Westminster
Presbyterian Church

March 28, 2021
SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT
PALM SUNDAY



Gathering Song *Vessels* CHUCK BELL

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Gathering Words **Josie and Rich Drushal**

Pastor Enikő: "Hosanna to the Son of David!

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord!
in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Opening Hymn Ride on King Jesus SPIRITUAL

Ride on King Jesus,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Ride on King Jesus, ride on,
No man can a-hinder thee.

In that great getting' up morning
Fair thee well, fair thee well.
In that great gettin' up morning
Fair thee well, fair thee well.

Ride on King Jesus,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Ride on King Jesus, ride on,
No man can a-hinder thee.

When I get to heaven gonna wear a robe,

No man can a-hinder thee.
Gonna see King Jesus sittin' on the throne,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Gonna walk all over those streets of gold,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Goin' to a land where I never grow old,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Joy to a man when the devil goes,
No man can a-hinder thee.

In that great getting' up morning
Fair thee well, fair thee well.
In that great gettin' up morning
Fair thee well, fair thee well.

Ride on King Jesus,
No man can a-hinder thee.
Ride on King Jesus.

Opening Prayer of Confession **Josie and Rich Drushal**

We have approached confession each week in Lent in such a way that we lay bare the brokenness in order to begin the process of healing. Along the way we have acknowledged our need to restore our own Holy Vessels while attending to our role in the healing of the community and the world. The work of healing will continue as we integrate all we have learned with all that we will do moving forward.
For now, we remember how hard it is to move from thinking to doing.
Let us pray:

Forgiving God,
We have opened ourselves to healing and sometimes it is easier to pray nice prayers
than to do the hard work of putting into action what needs to happen.
Help us remember the sacred nature of the holy vessels that we are,
fragile and susceptible to shattering and yet capable of transformation.
Help us to see ourselves as you see us.
Help us to believe in our ability to change and heal
as you believe in us.

Help us, Healer.
Show us our strength.
Forgive our inertia.
Move us to move
one step at a time toward greater care.

In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

Silence

Musical Response *Vessels* CHUCK BELL

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Assurance of Forgiveness **Josie and Rich Drushal**

I invite you to return to that warm orb of light that lives deep within you once again. It may already be aglow with the excitement of the parade–the presence of Jesus leading us on. But if you are struggling, or have struggled in this season of recovery, to feel this warmth of assurance within you, do not despair. You are not the one who has to create the light. It just is. And it is a pilot light that never goes out.
You will at some time begin to notice it returning to your awareness.

Know this: You are never alone in the struggle.
No. Matter. What.
Jesus is on the journey with us.
Life's parade is not passing you by.
You are part of this Body of Christ, a community seeking healing.
For you, for me, for all.

Take a deep breath in to let this truth fill you…
and breathe out with the relief of assurance.
Amen.

Prayer of Illumination **Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading Matthew 9:1-8 **Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

And after getting into a boat he crossed the sea and came to his own town. And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." Then some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic—"Stand up, take your bed and go to your home." And he stood up and went to his home. When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

Sermon **Holy Vessels: Holy, Wholly** **Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Hymn No. 797 We Cannot Measure How You Heal YE BANKS AND BRAES

Prayer of the People **Josie and Rich Drushal**

We pray in the name of the One who is to come, Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray together:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those

who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn Lord, whose Love through Humble Service BEACH SPRING

Benediction **Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude *Vessels* CHUCK BELL

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Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

*Note: The Opening Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness were adapted from the *Holy Vessels* by Marcia McFee.

The theme song *Vessels* is led by Ken Shafer, piano, and Pong Thiemmedh, tenor.