

LEAD ME TO HOPE

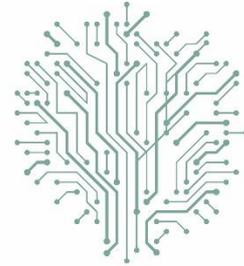
Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope
Lead me to hope I pray
So I can live and work for your day
Lead me to hope I pray.
When I am numb with my despair
When I'm too numb to care
Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope
Lead me to hope I pray.

Lead me to love, oh lead me to love
Lead me to love I pray
So I can I can live and work for your day
Lead me to love I pray.
When I am cold within myself
When I'm too cold to care
Lead me to love, oh lead me to love
Lead me to love I pray.

Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith
Lead me to faith I pray
So I can I can live and work for your day
Lead me to faith I pray.
When I am lost in the maze of time
When I'm too tired to care
Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith
Lead me to faith I pray

Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace
Lead us to peace we pray
So we can live, not fear for the day
Lead us to peace we pray.
When we are unjust, too scared to trust
As we prepare for war
Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace
Lead us to peace we pray.
Lead us to peace we pray.
Lead us to hope we pray.

Words and music by Peter Kearney



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Mark 11:1-11
Palm Sunday: Passion in Christ

Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others.

Lighting of Christ Candle

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world. (light the candle)

Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of Eternal Love,
You have called us to the planet to be a people of love, a people of justice and compassion, a people who have Jesus to show us the Way.
You have called us to stand alongside the disadvantaged, speak out for the voiceless, sit with the lost and cry with the lonely and bereaved.
You have called us to wave our palm branches and placards against corrupted powers that choose to dominate and control.
You call us to share the passion of Christ! Hosanna!
Amen.

Song:

Lead me to Hope by Peter Kearney

<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/59-lead-me-to-hope>

Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

The Word around the Bush

Mark 11:1-11

11When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’”⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?”⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

- I wonder what you have heard and thought from the Word today?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word for our church?
- What one action can you or your church take in response to the Word today?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

- You may like to say the prayer phrase “Mar-an-ath-a” (which means come Lord). Say this as four

syllables. Do not try to think or imagine anything. If thoughts or distractions come simply return to saying the word.

- Or you may like “sitting with God” — a silent time in which we focus all our mind, heart and soul on the presence of God without trying to create it. Simply be still and open to God.

Prayers for Others

Merciful Creator, as wave our palm branches and follow you, we pray that we learn to have the passion of Christ.

(pause)

For those who are powerless and weighed down by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by race, class and religion. **May we stand alongside them with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May we bring renewal with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also. **May we speak and act with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection:

Come thou Font of Every Blessing
sung by Nathan Drake

<https://nathandrake.bandcamp.com/track/come-thou-fount-of-every-blessing>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.
Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you.
And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace.
May your passion be in Christ!

Bless us and the people we meet along the way
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**