



PROJECT RECONNECT

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH GOD, EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

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Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday) Year A March 29th 2026

Presenter: Rev Claire Wright

Focus Reading: Matthew 21: 1-11

Message: 12 minutes 15 seconds

"High Hopes and Deep Hope"

Discussion Starters

1. What idea(s) did you find new or helpful for thinking about Easter?
2. When have you needed (or experienced) 'deep hope' in difficult times?
3. What are some ways our church helps (or could help) people in 'deep hope'?
4. Where does our community get hope, right now, and how can we support that?

Readings for this day

Isaiah 50:4-9a The servants of God - in contrast to the people described in verses 1-3 - listen for God's word, obeys God, and trusts in God's help and vindication even in face of contention and disgrace.

Psalms 118 The portion of the psalm describes a bleak and overwhelming accumulation of grief, distress, isolation, and disgrace. And yet the psalmist trusts in God's grace and deliverance declaring, "my future is in your hands."

Philippians 2: 5-11 This passage extols the nature of Jesus' obedient self-effacement and death and celebrates the reversal wrought by God's exaltation. This story is also an exhortation to us: let Christ's mind of humble obedience be *your* mind, our mind.

Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year A. Copyright c2013 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. (Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

All Age Address: Rev Claire Wright

"Four Big Walks!"

Length: 4 minutes 50 seconds

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Have you ever thought, that on the day that Jesus rode a donkey to the shouting of songs of praise the Romans, may well have had a procession of their own to remind everyone who really ruled the world. The next procession – a very sad occasion - was bound to happen as Jesus really was God's Chosen King. Then a week later people are celebrating again. Easter Day the next big walk event. Watch out for this next event.

Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 31: 9-16 – page 269 – 270

Rev Claire Wright

Claire is a retired Uniting Church minister, living with her beautiful dog Missy on the Mid North Coast of NSW. Her passions are bush-walking and beach-walking, writing, community music, 'doing theology' and teaching singing for local U3A. She is currently also teaching herself Japanese (for fun) and building a Japanese garden in her back yard.