

PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

March 28th, 2021



AS WE GATHER: Sunday, “the eighth day of the week,” is celebrated by Christians as the first day of the eternal life into which they were baptized. Today, the beginning of the great and Holy Week of Lent, we begin with the note of great joy as the crowds receive Jesus entering Jerusalem. This will be the last time He comes to the holy city. For we then follow Him to the judgment hall, the cross of suffering, and the fearful tomb of death. The penitential season of Lent concludes with the three holy days, the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Let us follow our Lord and allow Him to take our

sins upon Himself that we may receive His new life in the forgiveness of our sins and the joy of the resurrection.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

GREETING

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

COLLECT

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 12:12–19* (The triumphal entry)

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. 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!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

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

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. 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. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. 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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” #442 v. 1-4

- 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

✘ WORD ✘

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zechariah 9:9–12* (The coming King of Zion)

Rejoice 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. I 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. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a*

**Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,
thus securing an eternal redemption.
Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.
He sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant forever.**

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:5–11* (Every knee should bow at the name of Jesus.)

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 emptied himself by 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Philippians 2:8b*

He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 15:1-47* (The Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ)

Pastor: The Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to the Holy Evangelist St. Mark.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” #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 From Olivet they followed
 Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving
 And chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
 Rode on in lowly state
Nor scorned that little children
 Should on His bidding wait.
- 3 “Hosanna in the highest!”
 That ancient song we sing;
For Christ is our Redeemer,
 The Lord of heav’n our King.
Oh, may we ever praise Him
 With heart and life and voice
And in His blissful presence
 Eternally rejoice! *Public domain*

SERMON

“Who Are You?” (Mark 15:1-47)

CREED

Nicene Creed

**People: 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

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness with which You bless Your whole creation. Above all, however, we give You thanks that You sent Your only-

begotten Son into our flesh to be our true King, Your Suffering Servant whose death delivers us and all believers from sin, death, and hell. Give us Your grace that we be faithful in our walk and in our hope, love, and worship. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Inspire Your whole Church throughout the world to rightly hear and follow Jesus, our eternal King and Lord, in humble faith with thanksgiving. Give wisdom and grace to all pastors that they give themselves to a living and lively proclamation of Your Law and Gospel through which You work true, saving repentance and faith in many. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give Your grace, forgiveness, wisdom, blessing, and guidance to all who bear the offices of government in our nation and throughout the world. Lead them to the faithful exercise of their authority for peace and justice, and for the defense and liberty of all people, especially the most vulnerable. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give peace and patience, comfort and healing to all who suffer illness or adversity or who are in sorrow or need, [*especially* . . .]. Deliver all who endure persecution for faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

(Additional local petitions may be added here.)

Pastor: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. [*Silence for remembrance.*] Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" #350 v. 1, 2

1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
 Only hope for sinful mortals!
 Come, O Savior of the world!
 Open are to Thee all portals.
 Come, Thy beauty let us see;
 Anxiously we wait for Thee.

2 Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my guest divine!

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✘ SACRAMENT ✘

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS (*sung – p. 208 in hymnal*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: 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. By His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, He reached the goal of His

substitutionary death, that by the offering of His own body and blood on the cross, all who believe in Him may share His triumph over sin and death.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Cor. 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: 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 *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *(sung – p.210 in hymnal)*

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION and HYMN

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

#440

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, for the gift of forgiveness won by Your Son’s offering on the cross and for the strengthening of our souls and bodies by His body and blood. Go with us now, and keep us steadfast in Your Word through the blessed days of this great and Holy Week and to our eternal life with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

#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
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