



WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

PALM SUNDAY – 29th March 2026

Worship Leader: Rev Joeli Ducivaki Organist: Colin Scarf

**Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia
Welcome to this House of Prayer**



“Crowds Welcome Jesus as King – But He comes in Peace”

Welcome to our gathering as a community of Faith.

We are a multi-racial Christian community:

Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention

Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.

Kia ora koutou katoa – Tālofa Lava

Mālo e lelei – Bula Vinaka – Greetings to you all!

Greetings to you all! Welcome to today’s service. A special welcome to visitors. We hope you will enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again. Special welcome to our Tongan and Samoan Congregations for joining us this morning. Thank you, kindly for your worship space that you shared with the Fijian Congregation as they celebrate White Sunday.

Safety Briefing & Welcome

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to God,

Whose steadfast love endures forever.

Give praise to the one who comes in God's name.

We wave our palms in praise and celebration.

Open the gate of the Lord,

That the righteous may enter and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the day that our God has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Hosanna!

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

Today we gather to remember the day Jesus entered Jerusalem.

The crowds welcomed Him with joy, waving palm branches and shouting praise.

Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Jesus came not as a king of power and armies, but as a King of peace, humility, and love.

We welcome Christ into our hearts and into our lives.

As this candle is lit, we remember that Jesus is the Light of the world.

May His light guide us in truth, love, and faithful discipleship.

Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

God of love and compassion, today we remember and celebrate your joyful and disruptive entry into Jerusalem.

Hosanna in the highest!

In that same way we anticipate, with expectant hearts, your presence in this place.

Hosanna in the highest!

We come, knowing your love has arrived and is made manifest in Jesus the Christ.

Hosanna in the highest!

We come, prepared to be changed by the Grace we receive in your love.

Hosanna in the highest!

We come, with our whole being to prepare the way for the coming of love incarnate.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Amen!

TE INOI O TE ARIKI (Lord's Prayer in Te Reo)

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi Kia tapu tou Ingoa
Kia tae mai tou rangatira-tanga. Kia meatia tau e pai ai ki
runga i te whenua, kia rite ano ki to te rangi. Homai ki a
mātou aianei he taro mā mātou mo tēnei ra. Murua o
mātou hara Me mātou hoki e muru nei i o te hunga e hara
ana ki a mātou. Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whaka-waia;
Engari whaka-orangia mātou, i te kino: Nou hoki te
rangatira-tanga, te kaha, me te kororia,
Ake ake ake
Āmine.

Hymn: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" by Jeanette Threlfall (Tune: Ellacombe)

Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.	From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd, the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud. The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little child should on his bidding wait.	"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.
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Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we often praise you with our lips but struggle to follow you with our lives. Like the crowds in Jerusalem, we celebrate you when it is easy, but we sometimes turn away when the road becomes difficult.

Forgive us when our faith becomes weak. Forgive us when we fail to love others as Christ loves us. Forgive us when we place our desire before your will.

Cleanse our hearts, renew our spirits, and help us walk faithfully in the way of Jesus. Through Christ our Lord we pray. **Amen.**

Prayer of Assurance

Hear the good news of the Gospel:

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new.

Therefore, receive this assurance with joy:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace – *Let's shake each other's hands and share the peace of God to each other.*

Samoan Congregation to Sing

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 50:4–9 (NRSV)

4 The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him that is weary. Morning by morning he wakens, he wakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. 5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward.

6 I gave my back to the smithers, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not my face from shame and spitting. 7 For the Lord God helps me; therefore, I have not been confounded; therefore, I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

8 He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

9 Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Matthew 21:1–11 (NRSV)

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

21 And when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will send them immediately." 4 This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass." 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. 8 Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed

him shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” 10 And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, “Who is this?” 11 And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.”

10AM Singing Group

REFLECTION - *“Crowds Welcome Jesus as King. But he comes in Peace”*

NOTICES & OFFERING

As we need God’s healing let the stirring Spirit of God awaken us to extend our hearts to those in need. God’s Spirit heals us and makes us whole. In our giving this day, may we bear witness to the one who delivers us from evil, strengthens us to stand and makes us whole again. Our offering will now be received.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God: Thank you for your never-failing mercy; Thank you for Christ’s gift of selfless love; Thank you for the witness of our forebears. For Blessing us with Gifts, we Thank you. For walking with us in our weakness, we Praise you. Receive these gifts in token and Thanks for the love you offer us, a love that makes us well and whole. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

Tongan Youth Action Chorus

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring peace, but the civil authorities did not welcome you. Jesus, we pray for your world: for peace that brings an end to violence, oppression and war; for peace that enables all people to live with dignity and justice; for world leaders and for all who commit their lives to the work of peace. Jesus, Son of David,

Let us follow in your way; *let us walk with you to Jerusalem.*

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring the freedom of the Spirit, but the chief priests plotted your death. Jesus, we pray for your church: for a church freed from false dogma and legalism, discord and division; for a pilgrim church, ready to travel where you lead; for all leaders of your Church and for those who minister in your name. Jesus, Son of David,

let us follow in your way; *let us walk with you to Jerusalem.*

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring love, but you were betrayed and deserted by your friends. Jesus, we pray for this community of faith: for our families, and our friends, for those with whom we work and learn; for the hungry, the homeless and those without hope for the future; for all who live in fear or despair and all who know the pain of betrayal. Jesus, Son of David, God of love and peace. Hold us with your love and peace forever and ever.

Let us follow in your way; *let us walk with you to Jerusalem. Amen.*

HYMN “Ride on ride on in Majesty.” HP 159 by Henry Hart Milman

(Tune: Winchester New)

<p>1. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! Hark! all the tribes ‘Hosanna!’ cry. Thine humble beast, pursues his road, With palms and scattered garments strowed.</p>	<p>4. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh; The Father on His sapphire throne Expects His own anointed Son.</p>
<p>2. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die. O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin O'er captive death and conquered sin.</p>	<p>5. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die. Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain. Then take, O Christ, Thy power and reign.</p>
<p>3. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! The angel armies of the sky Look down with sad and wondering eyes To see the approaching Sacrifice.</p>	

Benediction & Dismissal

As the crowds welcomed Jesus with shouts of “Hosanna,” go now and welcome Him not only with your words, but with lives of love, justice, and peace. Let that love connect you to the world.

The Grace (said together)

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa,
te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki o Ihu Karaiti,
me te aroha o te Atua,
me te whiwHINGATAHITANGA
ki te Wairua Tapu. **Āmine**

Please join us for morning tea in the New Hall following the service. Many thanks to the Tevita whānau for providing today's kai and manaakitanga.

Hymns used are covered by CCLI Licence #230381

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<https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

Or the 10AM Congregation's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am>

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