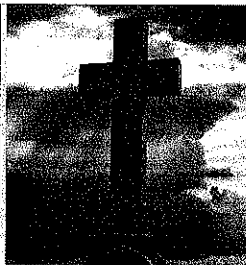


Palm/Passion Sunday



Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

Reader: Lent's journey has brought us to a place of celebration and confrontation.

All: Lent's questions are controversial.

Reader: Where will the road take us?

All: What kind of people will we be?

Reader: Are we among those who will shout,
"Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!"?

All: Are we among those who wave palm branches?

Reader: Are we among those who welcome Christ as the prince of peace
or are we among those who are already plotting his demise?

All: Hosanna to the servant king!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Reader: Let us pray.
God of palm and passion,
we are confused by our destination.
Is this the place where the journey has led us?
This celebration has alarming undertones
and unsettling features.
Are we greeting a king
or are we sending a lamb to slaughter?

All: Stay with us as we confront the truth of this moment.
Stay with us as we prepare for the darkness ahead.
Stay with us as it is a fearful time. Amen.



A Father's Life Changing Gift

Everyday, while Tasal worked alongside his father on their farm, he never once let go of his dream to go to school.

Most children in rural Afghanistan are expected to stay home to support their parents' livelihoods and help ensure their families can continue to meet their basic needs.

Presbyterian World Service & Development partners held meetings in Tasal's village to explain how an education can help children access opportunities to improve their lives and build their communities.

Tasal's father Zaman attended the meeting — and was inspired by what he heard.

"I now understand that it is not only his right to go to school but it is also my responsibility to encourage him and support him in becoming educated."

Two days later, Zaman registered Tasal in Grade One.

This Lenten season let us faithfully respond to Christ's call to serve those in need. Support for PWS&D is helping communities learn about the long-term impact of education and giving boys and girls the chance to achieve their full potential.

