

Sunday, April 5, 2020

Opening prayer:

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing of the Palms: *(This year I invite you to use any branches, or plants that you have in your home to represent the Palms. The disciples used what they had available to them – Palms. We will use what we have available to be a sign of God's presence.)*

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Readings (if you don't have a bible handy, biblegateway.com is a great resource. We use NRSV - "new revised standard version" as our translation for worship)

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14-27:66

Questions to talk about:

How would you explain the meaning of the cross as a symbol of your faith? (Matt 27:32-54)

What is the biggest challenge, difficulty or puzzle in your life of faith today? (Isaiah 50:4-9)

How has your understanding and vision of a triune God changed in your lifetime? (Phil 2:5-11)

Pray the Lord's Prayer together

Bless one another saying:

May God bless you this week and always. AMEN

Resources:

Opening prayer: Sundaysandseasons.com #AS008098

Questions for discussion: #workingpreacher