

Palm Sunday 2018 Offering Meditation and Prayer

Provided by Disciples Women Executive Director Pat Donahoo



The Messiah was expected to be a king and a leader; he no doubt would come from a famous and wealthy family. But Jesus was not at all what was expected. Jesus was a new kind of king. He came from a family of Nazareth... "what good can come out of Nazareth?" He didn't join us from an exalted position but rather as a lowly servant enduring unbelief, apathy, injustice, torture and hatred. Even his own disciples could not stay awake with him and denied and betrayed him.

Jesus the King was not an ally to the rich and famous but stood firmly with the weak, the humble and the discouraged. The mark of Jesus' kingdom was compassion overflowing. Compassion for the suffering, the sinner, and the outcast. The gifts we bring today are gifts of compassion for all those they will bless through the whole mission of the Church. The gifts we bring to Disciples Mission Fund will continue to overflow with compassion on all God's children. Like the women and children of India, met by the Disciples Women Woman-to-Woman journey, who are caught in trafficking, have been trafficked, or are under the threat of being enslaved and trafficked. This compassion overflowing will work to protect these most vulnerable and assist them in finding a way to escape the tragedies of a life of poverty and the threat of violence.

As the sounds of Hosanna! rang out, the faithful spread their garments and branches at the feet of our Lord to make way for his entry. May we lay our treasures at the feet of our Lord so that overflowing compassion may quench those who are thirsting for the love of God and release from their captivity.

Loving, amazing God, we give you thanks for these gifts and all who have given that your compassion may continue to overflow upon your children in our neighborhoods and around the world. Bless each gift and each giver that your children may receive care, concern, love, tenderness, mercy and kindness. Amen.