



BLESSED TO SHARE THE BLESSING IN THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Palm Sunday 4/5



Pastor

Robert M. Portier
Pastor Emeritus
Linsey H. Dettmer

Choir Director
Gary McCaffity

Organists
Barbara Jones &
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Sunday School 9:45 AM

Worship

Saturday 6 PM
Sunday: 8:30 & 11 AM
Wednesday: 6 PM

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... he **humbled** himself
and became **obedient**
to the point of **death** —
even **death on a cross.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:8, NRSV



Hymn of Invocation 442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ref All glory, laud, and honor

To You, Redeemer, King,

To whom the lips of children

Made sweet hosannas ring.

3 The multitude of pilgrims

With palms before You went;

Our praise and prayer and anthems

Before You we present. Refrain

1 You are the King of Israel

And David's royal Son,

Now in the Lord's name coming,

Our King and Blessèd One. Refrain

4 To You before Your passion

They sang their hymns of praise;

To You, now high exalted,

Our melody we raise. Refrain

2 The company of angels

Is praising You on high,

And we with all creation

In chorus make reply. Refrain

5 As You received their praises,

Accept the prayers we bring,

O Source of ev'ry blessing,

Our good and gracious King. Refrain

Confession and Absolution *Setting 3 begins on page 184*

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the The Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit *Read responsively*

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

f Gloria Patri

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

f Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:19-29 *Read responsively*

Open to me the gates of | righteousness,*
that I may enter through them and give thanks | to the LORD.

**This is the gate | of the LORD;*
the righteous shall enter | through it.**

I thank you that you have | answered me*
and have become my sal- | vation.

**The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.**

This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

**This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.**

Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*

O LORD, we pray, give | us success!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us.*

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!

**You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you;*
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

Epistle **Philippians 2:5-11**

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel Matthew 27:11-66

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments

among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles Creed *back of hymnal*

Hymn of the 441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty LSB 441

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
To see the_approaching sacrifice.

- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.
The Father on His sapphire throne
Awaits His own anointed Son.

- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Lord's prayer

Salutation & Benedicamus (*we bless / we praise*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.

C Amen

Closing Hymn 837 Lift High the Cross

837 Lift High the Cross LSB 837 sts. ref-6

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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