

TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLENDORA
PALM SUNDAY
March 24, 2024

As We Gather

Today's processional Gospel looks at the first day of Holy Week, and the Passion carries us on to Jesus' tomb. Throughout the entire week, and since His transfiguration, our Lord has moved toward the cross step by step. Despite opposition from crowds and His circle of friends, He has been determined to love us to death so that He might open heaven to us by the grace of God. Zechariah had written about the procession centuries earlier, and Paul proclaims that God the Father has exalted Jesus for His steadfast commitment to our salvation. But this is no mere history! We also are called to follow, to live through each day, step by step, faithful under various circumstances yet confident of mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

PROCESSION OF PALMS

Greeting

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
C **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

Prayer

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.**

Holy Gospel *John 12:12-19*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
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.**

All who wish are invited to follow the Processional Cross in procession while Palm Branches are waved and the hymn is sung.

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.*

- 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*
- 2 The company of angels, Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation, In chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims, With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems, Before You we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To You before Your passion, They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 As You received their praises, Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing, Our good and gracious King. *Refrain*

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

All return to their seats.

Welcome and Announcements

PREPARATION

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

P Today is the beginning of Holy Week. During it we shall recall how our Savior gave His life so that our sins may all be forgiven, and heaven opened to us.
C **Even during worship, our minds wander to other concerns.**
P These concerns are already known to God. Give them into His loving hands for resolution, but turn your hearts and minds to focus on our Lord's step-by-step determination to free us from every sin. Confident of the forgiveness He won through His glorious death and resurrection, let us then admit our sinful condition to Him and to one another.
C **I confess to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in my thinking, speaking, and acting. I am mired in sin and incapable of saving myself. Heavenly Father, for**

Jesus' sake and because of His sacrifice for us fallen creatures, we beg You to forgive, strengthen, and turn us to Your will so that we may follow our Savior in loving service to You and to one another.

P As a called and ordained servant of Christ, who gave Himself over to death that we might have eternal life, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Introit for Palm Sunday *Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26*

C **Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

A 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!

C **Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer 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.

C **Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection;**

P 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 *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.**

Anthem: The Holy City *Sung by Heidi Schmaltz and Jerry Schmaltz*

Epistle *Philippians 2:1–11*

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 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.**

Verse *Philippians 2:8b*

P He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,

C **even death on a cross.**

Gospel Reading *John 12:20–43*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Whoever

loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. ³⁷Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

³⁹Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

⁴⁰“He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,
lest they see with their eyes,
and understand with their heart, and turn,
and I would heal them.”

⁴¹Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. ⁴²Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Message

837 Lift High the Cross *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*

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

C **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.**

Offering

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna *LSB 443*

- 1 Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple The lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.
- 2 With them our praise and off'ings, Our very lives we bring;
We put them at Your service, O Christ, our heav'nly King.
Oh, may we ever praise You With heart and life and voice
And in Your blissful presence Eternally rejoice!

Prayer of the Church

P Because our Lord humbled Himself and became obedient even to death on the cross, now He is highly exalted, at the Father's right hand, ready and able to receive our prayers and accept our praise. Let us go to Him in prayer for all people in their various circumstances. For people without the necessities of food, clothing, and shelter, that the Holy Spirit would hear their cries and groans, bringing tears of relief and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For all who face this day burdened with illness or addiction, ongoing conflict with people around them, or fear of what might happen, that God would assure them of His gracious presence and strengthen their faith in His guidance and protection, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For those who serve the needs of others as they provide medical and emergency care, as they maintain order in our communities and peace across borders, and as they put themselves in

danger that their neighbors may find the protection they need, that God would use the gifts He has placed within them to serve in compassion and love, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P For loving families and caring communities, for schools and institutions of higher learning, wherever people gather to share and build up, that God would provide them the wisdom and understanding they need to do His will, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P For people near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*], that God would visit, relief, and console them in His grace and mercy, and for the church here and around the world, that our Lord would strengthen our faith and move us to be His servants, drawing people to His glorious death and resurrection and serving Him with all that we are and have, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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.

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 T give you peace.

C Amen.

441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

- 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.

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