Palm Sunday March 28, 2021

Lord Jesus Christ, as we enter this week which the Church throughout the ages has identified as holy, inspire us through Your Word to confess our sins and receive by Your Word the blessing of Your forgiveness which You purchased and won for us by Your death on the cross and Your resurrection from the grave. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Greetings to you, dear worshiper, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. May the blessing of His presence and His peace be with you.

If you are a guest worshiping with us today, we are honored to have you join us in receiving the gifts which our Lord supplies to us in His holy Word. We invite you to return and worship with us again as the opportunity makes itself available to you.

Please note the special opportunities for receiving God's gifts in worship which are provided for you this week:

Maundy Thursday, April 1, at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is offered.) (The altar will be stripped at the end of the 7:00 p.m. service.)

Good Friday, April 2, at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Service of Darkness at 7:00 p.m.)

Easter Sunday, April 4, at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. (The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is offered.)

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Bells' Call to Worship

Word of Welcome

Organ Prelude

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Stand

Procession of Palms

Please turn to face the Processional Cross located at the entrance of the sanctuary.

- P The grace of our Lord

 → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.
- P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna to the Son of David.
- **P** Let us pray.

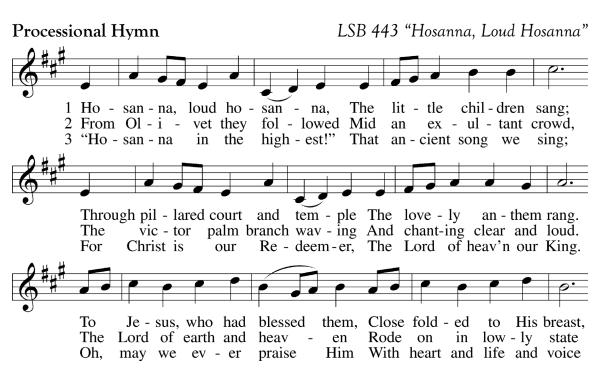
Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the twelfth chapter. John 12:12-19
- C Glory to You, O Lord.
- ¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.





The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim-plest and the best. Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid-ding wait. And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re-joice!

- **P** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the highest!

Collect of the Day

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

A The Old Testament Reading is from Zechariah, chapter 9.

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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

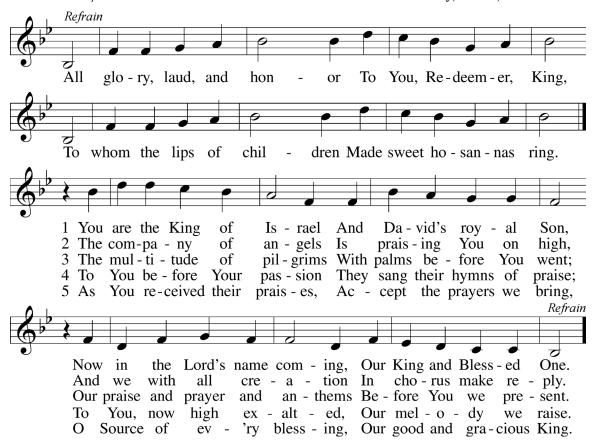
Philippians 2:5-11

P The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 2.

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.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.





Sermon

"They Did Not Understand at First"

John 12:12-19

Profession of Faith by Wayne T. Armbrust (10:30 a.m. only)

Stand

Nicene Creed (8:00 a.m. only)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man:

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- Let us pray for Christ's Holy Church, that she may be defended against her enemies and kept faithful in the confession of Jesus Christ to the nations: Almighty God, because You have revealed the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations, guard Your Church against all enemies of Your name and empower her in the proclamation of this saving Gospel and in the works of mercy that make known Your love to those still in darkness and the shadow of death;

Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- Let us pray for all pastors and servants of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the baptized in their vocation as God's children:

 Almighty God, through Your Spirit You have called, gathered and enlightened a people and set them apart by Baptism to be Your own and live under You. Give Your blessing to and prosper the service of those who preach and teach

this Gospel in the Church and all who speak and live this Gospel out within

their various callings; Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- Let us pray for those preparing for Baptism and the catechumens learning the faith, that rejoicing in the forgiveness of their sins and the new birth of their Baptism, they may be sustained in faith and be found faithful when Christ comes in His glory:

Almighty God, You have established the Means of Grace by which the aged and the young are given new birth in Baptism and grow in their new lives as Your own children. Grant that all who have received this adoption as Your own sons and daughters may be kept in this holy faith and fear and not depart from Christ all the days of their lives;

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who govern and for our own lives as citizens and servants of Christ who honor authority and live holy, upright and godly lives to Your praise and glory:

Almighty God, You have established governments and appointed leaders to serve on Your behalf in the exercise of justice, the promotion of virtue and the protection of the weak. Bless our president, the Congress, our governor, the legislature of this state, all judges and magistrates, and those who protect our liberty at home and abroad. Give us the will and desire to be good and faithful citizens so that we may not dishonor You by our words or conduct;

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Let us pray to our Lord, God Almighty, that He would free us from error; heal us from all disease; show concern for the poor and hungry; and give care to the disabled, the aged and the infirm:

Almighty God, You heal and restore according to Your gracious will. Behold the sick and suffering and all in any distress of mind or spirit [especially ____]. Give them the grace in which to persevere through the day of trouble, and give patience to those who struggle with disability. Visit the poor and hungry with Your gracious presence and Your gifts, and lead us to respect and love all people, from life's beginning to its appointed end;

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those outside the Church, for those who have fallen away from the truth and for those who have renounced the faith:

Almighty God, as once Your Son was welcomed with palms and hosannas, so open the hearts of all who hear Your Word that by the Holy Spirit they may believe in Jesus Christ and come to Him. Restore the fallen, and bring back to the faith those who have rejected this Gospel for the prison of error and idol; Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the peace of the world, for peace in Christ's Church and for peace in the hearts and lives of all Christians:

Almighty God, You have given us the peace that passes understanding in Christ, our Lord. Manifest His peace among the nations to bring an end to war and violence, unite Your Church in peace and harmony, and give Your calm to the troubled hearts of Your people that they may serve You in peace and quietness;

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our enemies, for those who hurt us and for those who persecute the Church of Christ:

Almighty God, while we were yet Your enemies, You sent forth Your Son to suffer for our sins and die to free us from death. Guide us to love those who hate us, to pray for our enemies and those who persecute Your people because of their faith, and to give witness to the hope within us in the day of trial. Bring them to repentance, that they may be of one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Church;

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for our good use of all God's gifts and for grateful hearts:

Almighty God, though we in no way deserve Your kindness, You give us mercies new each morning. Make us mindful of Your gifts and wise in their use, for the glory of Your holy name. Fill us with thanksgiving, that we may rejoice in Your generosity and honor You for the daily bread You never fail to give; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

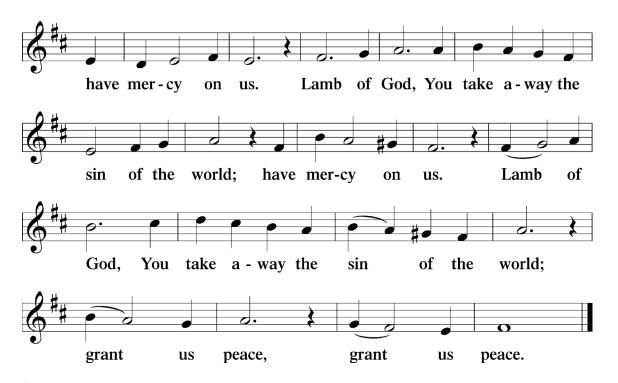
Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





Sit

Distribution





Eat this bread, drink this cup, Trust in Him and you will not thirst.



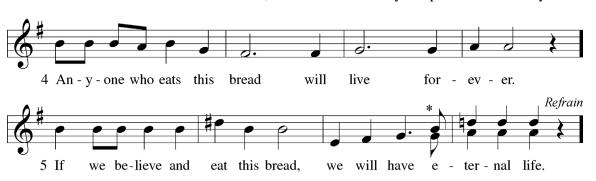
1 This is His bod-y giv-en for you; this is His blood that was shed for you.



2 As of-ten asyou eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death un-tilHe comes a-gain.



3 Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day.

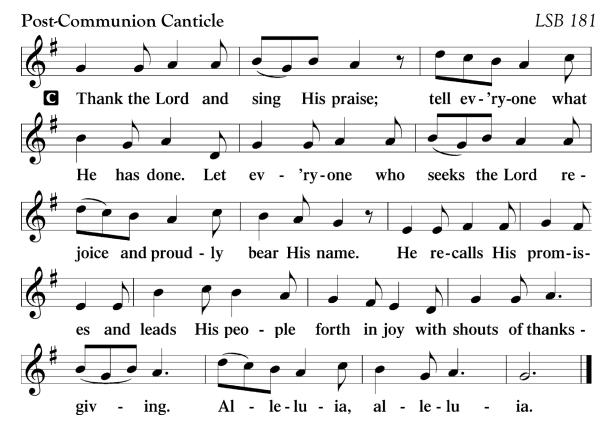


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Stand

Dismissal

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart \(\dagger in peace.
- C Amen.



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

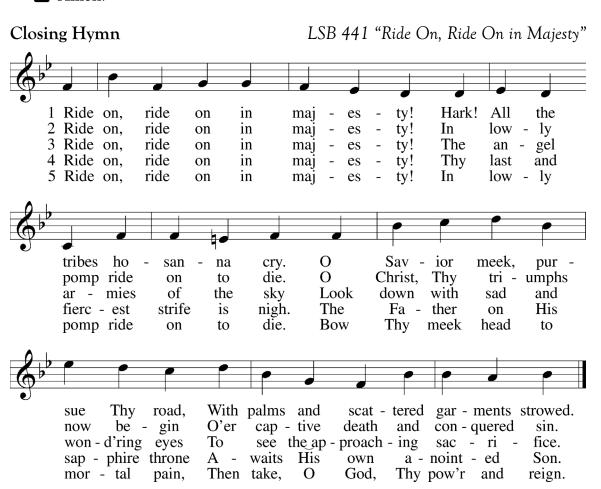
Benediction

P 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 + give you peace.

C Amen.



Organ Postlude

Serving in God's House Today:

Liturgist: Rev. Joseph McCalley **Preacher:** Rev. Brian Thieme

Altar Guild: Phyllis White

Elders: Larry McCoig and David Attebery

Music Director: Chris Kespohl
Organist: Bonnie Lawler

Trombonists: Patrick Sullivan and Todd Yatsook

Trumpeters: Chris Farris and Josh Myers

Video Tech: Josh Thieme

Acknowledgements

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