



“The hymn tends to catch in the throats of worshipers on Palm Sunday because they know what’s coming next.”

by Pastor Bruce Benson, host

Some songs get stuck in your head, some get caught in your throat. And then there are those that do both. The Palm/Passion Sunday hymn, *All Glory Laud and Honor*, for example, which starts off Palm Sunday’s program on *Sing For Joy*, often does both at the same time.

“All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel
and David’s royal Son,
now in the Lord’s name coming,
the King and Blessed One.”

The cheery refrain about “sweet hosannas” and the “lips of children” bends itself into a kind of neurological tape loop that can keep playing in your head throughout the day. At the same time, however, the hymn tends to catch in the throats of worshipers on Palm Sunday because they know what’s coming next. They know the day might be Palm Sunday, but it is also the first day of Passion Week. The Palm Sunday parade is leading inexorably to betrayal, mockery and torturous crucifixion. There will be no detour. Why should we sing happy songs about that? The crowds around Jesus welcoming him into Jerusalem that long ago day could not (or at least did not) see what was coming, but all these years later, having heard the story often, we know exactly what is lurking ahead. That knowledge makes for bittersweet singing of a triumphant processional hymn.

Last month my wife and I sang “Happy Birthday” to a child whose mother had died of cancer not long before. We wanted to sing; it was his birthday; we shouldn’t skip his birthday. And we are glad we sang that day, but

the song did catch in our throats. Such a thing is not a rare experience. Anyone who has sung a particular hymn at the funeral of a loved one knows how the hymn can catch a bit the next time it is sung. I suppose most Palm Sundays we try to deal with the catch in the throat by looking away from the calendar. We try not to think about the events of Holy Week. Let it just be Palm Sunday for a bit, we tell ourselves, we’ll get to the ugly stuff later. But, of course, long-time church attenders are never quite successful with that strategy, because they know too well the story of the week.

Many churches now refer to Palm Sunday as Palm/Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday — Sunday of the Passion. If you like your Palm Sunday unstained by all the mess of betrayal and crucifixion, you don’t care for this dual emphasis. If, however, you know that some of the happy celebration of the day is going to get caught in your throat anyway, at least the shared emphasis takes that problem seriously.

You will notice on *Sing For Joy*’s Palm/Passion Sunday program again this year that we try to take seriously the whole story of the week, not just the Palm Sunday part of it. I hope that doesn’t keep you from singing along with *All Glory Laud and Honor* if you know it. In fact, I hope the “sweet hosannas” pitch their tents in your head for the rest of the day!

Peace be with you,



April 6, 2014

Fifth Sunday in Lent, Year A

(1R) Ezekiel 37:1–14
(PS) Psalm 130
(2R) Romans 8:6–11
(G) John 11:1–45

Dry Bones — African American Spiritual / African American Spiritual, lyricist / Red Hall, arranger/editor (1R)
Full Table: Harrisonburg, VA
(CD) *All You Can Eat* / FULL TABLE / FT2001
© 2001 Full Table, Harrisonburg, VA

Breathe On Me, Breath of God (PEN PARK) — Welsh Traditional / Edwin Hatch, lyricist / Haydn Morgan, arranger/editor (1R)
Bowling Green State University Collegiate Chorale:
Bowling Green, OH / Richard D. Mathey
(CD) *Summer Tour '93* / BGSU / BGSU 93
© 1993 BGSU, Bowling Green State University bgsu.edu

Psalm 130: Out of the Depths — John Ferguson (PS)
The St. Olaf Cantorei: Northfield, MN / John Ferguson
(CD) *The Green Season: A Sing For Joy Hymn Festival* / PACIFIC RIM SOUND / PRS 08005
© 2007 Pacific Rim Sound pacificrimsound.com

The Little Family (LAZARUS) — American Folk Tune / Ronn McFarlane, arranger/editor (G)
The Baltimore Consort, ensemble / Custer LaRue, soprano / Ronn McFarlane, accompanist
(CD) *Amazing Grace* / SONO LUMINUS (FORMERLY DORIAN RECORDS) / CD-90296
© 2001 Sono Luminus (Formerly Dorian Records) sonoluminus.com

When Jesus Wept (EMMAUS) — William Billings (G)
His Majestie's Clerkes: Chicago, IL / Paul Hillier
(CD) *A Land of Pure Delight* / HARMONIA MUNDI / HMU 907048
© 1992 Harmonia Mundi harmoniamundi.com

I am the Resurrection and the True Life — Heinrich Schütz (G)
The Concordia Choir: Moorhead, MN / René Clausen
(CD) *The Concordia Choir* / CONCORDIA RECORDINGS / E1584
© 1988 Concordia Recordings concordiarecordings.com

Abide with Me (EVENTIDE) — William Henry Monk / Henry F. Lyte, lyricist (G)
St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys: New York, NY / Peter Stoltzfus, accompanist / Gerre Hancock
(CD) *Evensong* / KOCH (KOCH INTERNATIONAL CLASSICS) / 3-7285-2H1
© 1995 Koch (Koch International Classics) kochentertainment.com

“Palm Sunday.

For many people who grew up in a church, those two words stir up images of children's choirs, cheerfully holding palm branches and walking up the aisle of the church. Palm Sunday music can please the memory and stir the soul.”

-Pastor Bruce Benson

April 13, 2014

Sunday of the Passion – Palm Sunday, Year A

(1R) Isaiah 50:4–9a
(PS) Psalm 31:9–16
(2R) Philippians 2:5–11
(G) Matthew 26:14–27:66 or Matthew 27:11–54

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (ST. THEODULPH) — Melchior Teschner / Theodulph of Orleans, lyricist / John Mason Neale, translator (G)
Cathedral Choral Society: Washington, DC / Nicholas White, accompanist / J. Reilly Lewis
(CD) *Hymns Through the Centuries* / GOTHIC / G 49112
© 1996 Gothic, Gothic Records, Inc. gothicrecords.com

Crucifixus (for eight voices) — Antonio Lotti (G)
Voices of Ascension: New York, NY / Dennis Keene
(CD) *From Chant to Renaissance* / DELOS / DE 3174
© 1995 Delos, Delos Productions, Inc. delosmusic.com

At the Name of Jesus (KINGS WESTON) — Ralph Vaughan Williams / Caroline M. Noel, lyricist / Stephen Schmall, arranger (2R)
Holy Childhood Schola Cantorum: St. Paul, MN / Robert Vickery, accompanist / Stephen Schmall
(CD) *Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise* / HOLY CHILDHOOD / CD-1995
© 1995 Holy Childhood

Who is This — John Ferguson / Sylvia Dunstan, lyricist (G)
The St. Olaf Cantorei: Northfield, MN / John Ferguson
(CD) *Hidden In Humbleness* / GIA / GIA CD-594
© 2003 GIA giamusic.com

Ride On, King Jesus — African American Spiritual / African American Spiritual, lyricist / Moses Hogan, arranger (G)
The St. Olaf Choir: Northfield, MN / Anton Armstrong
(CD) *Winter Tour 2010: Home Concert* / ST. OLAF COLLEGE / Not For Resale
© 2010 St. Olaf College stolaf.edu

Were You There? (WERE YOU THERE) — African American Spiritual / African American Spiritual, lyricist / Richard Lloyd, arranger (G)
The Bede Singers / David Hill
(CD) *The Music of Richard Lloyd* / PRIORY RECORDS, LTD. / PRCD 838
© 2006 Priory Records, Ltd. priory.org.uk

“Sing For Joy is not timid about using glorious music during the Easter season. The message deserves such music. We hope that you hear more than notes and chords and phrases; we hope you hear Easter too.”
-Pastor Bruce Benson

April 20, 2014

Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day, Year A

(1R) Acts 10:34–43 or Jeremiah 31:1–6
(PS) Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24
(2R) Colossians 3:1–4 or Acts 10:34–43
(G) John 20:1–18 or Matthew 28:1–10

Jesus Christ is Risen Today (EASTER HYMN) — Lyra Davidica / Latin Carol, lyricist / John Ferguson, arranger/editor (1R 2R) Combined Lutheran Choirs / John Ferguson, accompanist / Anton Armstrong
(CD) *When In Our Music: A Hymn Festival* / ALCM / CS-1
© 1994 ALCM, Association of Lutheran Church Musicians alcm.org

Easter Sequence — Volkmar Leisring / Richard Proulx, arranger/editor (G) The Cathedral Singers: Chicago, IL / Lawrence Tremsky, accompanist / Richard Proulx
(CD) *Proulx Conducts Proulx* / GIA / GIA CD-260
© 1991 GIA giamusic.com

My Beloved Spake — Patrick Hadley (G) St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys: New York, NY / John Scott
(CD) *Easter on Fifth Avenue* / PRO ORGANO / CD 7209
© 2006 Pro Organo proorgano.com

The Angels Rolled the Stone Away — African American Spiritual / African American Spiritual, lyricist / Jester Hairston, arranger/editor (1R 2R G) The Concordia Choir: Moorhead, MN / Paul J. Christiansen
(CD) *50 Years With Paul J. Christiansen: Volume I* / CONCORDIA RECORDINGS / E-1862
© Concordia Recordings concordiarecordings.com

This Joyful Eastertide (VRUECHTEN) — Dutch Carol / George Woodward, lyricist / Charles Wood, arranger/editor (G) The Cambridge Singers / John Rutter
(CD) *Faire is the Heaven: Music of the English Church* / COLLEGIUM RECORDS / COLCD 107
© 1988 Collegium Records, Naxos of America, Inc. collegium.co.uk

Light's Glittering Morn — Horatio Parker (1R 2R G) The Choir of Grace Cathedral: San Francisco, CA / Choirs of San Francisco Cathedral / Robert Lehman, accompanist / John Fenstermaker
(CD) *Light's Glittering Morn* / EMI (ANGEL, EMI CLASSICS, EMI RECORDS, LTD) / DC 7 54134 2
© 1991 EMI (Angel, EMI Classics, EMI Records, Ltd) emiclassics.com

The Cathedral Singers: Chicago, IL / Richard Proulx
(CD) *Sublime Chant* / GIA / GIA CD-338
© 1995 GIA giamusic.com

Blessed Be the God and Father (Excerpt) — Samuel Sebastian Wesley (2R) Westminster Abbey Choir / Martin Neary
(CD) *The Royal Golden Wedding* / GRIFFIN / GCCD 4017
© Griffin griffinrecords.co.uk

Blessed Be the God and Father — Richard Hillert (2R) The Schola Cantorum of St. Peter the Apostle: Chicago, IL / Deward R. Rahm, accompanist / J. Michael Thompson
(CD) *Music for Easter II* / THE LITURGICAL PRESS / 7918-8
© 1997 The Liturgical Press litpress.org

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight — Marty Haugen / Henry Alford, lyricist (G) Marty Haugen, ensemble
(CD) *Mass of Creation* / GIA / GIA CD-168
© 1984 GIA giamusic.com

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight (EASTERTIDE) — Richard R. Webster / Henry Alford, lyricist (G) Thomas G. Whittemore, accompanist / Richard R. Webster
(CD) *Brass Organ Quires: The Music of Richard Webster* / ADVENT PRESS /
© Advent Press advent-press.com

He is Risen, He is Risen (UNSER HERRSCHER or NEANDER) — Joachim Neander / Cecil Francis Alexander, lyricist / John Scott, arranger (1R) St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys: New York, NY / John Scott
(CD) *Easter on Fifth Avenue* / PRO ORGANO / CD 7209
© 2006 Pro Organo proorgano.com

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*"Easter doesn't care about the April weather.
Rain or shine, Easter sings.
Hear it, share it, join it, on Sing For Joy."
-Pastor Bruce Benson*

April 27, 2014
Second Sunday in Easter, Year A

(1R)	Acts 2:14a, 22–32
(PS)	Psalms 16
(2R)	1 Peter 1:3–9
(G)	John 20:19–31

The Strife is O'er, The Battle Done (VICTORY) — Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina / John Ferguson, arranger / Francis Pott, translator (1R G) The St. Olaf Cantorei: Northfield, MN / John Ferguson
(CD) *A Thousand Ages: A Celebration of Hope* / GIA / GIA CD-474
© 2000 GIA giamusic.com

O Sons and Daughters (O FILII ET FILIAE) — French Traditional / Jean Tisserand, lyricist / Richard Proulx, arranger / John Mason Neale, translator (G)



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APRIL 2014 / YEAR A

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