

OPENING PRAYER March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday joint service

Matthew 21:1-11

Holy One, we shout Hosanna on this Palm Sunday as we join the parade! Our Leader isn't wealthy or powerful in the sense of the Empire but rather poor, sitting on a donkey reminding all that he is in solidarity with the marginalized. We follow Jesus who calls us not to conform to the world of power and greed but to bring compassion, mercy and love. O God, place in us your desire for unity, equity and justice. This path is not without risk but it is the path of true communion with you. We know what is coming as the hosannas fade away. Jesus' path leads to the cross. Help us to be strong in faith, to look upon the cross and die to sin so we might be made new, builders of your kingdom where everyone belongs, where all have what they need, and everyone is free to live their lives without fear. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.