

Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

\*\* Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. \*\*

The Service of Worship  
**First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ**  
Baltimore, Maryland  
Palm Sunday – Year C

April 13, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Prelude *Grand Jeu* Nancy Flandermyer Chronister, Director of Music  
by Louis Antoine Dornel

Welcome The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Call to Worship (congregation reads **bold print**)

On this day of palms and celebration, Jesus continues his journey with God.

**We will go with him, for a while, until he turns towards Calvary.**

From the top of Olive Mountain, Jesus prepares to travel through the valley of heartache and loss.

**We will follow Jesus, for a while, cradling hope in our hearts.**

In the streets of Jerusalem, Jesus hears the cries of those who adore him.

**We will shout Jesus' name, for a while, until we cry out, "Crucify him!"**

Hymn for Worship NCH # 213 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* ELLACOMBE  
~ as you are able, please stand ~

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

*Remember these known joys and concerns:*

- Bryce – after a kidney transplant
- Richard and Nate Arrington
- McKenzie Shaw – living with chronic pain
- Corrie Bates and her family
- Martha Wharton – surgery on 04/24
- Jen's friend, Andrew and his family
- Peace in our world, our country, our community

*If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.*

Invitation to the Parade SPandP #132 *Pave The Way With Branches* Bret Hesla  
(see insert, verse 1)

*(congregation makes their way around the circle of signs and palms)*

Call to Prayer *Kyrie* (see insert) GUARANI

Prayers of the People Rev. Sisson

The Lord's Prayer (by Neil Douglas-Klotz) (in unison)

**O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos**  
**Focus your light within us - make it useful.**  
**Create your reign of unity now**  
**Through our fiery hearts and willing hands**  
**Help us love beyond our ideals**

and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.  
 Animate the earth within us: we then  
 feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all.  
 Untangle the knots within  
 so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other.  
 Don't let surface things delude us,  
 But free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.  
 Out of you, the astonishing fire,  
 Returning light and sound to the cosmos. Amen.

Hymn for Awe	NCH #223	<i>What Wondrous Love Is This</i>	WONDRIOUS LOVE
		~ as you are able, please stand ~	
Gospel Lesson		<i>Luke 19:28-40</i>	Beth Wheat, Liturgist
The Anthem		Blessed Is He Who Comes	Choir
		by Pepper Choplin	
The Message		<i>Activism: Then and Now</i>	Rev. Sisson
Making an Offering			

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: [first-ststephens.org](http://first-ststephens.org) You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code in this bulletin. Thank you.

Dedicating our Offerings (congregation reads **bold print**)

**Turn our palm branches into food for the hungry, turn the nails we hide behind our backs into justice for the forgotten, turn our shouts of joy into whispers of compassion for the broken. Turn our gifts into the hope, the grace, the life others need. Amen.**

Hymn for Sending	SPandP #132	<i>Pave The Way With Branches</i>	Bret Hesla
		(see insert, sing all verses)	
		~ as you are able, please stand ~	

Benediction  
 Postlude

+ + + + +  
 Worship Resources for today are adapted from:  
 Thom Shuman, PCUSA  
 Neil Douglas-Klotz  
 C. Welton Gaddy, AoB

**Welcome!** We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please join us for coffee after the service in the Gathering Room behind the sanctuary.

To Make an Offering Now



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 7p.m. – Maundy Thursday Service**  
**April 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. – Easter Sunday**

**Order your Easter Flowers Today!** – If you want to place flowers in the sanctuary for Easter, please fill out the order form and make your payment today. Lilies are \$11; tulips are \$10 and come in red, yellow, white, purple.

**Save your Bubble Wrap** – If you receive packages at home that are wrapped in bubble wrap, please bring the bubble wrap to the box in the foyer and it will be repurposed by Zach Langdon-Kennedy, our artist-in-residence.

**Yard Sale!** The Stoneleigh Yard Sale is **Sat April 26th, 9am-12pm**. Please look through your closets, garage etc. for items to donate to the FSS tables that we'll set up at **7007 York Rd.** Plan to bring donations that morning by 8am if possible. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ITEMS TO THE CHURCH, THERE IS NO ROOM FOR STORAGE.** Items that typically go quickly: tools, small appliances, sporting gear, camping equipment, bikes. Bring whatever you are ready to part with, and what doesn't sell we'll donate to Goodwill. For info, contact Lois at [ljoellen@verizon.net](mailto:ljoellen@verizon.net), Kevin at [Kevin@jpar5star.com](mailto:Kevin@jpar5star.com), or Jason at [jason@jpar5star.com](mailto:jason@jpar5star.com).

**ACTC** is asking for any non-perishable food items. For April, please bring **bottled water and canned meats**. Place items in the red wagon in the foyer so they may be delivered weekly.

**Changing the Cycles** – please bring **sanitary products** to help those in menstrual poverty. Please bring items to the box in the foyer and help young women remain in school during their cycles.

**Church Office (410) 377-5224**

**WiFi Password: ONAcomma**

### Church Staff

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### Consistory for 2025

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# What Wondrous Love Is This

19th century, United States; alt.  
First published in Mercer's Cluster, 1836

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What  
2 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to  
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul!  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!

What won-drous love is  
To God and to the  
And when from death I'm

this! that Christ should come in bliss to bear the heav-y cross for my  
Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme, I will  
free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!  
sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

*This anonymous folk hymn, with its modal (dorian) tune, has appeared in many versions. William Walker, compiler of Southern Harmony, one of the most important nineteenth-century tune books in the United States, lived and died in Spartanburg, South Carolina.*

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE 12.9.12.12.9.  
(CHRISTOPHER)  
Appendix to Wm. Walker's Southern Harmony, c. 1843  
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

# 132 Pave the Way with Justice

♩=100

- |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Je - sus is com - ing...    | Pave the way with just - ice.*     |
| 2. Hope for the down - trod... | Pave the way with just - ice.      |
| 3. Land for the land - less... | Pave the way with just - ice.      |
| 4. Debts are for - giv - en... | Pave the way with just - ice.      |
| -lease for the cap - tives.    | Pave the way with just - ice. Re - |
| suf - fer - ing ser - vant...  | Pave the way with just - ice. The  |

- Chorus follows each verse
- |                             |                |        |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Je - sus is com - ing.      | Ho - san - na. |        |
| Hope for the down - trod.   | Ho - san - na. |        |
| Land for the land - less.   | Ho - san - na. |        |
| Debts are for - giv - en.   | Ho - san - na. | 5. Re- |
| -lease for the cap - tives. | Ho - san - na. | 6. The |
| suf - fer - ing ser - vant. | Ho - san - na. |        |

Chorus

Ho - san - na. Je - sus is com - ing, Ho - sa - na to the

Prince of Peace. Ho - san - na. Je - sus is com - ing, Ho -

- sa - na to the Prince of Peace.

\*For Palm Sunday, substitute "branches" for "justice."

# Kyrie Eleison

## Oré Poriajú Verekó

377

Unison A D E A

1 Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri -  
 2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri -  
 1 O Lord, have mer - cy, O Lord, have mer - cy, O  
 2 O Christ, have mer - cy, O Christ, have mer - cy, O  
 1 O - ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, \*Ñan - de - ya - ra; O

F# Bm E A (v)

e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 ste e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.  
 Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.  
 ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, \*Ñan - de - ya - ra.

\*A stanza may be added by substituting "Jesu Cristo" for "Ñandeyara."

WORDS: Paraguayan

MUSIC: Guarani Kyrie; harm. Carlton R. Young (1926-)

Music Harm. © 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBG Musik

## "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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*Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.**Mark 11:8-10; Matt. 21:15*

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;  
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,  
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;  
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.  
 We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,  
 The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,  
 "Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.  
 Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

*Jennette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.*

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.  
 Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen  
 katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784