



Rooted in Love: Rooted in Christ

8:45 a.m. + March 24, 2024 + Palm Sunday

We are about to embark on Holy Week, the most sacred and mystical passage in the Christian year, when we ritually re-live and re-claim the very epicenter of Christianity, as Jesus reveals the depth of love and wagers his very life for the reality of the premise he has staked his whole ministry on: that love is stronger than death — love is the strongest power in the world — stronger than fear — stronger than hatred — stronger than division — stronger than violence. This is the moment, this week, when we again have the opportunity in a very special way to enter into this mystery of love with him, confront our own fears and shadows, and emerge as shareholders in his resurrection — not only through faith but through our own lived experience.... The epicenter of Christianity is Love, and this week we enter the epicenter.

May we do so in Love.

Cynthia Bourgeault

Welcome

Singing our Joy

Hosanna, hosanna.

Hosanna, hosanna.

“Hosanna”

Entering the Story

Luke 19:37 – 40

Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

*“Blessed is the king
who comes in the Name of the Lord!*

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Joy Overflowing

Hosanna, hosanna.

Hosanna, hosanna.

“Hosanna”

Sitting with Scripture

Ephesians 6:10-13

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the methods of the Accuser, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the day of trouble and, having done all, to stand firm.

Song of Response

"Only Be Still"

*The Lord will fight for you.
Only be still, only be still.
Stand firm and you will see.
Only be still, only be still.
Though enemies surround,
Just wait on holy ground.
For God is all around,
Only be still, only be still.*

*The Lord abides with you,
Only be still, only be still.
Believe and you will see.
Only be still, only be still.
Though fears and doubts surround,
Just wait on holy ground.
For God is all around,
Only be still, only be still.*

The Story Continues

Luke 19:41-42, 45-46

As Jesus came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes..." Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there, and he said, "It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of robbers."

Meditation

Prayers for Strength with Sung Response

"Circle Me"

*Circle them, O God,
Keep faith within,
Keep doubt without.
Circle them, O God,
Keep calm within,
Keep turmoil out.
Keep life within,
Keep death without.
O circle them,
O circle them.*

*Circle me, O God,
Keep faith within,
Keep doubt without.
Circle me, O God,
Keep calm within,
Keep turmoil out.
Keep life within,
Keep death without.
O circle me,
O circle me.*

Silence

During these minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. You are in God and God is in you. Just be and relax. Center your attention in your heart and imagine your breath flowing in and out from your heart area. If it helps you to center, use a sacred prayer word such as Christ, Love, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit. Or follow the rhythm of your breath.

Encouraging Each Other

*Awake, awake,
Put on your strength.
Awake, awake,
Put on your strength.*

"Awake, Awake, Put on Your Strength"

Communion

Singing Our Hope

*May we go in the Name of the Lord.
May we journey in power and strength.
Proclaiming the glory and healing of God,
May we go in the Name of the Lord.*

"May We Go in the Name of the Lord"

Receiving a Good Word



Our Staff

Haley Brown – Ministry Assistant & Director of gastrochurch
Peter Johns – Associate Director

Rev. Rachel Sciretti – Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti, Jr. – Pastor of The Center
Zachary Montasser - Violinist

Today's Music

"Hosanna" – to the tune of *"Erev Shel Shoshanim"* by Yosef Hadar
"Only Be Still" – Peter Johns
"Circle Me" – Peter Johns
"Awake, Awake, Put on Your Strength" – J. Philip Newell
"May We Go in the Name of the Lord" – Peter Johns

For information about The Center for Christian Spirituality and upcoming events, visit:

www.TheCenterFCS.org.

Please register your presence in the notebooks in the foyer.
If you have a prayer request or seeking support,
please contact Rachel Sciretti, rscoretti@chapelwood.org.

Centering Prayer

Today | The Chapel | after Contemplative Worship

Worship Response

Today | The Anchor House | 10:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir Concert

Today | The Sanctuary | 6:00 p.m.

Join us for this grand telling of the Passion of the Christ set to music with Choir, Orchestra, and soloists! The Chancel Choir and Orchestra, share this work about God's passion for His people. The story, which takes us from creation through resurrection, is a picture of God pursuing His people and details the Fall, the journey to the Promised Land, the desire for a Saviour, the Cross and Resurrection, with an ever-present knowledge of human weakness.

The Anchor House Hours

Tuesdays - Fridays | Noon - 4pm

The Anchor House will be open in the afternoons for you to come and pray, meditate, walk the Stations of the Cross, the Labyrinth or just be still. If you would like to request a specific room for spiritual direction, counseling or for your own time of Centering Prayer outside of these hours, please let Haley know and we will make sure a room is available for you. If you'd like to become an Anchor House Host, let Haley know after worship or email her at hbrown@chapelwood.org.

Holy Week at The Center

Holy Wednesday

Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30pm | The Anchor House

Enter into the Holy Wednesday narrative of Mary Magdalene anointing Jesus. After a brief time of welcome, we will enter into a Contemplative Remembrance of this act that Jesus said, "truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." (Mark 14:9) There will be chant, readings, silence, and a time for anointing in the Labyrinth at The Anchor House.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm | The Anchor House

Join us for a special Sacred Supper in The Anchor House. This will be a different kind of potluck dinner where we remember the Last Supper where Jesus broke bread and gave thanks with his beloved ones. After supper we will have a brief liturgy and celebrate communion. Please R.S.V.P. to Haley to let us know you're coming and what you plan to bring.

Good Friday

Friday, March 29 9:00am, Noon | The Anchor House

The Stations of the Cross and the Labyrinth will be available from 9am for prayer and meditation, followed by a brief service at Noon. During these thirty minutes or so at the time of day that we remember when Jesus surrendered his all to God and "breathed his last" (Luke 23:46), we will have a time of contemplative chant, including chanting the words Yeshua said in Aramaic when he died, Lectio Divina on this passage as it is found in Luke 23, and 5 minutes of silence as Centering Prayer. We will come out with chant again as we depart to live the inner dimension of Jesus's soul gesture of surrender into the rest of our days.