of the cross:

*"Stabat mater dolorosa juxta Crucem lacrimosa, dum pendebat Filius / At the cross her station keeping,
stood the mournful Mother weeping, close to her Son to the last." This is a very personal reflection of grief,
which will be mirrored in another very personal response to Holy Week during tomorrow's Stations of the
Cross service.*

Please stand in body or in spirit during the presentation of the offering.

*Dedication Prayer

Prayers of the People

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania
Toronto Southeast Presbytery: Glebe Rd. United Church
Eastminster Prayer Cycle: Out of the Cold Volunteers and Guests

The Lord's Prayer. (from Human Rites by Hannah Ward & Jennifer Wild)

**Beloved,
our Parent,
in whom is heaven,
hallowed be your name,
followed be your royal way,
done be your will and rule,
throughout the whole creation.
With the bread we need for today,
feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.
In times of temptation and test,
Strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure,
spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil,
free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
Now and forever.
Amen.**

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

* Closing Hymn VU #121 Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery st. 1, 2, 5

* Blessing & Sending Forth

Postlude

Today

* **Welcome to Eastminster**



Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and include your email address if you'd like to receive the weekly e-blast announcements from Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book in the Narthex. Children are invited to Nursery (up to age 4) and Church School following the Children's Time. Please pick up children from Church school and Nursery following the service.

* **Special thanks** this morning to Toronto Community Orchestra Musicians: Jerry Brail – violin, Natasha Tennant – violin, Susan Ross – violin, Sharon Scanlan – violin, Solomon Hoasjoe – violin, Kathy Robson – viola, Bonnie Sheckter – cello, Anne Whiteside – bassoon, Marie Campbell – flute, and Jennifer Jones – oboe.

* **Bake Sale today!** Following the service there will be a bake sale to raise funds for our play *Lady in the Van*.

* **Easter Cantata at 2pm at Hope United Church**

Holy Week Events

* **Maundy Thursday, April 13**

2:00 pm - Last Supper Remembrance and Communion at Hope UC

7:30 pm - Hand and foot washing communion at Glen Rhodes UC

* **Good Friday, April 14**

10:00 am - Danforth Good Friday Walk begins at Eastminster UC and will walk to 4 other Danforth churches to explore the Stations of the Cross

10:30 am - "Keeping watch with the persecuted" at Glen Rhodes UC

2:00 pm - Good Friday Service at Hope UC

* **Easter Sunday, April 16**

9:30 am - Easter Breakfast at Eastminster!

10:30 am - Easter Celebration at Eastminster!

10:30 am - "Life blooms from the tomb" at Glen Rhodes UC

11:00 am - Easter Sunday at Hope UC

11:00 am - Easter Sunday at Cosburn UC

Eastminster Events

* **Easter Flowers**

Please bring potted spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. After the service they will be delivered to those unable to join us at church.

* **Tuesday, April 18 from 7-9pm: Exploring our Faith**

Our study group continues with an exploration of issues of faith, ethics and life. The group meets every second week for 5 weeks in the Parlour. All are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, April 18: Heaven and Hell

Tuesday, May 23: Is death the end of life?

* **E-recycling Fundraising Electronic Waste Collection Campaign**

Spring cleaning is in full effect! What to do with those old cell phones, laptops, gadgets etc.

Eastminster is collecting the following items:

1. Cell Phones
2. Tablets
3. Laptop/Notebooks
4. Digital cameras/ vintage cameras
5. iPads/iPods
6. Game gear Nintendo game boy, any play stations, any games for portable gear
7. LCD computer screens NO LCD TVs or TVs
8. Anything that has the apple logo even desktops and servers
9. Vintage game gear and controllers
10. Go pros

Items will be responsibly re-purposed, recycled or resold within Ontario Recycling Company will pay the Church for items donated. They can be used, working, non-working, broken screens. They all have a recycling value.

Community News

* **Music, Madness and Mayhem!**

The Toronto Community Orchestra is pleased to invite you to our spring concert, "Music, Madness and Mayhem!" on May 9 at 7:30 pm, Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Avenue. We have a wonderful program of music designed to delight your senses and send chills up and down your spine... with selections from Herrmann's Psycho Suite, Goundod's Funeral March of a Marionette, Saint-Saëns' Danse Bacchanale and Danse Macabre, Grieg's Suite No. 1, Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld, and featuring our talented oboist, Eric Chow playing Klughardt's Oboe Concertino. All are welcome, admission is free, donations are gratefully accepted.

* **Beaches Mental Wellness**

Are you or someone you know affected by a Mental Wellness Challenge?

Beaches Mental Wellness is a group of peers helping peers. Join on Tuesdays, Community Centre 55 (97 Main Street), from 7-8pm, for an evening of peer support and sharing. For more details, please visit: <http://www.beachesmentalwellness.com> or the [Beaches Mental Wellness Facebook Page](#)

* **Syrian Welcome Dinners:**

The welcome dinners entail matching local residents in the GTA with a new Syrian individual, couple, or family over for dinner into their home. The dinners are not only about sharing a meal together and tasting local foods, but are designed to welcome newcomers to the city, and to learn about Canadian customs and culture in hopes that a long lasting relationship will develop and a sense of warmth and community is formed. Sign up to host a dinner at www.welcomedinners.ca

Announcements

* **Refreshments Volunteers Needed!**

Please sign up to bring refreshments after church for a Sunday or two this fall. Our custodian prepares the coffee and tea. You bring milk, cream, juice and cookies. The sign-up sheet is at the back!

Weekly Events

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| Mondays: | 1:00pm | Prayer Shawl Knitters – meet in Sarah’s Office |
| Thursdays: | 6:00 - 6:45pm | Children’s Choir – meet in the Parlour |
| | 7:30 - 9.30pm | Adult Choir – meet in the Sanctuary |

Staff

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Custodians: Jessica Aguiar, Joshua Somers, Jordana Kuhn

Soloists: Michelle Suzanne - soprano, Andrew Hodwitz - bass, Jeff Schissler - tenor, Joy Klopp – alto