

WORSHIP: PALM to PASSION
A Service of Scripture and Song
Jackson Community Church
Sunday • March 29, 2026

Mission Statement: As a community of faith, we welcome all who seek understanding. • As a community of hope, we offer friendship and comfort to those in need. • As a community of love, we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all

WE ARE A COMMUNITY CHURCH. OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND MEMBERS COME FROM MANY PLACES AND MULTIPLE FAITH TRADITIONS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO FIND A SPIRITUAL SANCTUARY HERE.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME —



SOLO

The Palms

Judy Botsford
accompanied by Sharon Novak

CALL to WORSHIP

adapted from Mark 10

One: 'On the road going up to Jerusalem...Jesus...took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him.'

People: *"Behold... the Son of Man will be handed over...and they will condemn Him to death and...mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill Him; and three days later He will rise from the dead..."*

All: *'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.'*

PROCESSION

Prepare Ye the Way

JCC Choir (2022)

DAY 1: PALMS

adapted from Mark 11

One: 'At Bethany, near the Mount of Olives... [Jesus] sent two of His disciples... into the village.'

People: *'They brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks on it; and He sat on it.'*

One: 'Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches.'

People: *'...Shouting: Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'*

One: 'Jesus entered Jerusalem.'

SONG #178 *All Glory Laud & Honor (v1-2)* Sharon Novak

— PRAYING —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

LORD'S PRAYER

(New Zealand version)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker,
Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source
of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is
heaven: The hallowing of your
name echo through the
universe! The way of your



justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. *Amen.*

SONG #178 *All Glory Laud & Honor (v3)* Sharon Novak

— REFLECTING —

DAY 2: PROTEST

excerpts from Mark 12

One: ‘On the following day...he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying...he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves...’

People: ‘*He was teaching and saying, “Is it not written: My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations? But you have made it a den of robbers.”*’

One: ‘[Some religious authorities, including the high priest appointed by the Roman governor] kept looking for a way to kill [Jesus], for they were afraid of him because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.’

People: ‘*And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.*’

SONG #68 *Though I May Speak (v1)* Sharon Novak

— OFFERING —

DAY 3: PARABLES & POVERTY

excerpts from Mark 11-13

One: ‘In the morning...[Jesus and his disciples] came again to Jerusalem...’

People: ‘*Then he began to speak...in parables...*’

One: ‘When [some religious authorities] realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left ... Then they sent [some representatives]...to trap him in what he said. “Teacher...Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”’



People: ‘*He said to them...“Bring me a denarius.” Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?”*’

One: ‘Caesar’s.’

People: ‘*Jesus said to them, “Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.”*’

— REFLECTING —

DAY 3: PARABLES & POVERTY *cont’d.*

One: ‘He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins...worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said...’

People: ‘*Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more...to the treasury.*’

One: ‘For [they]...contributed out of their abundance,’

People: ‘*But she out of her poverty has put in everything...*’

SONG #68 *Though I May Speak (v2)* Sharon Novak

DAY 4: PLOTTING & POURING

adapted from Mark 14

One: ‘It was two days before the Passover...the Festival of Unleavened Bread. [Some religious authorities] ...were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him.’

People: ‘*They said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”*’

One: ‘While he was at Bethany...as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of...nard,’

People: ‘*And she...poured the ointment on his head...*’

One: ‘Some...said...in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted...For this ointment could have been sold... and the money given to the poor.”...They scolded her.’

People: ‘*Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? ...She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial...”*’

One: ‘Then Judas Iscariot...began to look for an opportunity to betray him.’



SONG #68 *Though I May Speak (v3)* Sharon Novak

DAY 5: PRAYERS & PARTING

excerpts from Mark 14

One: 'On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed...the disciples set out and went to the city... they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, [Jesus] came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating,'

People: *'Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."*

One: '...They began to be distressed and to say to him... "Surely, not I?"... While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them.'

People: *'And said, "Take; this is my body."*

One: 'Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.'



People: *'He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."*

One: '...When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.'

People: *'And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away."*

One: 'Peter said, "...I will not."

People: *'Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."*

SONG #95

Be Still My Soul (v1)

Sharon Novak

DAY 5: PRAYERS & PARTING *cont'd.*

One: 'They went to...Gethsemane.'

People: *'And he said, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and keep awake."*

One: 'Going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.'

DAY 5: PRAYERS & PARTING *cont'd.*

People: *"Abba, Father, for you all things are possible. Remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want."*

One: 'He came and found them sleeping... and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?"

People: *"Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going... my betrayer is at hand."*



One: 'Judas...arrived, and with were... [guards] with swords and clubs ...They...arrested [Jesus].'

People: *'All [of his disciples]...deserted him and fled...'*

One: '[The guards] took Jesus... Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard...[of the chief priest appointed by the Roman governor].'

People: *'The whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him...'*

One: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

People: *'Jesus said, "I am."*

One: "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"

People: *'All...condemned him as deserving death.'*

One: 'Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him...the guards also took him and beat him.'

People: *'Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them..."'*

One: 'He...swore an oath, "I do not know this man.'

People: *'Then Peter remembered...he broke down and wept.'*

SONG #95

Be Still My Soul (v3)

Sharon Novak

DAY 6: PILATE & PUNISHMENT *excerpts from Mark 15*

One: 'As soon as it was morning...They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over...Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

People: 'He answered him, "You say so."

One: 'At the festival [Pilate] used to release a prisoner ... Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder... [some authorities] stirred up the crowd to have [Pilate] release Barabbas.'

People: 'So Pilate...released Barabbas...and after flogging Jesus, handed him over to be crucified.'

One: 'Then the [Roman] soldiers...clothed him in purple ...and after twisting some thorns into a crown...began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

People: 'They struck his head...spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him...'



One: 'They stripped him of the purple cloak and put his ...clothes on him...they led him out to crucify him.'

People: 'They compelled a passer-by...to carry his cross...'

SONG #200 *Were You There (v1)* Sharon Novak

DAY 6: PILATE & PUNISHMENT cont'd.

One: 'Then they brought Jesus to...Golgotha...It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him.'

People: 'The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."

One: 'And with him they crucified two rebels...Those who passed by derided him...'

People: 'He saved others; he cannot save himself...'

One: 'Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.'

SONG #200 *Were You There (v2)* Sharon Novak



DAY 6: PILATE & PUNISHMENT cont'd.

People: 'At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice... "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

One: 'Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.'

People: 'Now when the centurion who stood facing him saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

One: 'There were also women looking on from a distance. ...who followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him, and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.'

People: 'When evening had come, and since it was the day... before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council...went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.'

One: 'Then Pilate...when he learned from the centurion that [Jesus] was dead...granted the body to Joseph.'

People: 'Joseph bought a linen cloth and, taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb...'

One: 'He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. [The women] saw where the body was laid.'

SONG *Were You There (v3)* Sharon Novak

— CLOSING —

MUSIC *I Believe in Love* JCC Choir (2020)

BENEDICTION Rev. Gail Doktor

POSTLUDE Sharon Novak