ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Wheatfield, New York

Palm Sunday March 24, 2024



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**, welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

"Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord" (Psalm 118:19). Today's psalm speaks of gates opening for the people of God to enter into His holy presence. These are not any old gates; these are the "gates of righteousness." As the outstretched arms and nail-scarred hands of our Savior welcome us all to enter these gates, we walk by faith into the presence of the faithful Father who freely gives us His forgiveness. Palm Sunday is the "gate" of Holy Week. As we gather for worship, let us walk through this gate with Jesus, our King, remembering His suffering for our salvation, and receiving again the gifts of God that inspire in us our thanks and praise.

PRELUDE

Organ/Handbells - Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 24:7-10

- **P** Lift up your heads, O gates!
- And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- **P** Who is this King of glory?
- **C** The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle!
- P Lift up your heads, O gates!
- And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- **P** Who is this King of glory?
- The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA"

LSB 443



Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821-80, alt.

Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

Text and tune: Public domain



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As we see our King coming we recognize our sinful condition. Let us confess our sins, pleading, "Lord, have mercy" and "Save us, O Lord."

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition.

- **P** Father in heaven,
- Your Son humbled Himself and became a human being to die in our place. But we confess that in our disobedience we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Lord, have mercy.
- P He was obedient to death and took our sins with Him to the cross. Father, You have exalted Him, that every knee should bow.
- We confess that without Your help we are bound to continue in sin as Your rebellious children. Hosanna! Save us, O Lord!
- We see our King coming, not to punish but to forgive. In His great love, Jesus gives His life so that we can inherit the Kingdom of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Let us pray.
- Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Rejoicing in Your mercy to us this day, enable us to follow our Savior, walking with Him to His cross and sharing with Him in His resurrection. We pray this in the name of our humble King, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations;

his rule shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the

point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 11:1–10

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those

standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sunday School Children

LSB 442

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



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Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

TEACHING FROM GOD'S WORD

Source of

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Handbells - All Glory, Laud, and Honor

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray:

O Lord, our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

bless - ing, Our good and gra-cious King.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:
 We pray for the Church as it observes this Holy Week around the world that all people come to see in Christ alone the Redeemer of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

 hear our prayer.
- We pray for all nations, that conflicts cease and that the kingdom of God come to bless our world. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.
- As we anticipate the celebration of Holy Week and Easter, we pray for our families and the people closest to us. Grant that we share with them our faith in Christ and live together as God's sanctified and thankful people. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.
- We pray for those with special needs and concerns this day, especially the hospitalized, the grieving, the unemployed, and all those whose special situations are on our hearts at this time and for whom our petitions are desired, [including...]. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- As this holiest week of the Church Year begins, Lord, we remember before You those many faithful Christian people who have been part of our lives and our fellowship in times past, especially those who have departed this life and now are rejoicing in the glory of Your promised heavenly Kingdom. Direct our ways on earth that we may complete this life in faith and may at last sing eternal hosannas together with them and all the company of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

- P Taught by our LORD and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

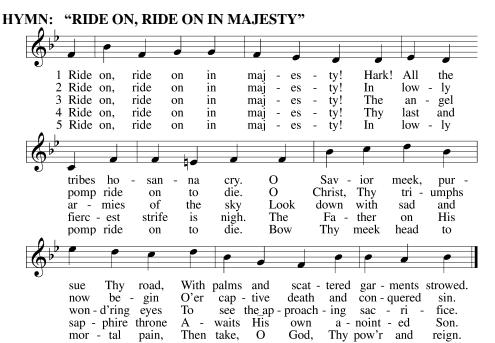
BENEDICTION

- P Because of Jesus' blessing, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.
- **C** "This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."
- The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

 The Lord look upon you with favor and H give you peace.
- C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LSB 441

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt. Text and tune: Public

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