

**March 29 Worship**  
**Palm Sunday- 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**Reader- Brooke Bennett**

**Announcements/Joys**

**Time Of Quiet Meditation-** *“When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.”* Proverbs 11:2

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**Opening Scripture-** Psalm 31:9-16(page 479-480)

**Opening Chorus-** 214- I Love You Lord

**Responsive Call To Worship-**

Leader: There is a time for celebrating, and this is that time.

**People: There is a time for mourning, and this is that time.**

Leader: There is a time for confessing, and this is that time.

**People: There is a time for dreaming, and this is that time.**

**All: There is a time for worship, and this is that time.**

**Hymn of Praise-** 220- Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

**Unison Prayer/Lord's Prayer-** Loving God, this is the day that you have made: you have filled it with signs of your presence; your Spirit's breath permeates every moment; your grace fills each experience; your promises move within event, pulling us toward hope. Receive our thanks. Receive our praise, through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray, saying....*Lord's Prayer*....

*“Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”*

**Gloria Patri-** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end.  
Amen, Amen.

**Old Testament Scripture-** Isaiah 50:4-9(age 631)

**Special Music-**

**Gospel Scripture-** Matthew 21:1-11(page 855)

**Children's Time/Echo Prayer/Passing of the Peace-** Washing of Feet\*

**Hymn-** 4- All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

**New Testament Scripture-** Philippians 2:5-11(page 1023)

### **Message**

#### *“Glory In Humility”*

There is a battle going on in every one of us that puts pride and humility at odds within us. We are pulled in different directions in that we are told to take pride in what we do or accomplish while the Bible tells us that pride is sinful. “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Proverbs 16:18) On the other hand, there are many references in scripture to being proud of certain things. How are we to know if we are showing the right or wrong kind of pride? What tells us if we are being falsely proud or properly humble?

It is not necessarily wrong, for example, to take pride (or satisfaction) in a job well done. In fact, the Bible urges us to work hard so we’ll be satisfied with the results. It says, “The diligent man prizes his possessions” (Proverbs 12:27). But even this kind of pride can become wrong, if we end up taking credit for what we’ve done instead of thanking God for helping us. In other words, the kind of pride the Bible condemns is a pride that puts ourselves first, and leaves God out of the picture. When that happens, we take credit for everything we accomplish, and we live only to please ourselves. This is why pride is at the root of almost every other sin. Do you remember Jesus’ parable of the rich fool, who was wealthy in things but poor in soul? (You can read it in Luke 12:15-21.) He was proud of his wealth, and all he was concerned about was himself: “I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry’” (Luke 12:19). But that night he died, and it was too late to turn to God. His pride became his downfall.

Pride is viewed as a great sin and rebellion against God because it presumes to possess excellence and glory that belong to God alone. The danger of pride is that most people are unaware of their pridefulness. Pride is perilously deceptive. Proud people do not think they need to ask forgiveness from God because they can’t admit or even recognize their sinful condition. As a result, pride also affects a person’s attitude toward others, often causing them to look down on others as less worthy or less able. Prideful people treat others with contempt and cruelty. The greatest

danger in the sin of pride is that it keeps our eyes on ourselves instead of on God Almighty. In essence, pride causes spiritual blindness and eventual spiritual death.

The Bible says a lot about humility. God calls all people to humble themselves. I found a few quotes regarding humility from some famous people and I would like to share them with you.

“As long as you are proud you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as you are looking down you cannot see something that is above you.” **C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity**

“I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.” **Abraham Lincoln**

“True humility does not know that it is humble. If it did, it would be proud from the contemplation of so fine a virtue.” **Martin Luther**

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less.” **C.S. Lewis**

“If you're not humble, life will visit humbleness upon you.” **Mike Tyson**

Humbling ourselves in the sight of the Lord requires a true heart attitude of meekness. The humble person avoids false humility, and he is not interested in appearances. It's one thing to put on a show of humility, but we're not commanded to appear humble in the sight of others but to humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, who sees the truth of the heart's condition. The humble are also wary of becoming the type of people described by scholar and clergyman Robert Burton: “They are proud in humility; proud in that they are not proud” “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord” is not just a command that affects our relationship with God. It also affects our daily choices. In this earthly life, we “die to self” so we can live as new creations in light of God's grace. Humility negates our pride, sets aside personal rivalry, excludes conceit, and looks out for the good of another. Instead of elevating ourselves in the moment, we can humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord and choose what is best for someone else. In this way, we represent Christ well. The humble can let go of inconsequential matters and pursue peace and holiness instead.

If we wish to discover just what humility looks like and how it is exemplified, all we need to do is look at Jesus. From his birth to his death and resurrection, Jesus is the definition of humility. The Son of God, Messiah of the people, was born in a stable with animals as witnesses. He grew up as the son of a carpenter, became an itinerant preacher, and went around depending on the kindness of strangers for food and shelter. He died penniless and rejected, tortured by the Roman soldiers and was buried in a borrowed tomb.

Never once did he use his status for personal gain and he always preferred to associate with sinners and common people. He never tried to be more important than those he talked with. The Bible describes humility as meekness, lowliness, and

absence of self. The Greek word translated “humility” in the Bible and elsewhere literally means “lowliness of mind,” so we see that humility is a heart attitude, not merely an outward demeanor. One may put on an outward show of humility but still have a heart full of pride and arrogance. Jesus said that those who are “poor in spirit” would have the kingdom of heaven. When we come to Christ as sinners, we must come in humility. We acknowledge that we are paupers and beggars who come with nothing to offer Him but our sin and our need for salvation. We recognize our lack of merit and our complete inability to save ourselves. Then when He offers the grace and mercy of God, we accept it in humble gratitude and commit our lives to Him and to others. We “die to self” so that we can live as new creations in Christ.

God has promised to give grace to the humble, while He opposes the proud. Therefore, we must confess and put away pride. If we exalt ourselves, we place ourselves in opposition to God who will, in His grace and for our own good, humble us. But if we humble ourselves, God gives us more grace and exalts us. As difficult as it may be, we must learn to humble ourselves and do as Jesus commanded; love others as we love ourselves. Praise Be to God. Amen.

**Prayers of the People-** Precious and Mighty Lord God, we confess that we are not so different from those who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday yet later shouted 'Crucify him!' or remained silent in the face of injustice. We have betrayed you too, Lord Jesus by our sins both secret and known. Yet you died for people like us, and you rose on the third day that we might be redeemed. For the sake of Jesus Christ do not hold our sins against us. Jesus Christ, our King of glory, we have not been outspoken for you. We have not called for your death, but neither have we shouted of your greatness, nor expressed delight in the salvation you have won for us. Help us to see your glory, draw us closer to you that we may become more faithful, and more joyful servants of the King. We pray in Jesus name. Amen.

**Closing Hymn-** 560- I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary

**Benediction-** Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to: walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you. Go in peace. Amen.

**\*Washing Of Feet-** John 13:1-20; “Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. And during supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and

that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel. Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. He came to Simon Peter; and Peter said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not know now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part in me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but he is clean all over; and you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "You are not all clean." When he had washed their feet, and taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. I am not speaking of you all; I know whom I have chosen; it is that the scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I tell you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives any one whom I send receives me; and he who receives me receives him who sent me."