

Bethel United Church of Christ

April 14, 2019– 6th Sunday in Lent Palm ~ Passion Sunday



“Journey: Into Jerusalem”

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here*

*Welcome - please use the music of the prelude to quietly
prepare yourself for worship in this sacred space*

Processional Hymn

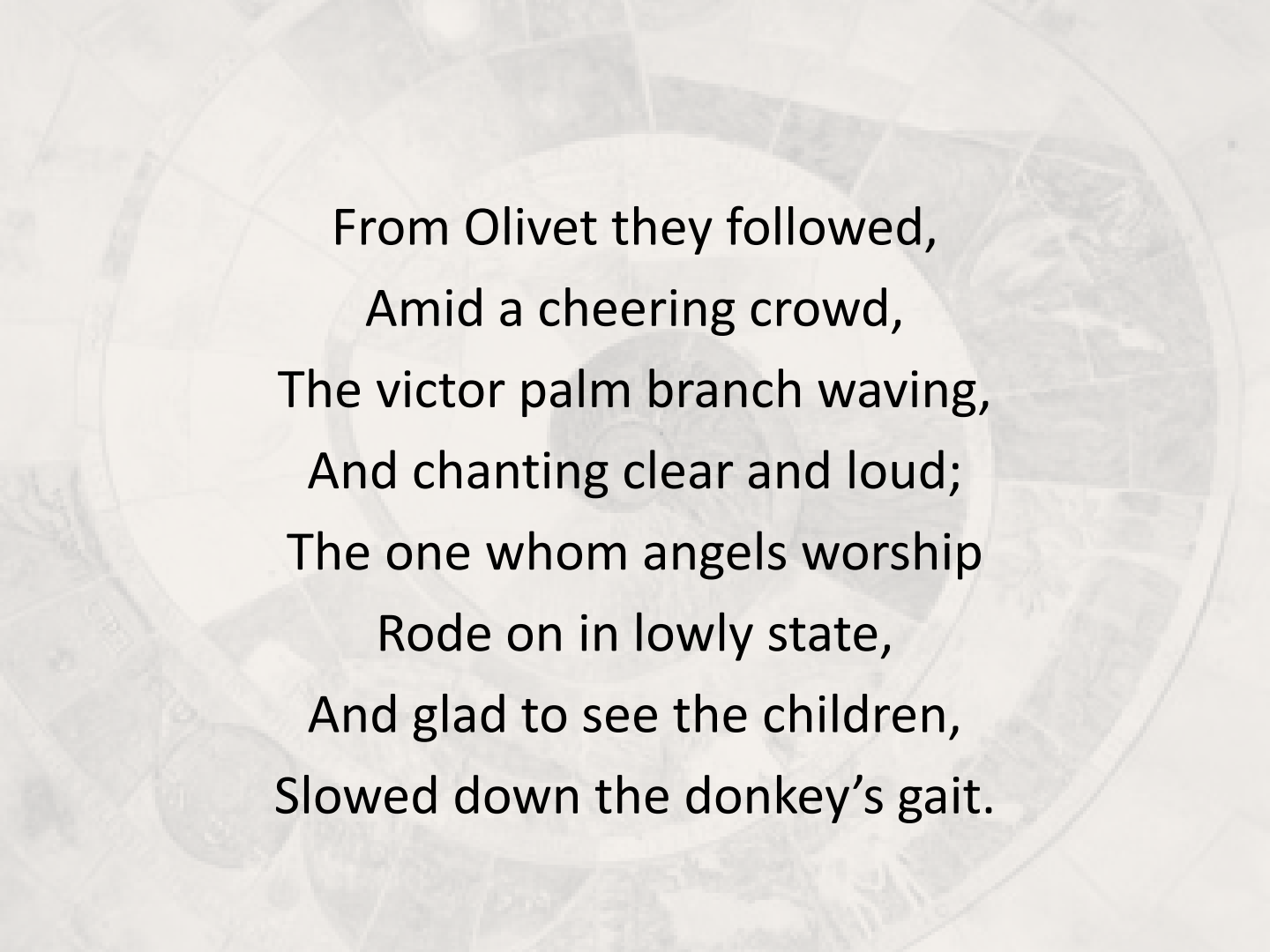
Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

NCH #213

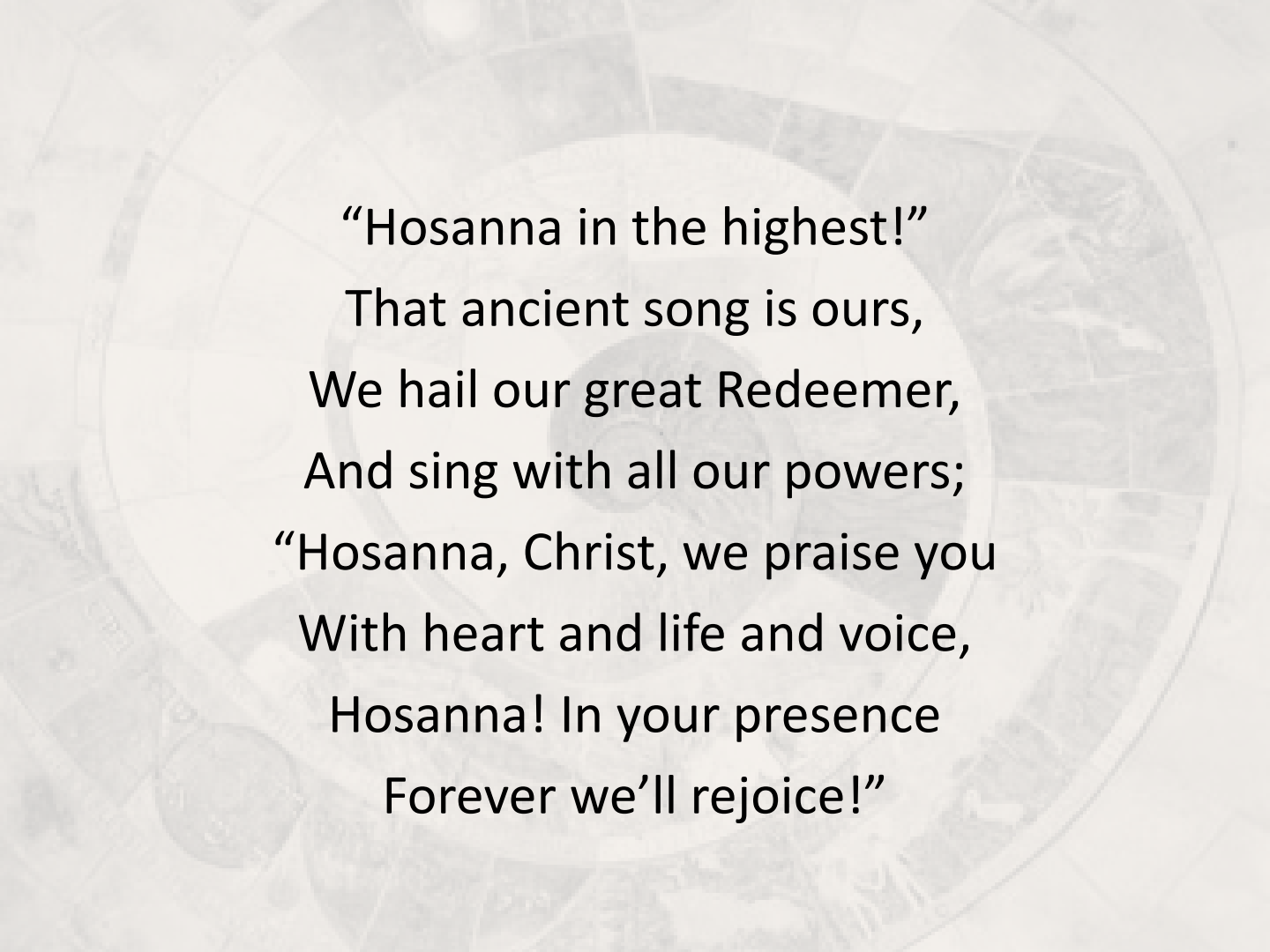
Children, Youth and all others who wish, may join in the processional with palm leaves and place them on the altar or steps

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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,
Amid a cheering crowd,
The victor palm branch waving,
And chanting clear and loud;
The one whom angels worship
Rode on in lowly state,
And glad to see the children,
Slowed down the donkey's gait.



“Hosanna in the highest!”

That ancient song is ours,
We hail our great Redeemer,
And sing with all our powers;
“Hosanna, Christ, we praise you
With heart and life and voice,
Hosanna! In your presence
Forever we’ll rejoice!”

Call to the Journey - Responsive

L: Let all creation shout!

P: Let us wave the palm branches high. Jesus is coming!

L: He comes in humility to claim God's own.

P: May he claim us this day and heal our hearts!

L: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: Hosanna to the blessed Son of God.

L: The parade today is just the beginning of our hope.

P: We wave our branches and shout "Hosanna!"

L: But there will come a time of silence
and of mourning.

P: Help us to be ready for that time, O Lord.

L: Blessed is Jesus, who came into Jerusalem
on that day.

**P: Blessed is Jesus who comes into our hearts
always. AMEN.**



INVOCATION

Bethel United Church of Christ

Welcome & Greetings!

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey, you are welcome here*

Children's Time



Gloria

(#759, NCH)

Glory to the Creator
the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three in One

As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen, Amen

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

One: O give thanks to God, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!

**Many: Let Israel say, "God's steadfast love
endures forever."**

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give
thanks to God.

**Many: This is the gate of God; the righteous
shall enter through it.**

One: I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**Many: The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

One: This is God's doing; it is marvelous in our
eyes.

**Many: This is the day that God has made; let
us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One: Save us, we beseech you, O God!

O God, we beseech you, give us success!

Many: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. We bless you from the house of God.

One: The Sovereign is God, and God has given us light.

**Many: Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.**

One: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

Many: O give thanks to God, for God is good, for God's steadfast love endures forever.

New Testament Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



New Testament Gospel Reading

Luke 19:28-40

Dr. Mann

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it."

Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."



**Sermon
“Journey: Into
Jerusalem”**

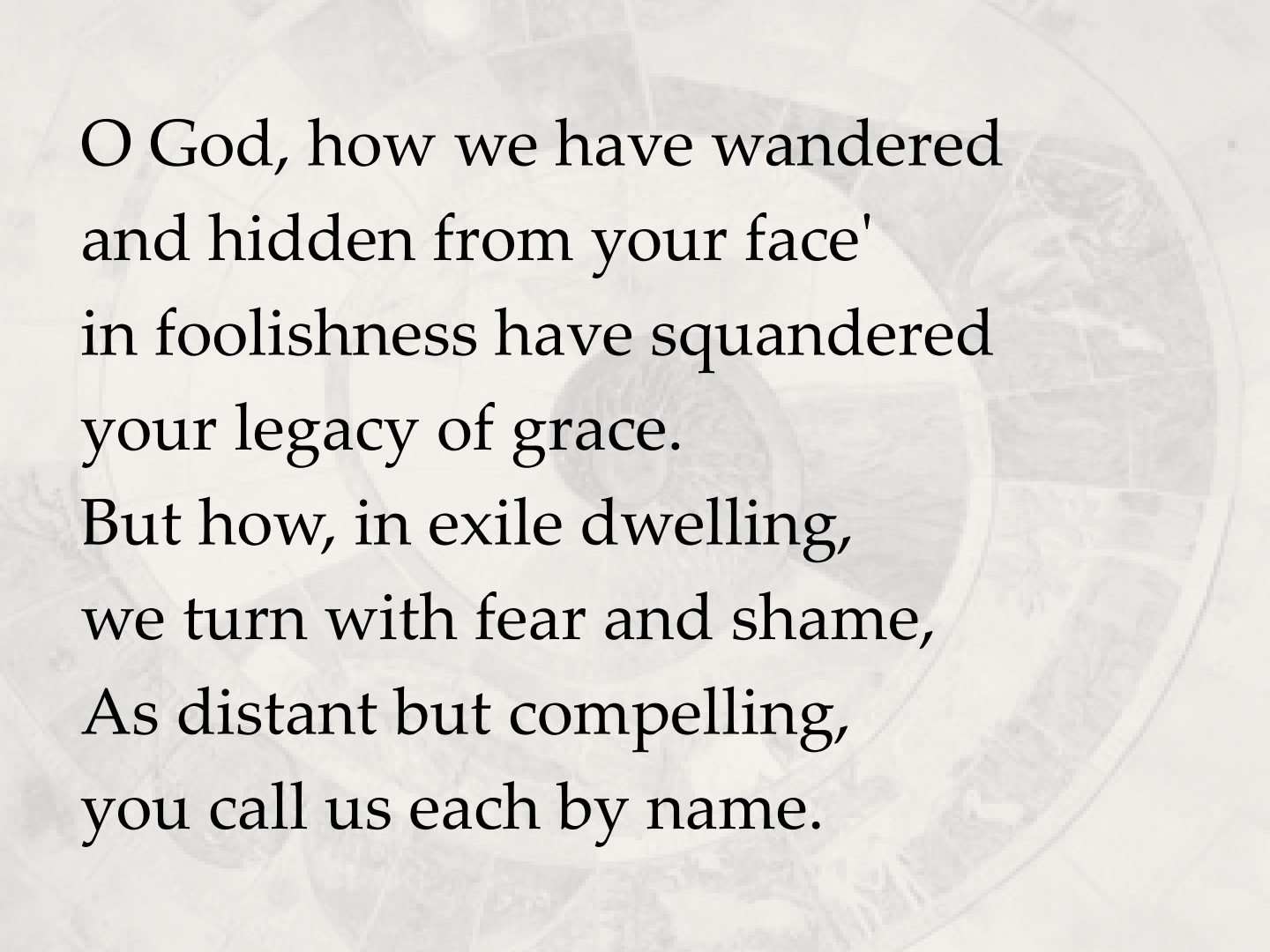
**Rev. Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann
Pastor**



Responding Hymn

O God, How We Have Wandered

NCH #202



O God, how we have wandered
and hidden from your face'
in foolishness have squandered
your legacy of grace.

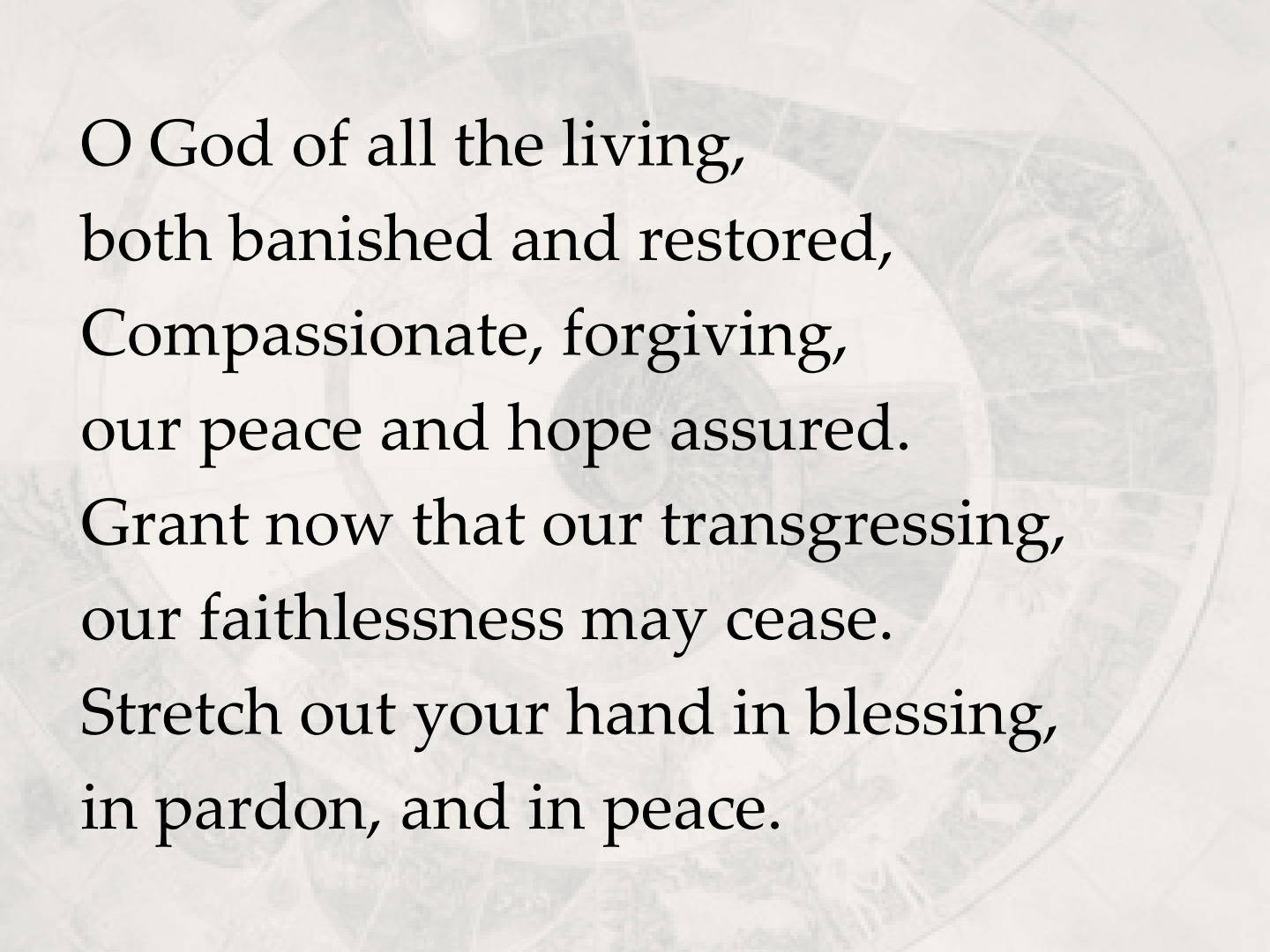
But how, in exile dwelling,
we turn with fear and shame,
As distant but compelling,
you call us each by name.

And now at length discerning
the evil that we do,

By faith we are returning
with hope and trust in you.

In haste you come to meet us,
and home rejoicing bring,

In gladness there to greet us
with calf and robe and ring.



O God of all the living,
both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving,
our peace and hope assured.

Grant now that our transgressing,
our faithlessness may cease.

Stretch out your hand in blessing,
in pardon, and in peace.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess that when we started this journey, it seemed like a fun idea. We love parades! We love the excitement! Walk the road with Jesus, we thought. But the journey has had many difficult times when our spirits have been challenged and tried. We have come to the time of entrance into the Holy City. We want everything to be wonderful; for you to conquer all those things that threaten us and our peace. We want you to do what we direct.

Forgive us, Lord, when we place our fears and ignorance before your love. Help us to look again at the many ways in which we can be a blessing to others, through serving them and you. Release us from our panic and mistrust and help us to place our lives solely in your hands. Let Jesus enter our hearts and transform our lives today, for we ask this in his holy name. AMEN.

Assurance of Grace



Prayers of the People - Joys and Concerns

As we share, conclude with *“Lord in Your Mercy”*

Congregational response: *“Hear our prayer”*

The Lords 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 and ever. Amen

Unison Call to Offering

In this week ahead we will be asked to walk the hard road of faith and face the full cost of discipleship. The sacrifice we are called to share involves true commitment and devotion.

In that Spirit, may we share freely our gifts, tithes and offerings.



Offertory Music

Sandy Gunn

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above the heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost

Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Great Provider, bless these offerings
and multiply them according to your will.
May they restore hope and wholeness
to those who benefit from them.

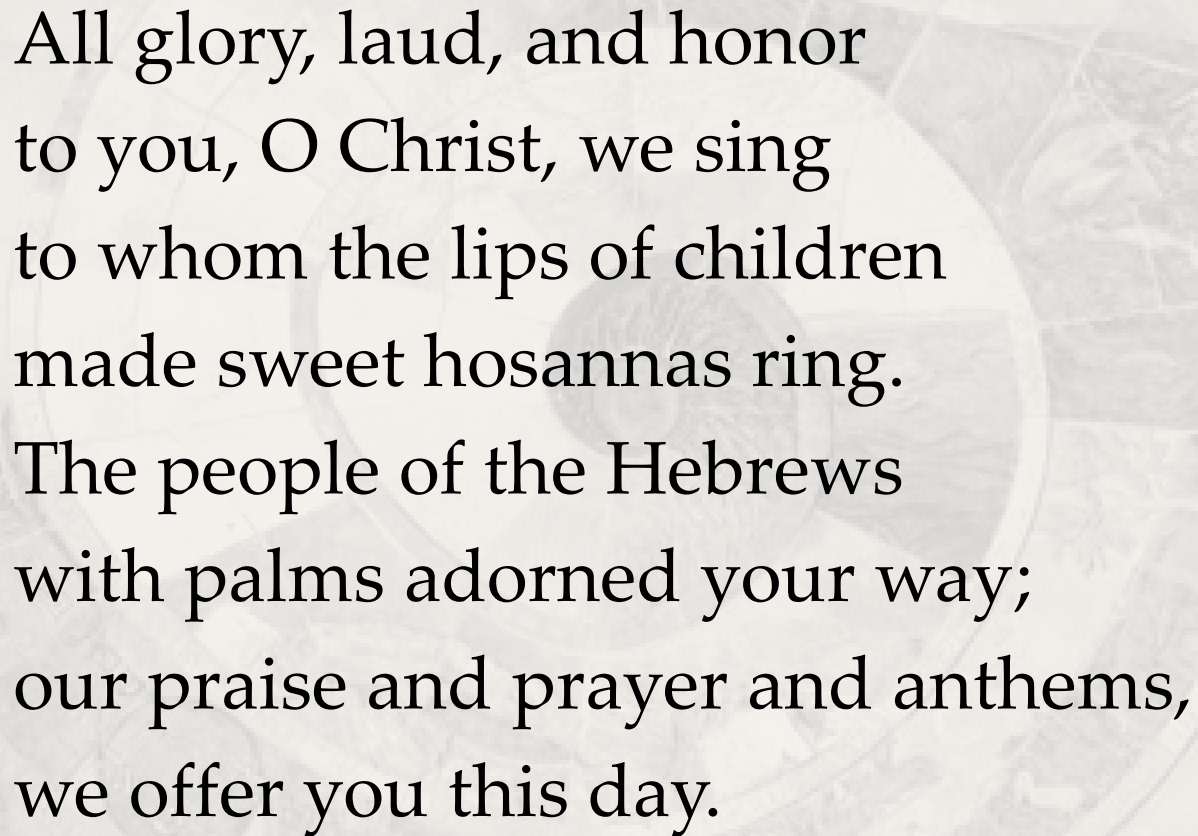
With these gifts we give thanks to the Lord,
for God is good, and God's steadfast love
endures forever

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

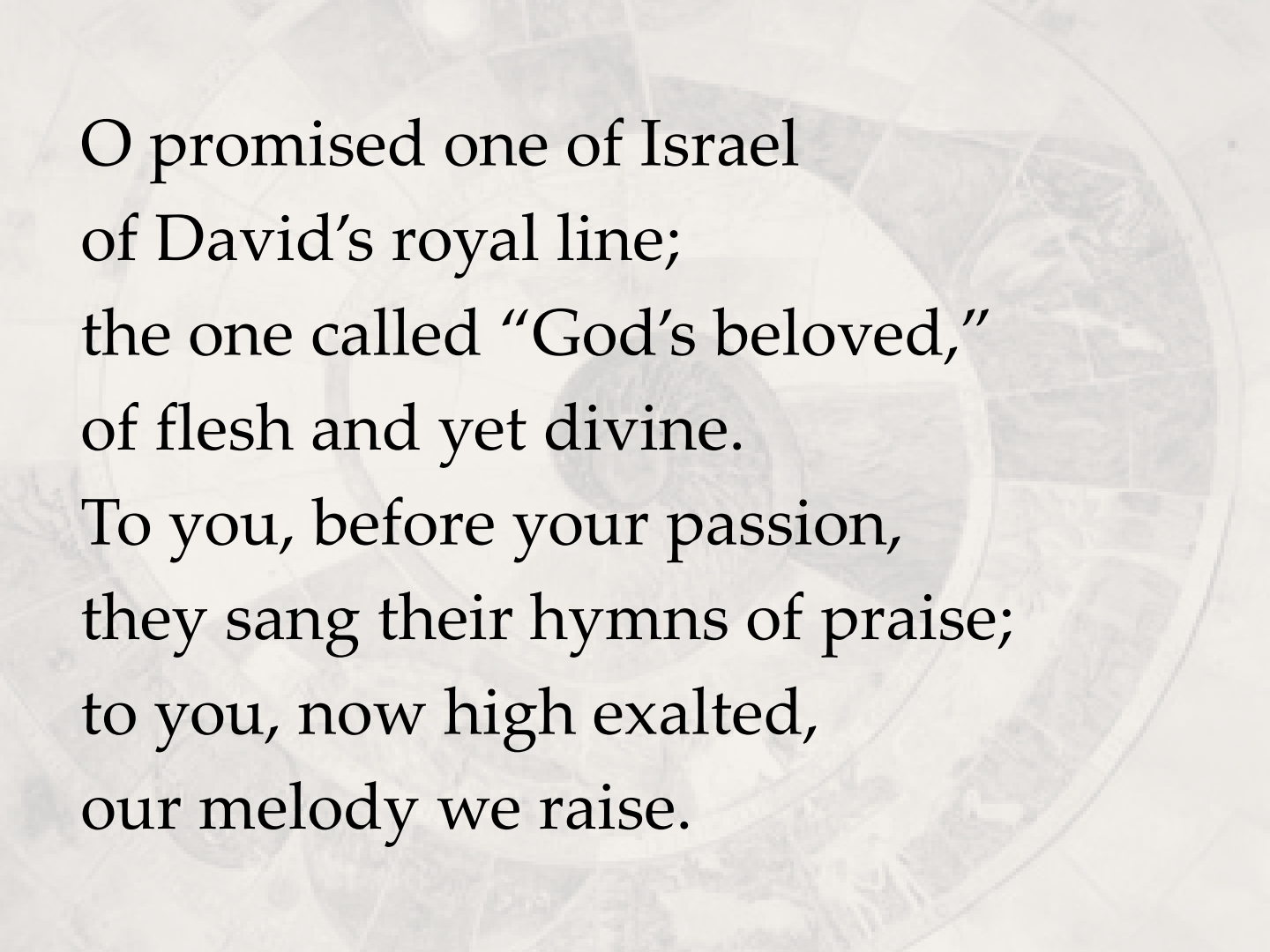
Singing into Mission

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

NCH #216

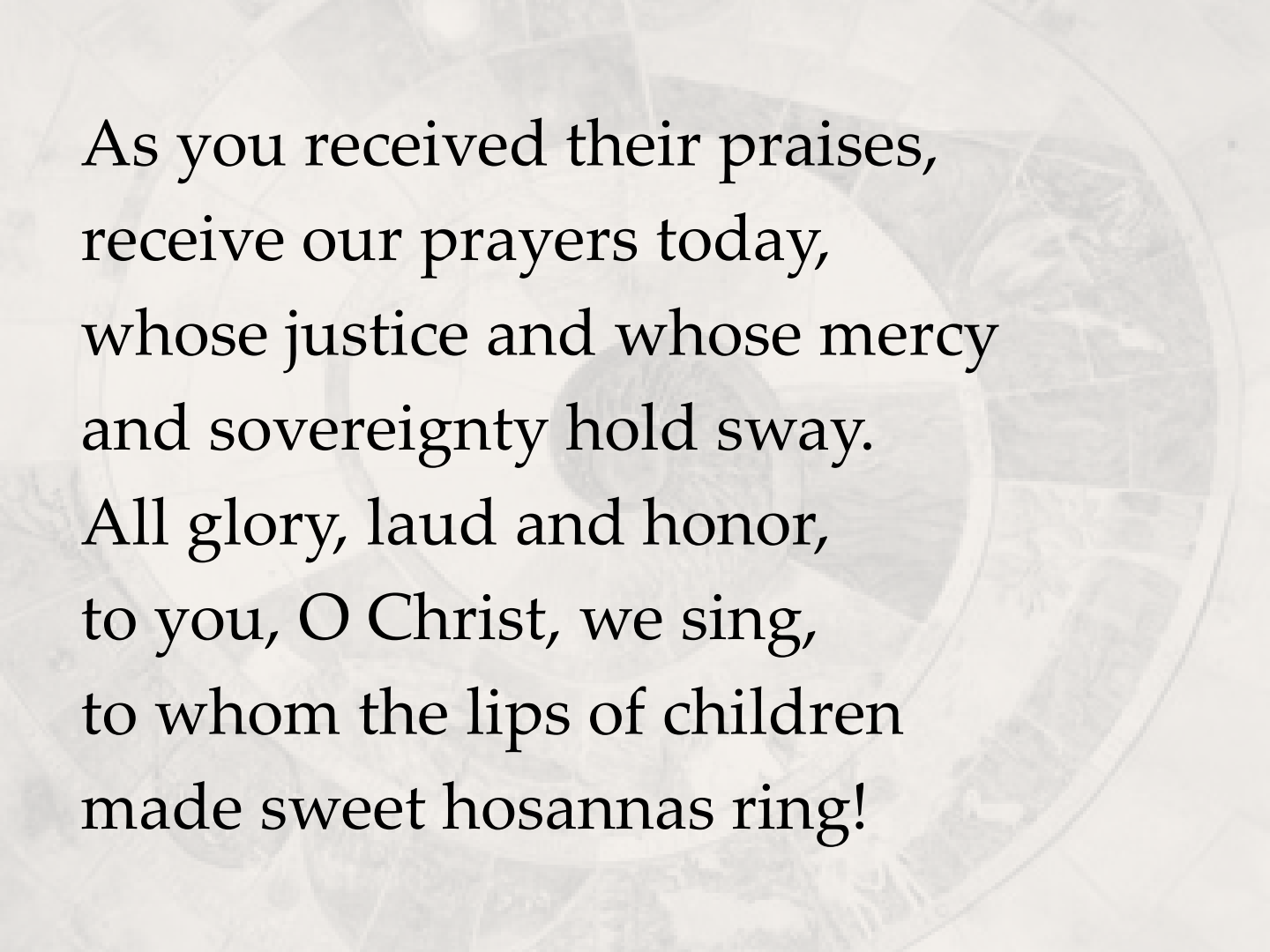


All glory, laud, and honor
to you, O Christ, we sing
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
The people of the Hebrews
with palms adorned your way;
our praise and prayer and anthems,
we offer you this day.



O promised one of Israel
of David's royal line;
the one called "God's beloved,"
of flesh and yet divine.

To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.



As you received their praises,
receive our prayers today,
whose justice and whose mercy
and sovereignty hold sway.

All glory, laud and honor,
to you, O Christ, we sing,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

Unison Benediction

Go now in joy!

Remember the day of celebration when Jesus boldly and humbly rode into the city of fear and anger.

Do not fear. We go, ready to proclaim with our lives that we are disciples, that Jesus is Lord and Savior.

Do not be afraid. We go to offer and to live God's love and peace to all.

Go in peace. AMEN.



Carillon Postlude