



Palm Sunday and the Politics of Peace

Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Not on a war horse, but on a donkey.

People: Not in domination, but in peace.

Leader: Christ enters the city of power.

People: We welcome the Prince of Peace.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

We confess that we are drawn to power that overwhelms.

We long for saviors who will crush our enemies.

We are tempted by fear, anger, and control.

Forgive us when we mistake domination for strength.

Forgive us when we align your name with violence.

Forgive us when we abandon the way of peace.

Turn our hearts again toward Jesus—

Humble King, Courageous Love, Suffering Servant.

Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Leader: The One who rode into Jerusalem rides toward us still— not with condemnation, but with mercy. In Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Leader: We cry out “Hosanna—save us!” Save us from hatred and fear.

People: Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Leader: Save us from injustice and violence.

People: Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Leader: Save us from despair when change feels impossible.

People: Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach us to follow your way of courageous love.

People: Prince of Peace, make us instruments of your peace.

Sending

Leader: Go into the world—not as conquerors, but as peacemakers. Follow the One who chose the donkey over the war horse.

People: We go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.