



PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

+ + +



INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The grace of our Lord (✠) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL *John 12:12–19*

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So 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!” ¹⁴ And 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!”

¹⁶ His 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. ¹⁷ The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

PASSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Pastor: Soon after Jesus entered Jerusalem, the hosannas and the joy of the people turned to disappointment and rejection as our Lord took the path to the cross. So now we move from the hosanna's of Palm Sunday to the solemnness of Holy Week. We confess our sins, as we follow p. 151 in the Service Book.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION p. 151 LSB

Exhortation

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

Confession of Sins

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 50:4–9a*

⁴The 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.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶I 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.
⁷But 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.
⁸He 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.
⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 27:11–66*

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

People: **Glory to You, 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor: Our service continues on page 285 in the Lutheran Service Book with the Kyrie . . .

KYRIE

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

People: **have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **have mercy.**

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

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.**

VERSICLES

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;
People: let my cry come to You.

Pastor: In the day of my trouble I call upon You;
People: for You answer me.

Pastor: Hide Your face from my sins,
People: and blot out all my iniquities.

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,
People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Pastor: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
People: my lips will praise You.

Pastor: For You have been my help,
People: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

Pastor: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
People: unite my heart to fear Your name.

Pastor: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
People: and I will glorify Your name forever.

Pastor: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
People: May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Pastor: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
People: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Pastor: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
People: listen to my plea for grace.

COLLECTS

Pastor: Let us pray: Gracious Lord, keep Your Church in Your mercy, that she may endure the assaults of the evil one and remain faithful for the sake of those numbered within Your Kingdom and those who have not yet heard the Gospel and been brought to faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, by Your Spirit You have established us as Your Church and granted to us particular vocations within the Church, home and community in which to serve You. Grant to us every gift and blessing needful, that we may honor our calling and serve You to the best of our ability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O mighty Lord, You have established the kingdom of the left and hold accountable all those who govern in this and every place. Guide Justin Trudeau, our Prime Minister; the members of Parliament; Doug Ford, our Premier; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they would serve nobly and wisely, especially during these stressful days as we are confronted by COVID-19; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, You grant us blessings to us every day. You also provide us with special times of celebration. We think of those celebrating birthdays this week, including Charles, Lincoln, Linda, Joyce, Carol, and Lacey, and those recognizing wedding anniversaries, including Ian and Stacey Sutton, that their joy would overflow in thanksgiving for Your gracious care and love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Merciful Lord, Your grace is sufficient for all our needs, and You have promised to be the strength of the weary, the hope of those who fear, the healing of the ill, the fullness of those disabled, and the peace of all who are distressed. Hear us on behalf of Marian and family as they mourn the passing of her nephew, John; Erin, as she recovers in hospital from double lung transplant; for Allison, as she deals with her cancer diagnosis and treatments; Ralph and Lynn; Doreen; Albert and Anne; Shirley; Matthew and Marissa; Reiner and family; Anne and Mike; Ritva and Ristau; Gene and Anna; Peter; Shirley and Keith; Betty, Bill and Sandy; Harry; Stacy and her family, Imogen and family; Llyod and Elsie, Walter and Donna, Christina, Matthew, Bill and Vicky during Bill's recovery; Maria, Dennis and Sara, Nancy; Patricia, Sandra, Sarah, Grace; Frank and Sophie; Melissa, Marsha, Becky, Anna, Delbert, and for all those we name in our hearts . . . that they may be well supplied by Your grace in their time of trouble; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Everlasting Father, it is Your will that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of Your Son by faith. Give to Your Word success and deliver from error all those who live in darkness, that they may walk in the light of the Lord Jesus; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed Lord, You give food to the hungry and provide for all our needs in this mortal life. Grant to us a grateful heart and knowledge to use wisely and well all that You have entrusted to our care; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen. + + +