

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

Sunday of the Passion



St. John Lutheran Church and School

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
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“Palm Sunday” is named after the palms which were spread before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. The acclamation of the people, “Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,” clearly reveals that they hailed Jesus as the messianic king.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ, 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.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter. (John 12:12-19)

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

P Let us go forth in peace

C In the name of the Lord.

Opening Hymn 442 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Refrain: 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 Bless-ed 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.

Invocation, Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.

Salutation & Collect of the Day

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. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

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. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have 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 emptied himself, by 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.

Holy Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter. (20-43)

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, 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. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If 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. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from

heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.³⁴ So 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?”³⁵ So 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.³⁶ While 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.³⁷ Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,³⁸ so 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?”

³⁹ Therefore 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.”

⁴¹ Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.⁴² Nevertheless, 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;⁴³ for 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.

Hymn 438 *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

- 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of sinners bearing
And, laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing;
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint, To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
The mockery, and yet replies, “All this I gladly suffer.”
- 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend, The Lamb of God, our Savior,
Whom God the Father chose to send To gain for us His favor.
“Go forth, My Son,” the Father said, “And free My children from their dread
Of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Your passion they will share The fruit of Your salvation.”
- 3 “Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I’ll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree, I’ll do what You have asked Me.”
O wondrous Love, what have You done! The Father offers up His Son,
Desiring our salvation. O Love, how strong You are to save!
You lay the One into the grave Who built the earth’s foundation.

4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought To stand in joy beside You.

Sermon “*The Triumph of Our Lord*” John 12:12-19

Nicene Creed

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Collect

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.**

Closing Hymn 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.

SERVING TODAY – Preaching & Presiding – Pastor Jeff Caithamer. **Organist:** Keith Williams. **Videographer** – Lou Ann.

Holy Week Musical Meditations - Keith has recorded a series of five brief musical meditations for Monday through Friday Holy Week. Each day's meditation includes two Passion chorales (sung by Celia Williams) and organ settings of the chorales. These will be available on the church website.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY – We remember the following people in our prayers: *for healing and recovery:* Roger, Denny-father of Katie Caithamer, Starley, Cindy, Taylor, Maelynn-granddaughter of Rick & Rita, Karla, Pastor Ehlers, Martin-son of Letty, Aidan, Whitney-wife of Ellie's grandson, Barbara-friend of the congregation, Jan, John, Tom, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Jacob-great grandson of Bob & Joan, Maria, Merv, Jessica-granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Joan-mother of Bill, Judy-mother of Rochelle, Rebecca-daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy-father of Anne, Dan-brother of Bonnie, Todd; *for successful treatments:* Luke, Kendra (school parent), Cari (school parent), Nicole (school parent), Earl, Jayne, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students:* Jordan, Kate, Jacob; *for those in the military:* Roberto, Adam, Joshua, Nick, Taylor, Andy, Brandon, Ben, Allyson, Zachary; *for our homebound:* Mavis, Gaylord.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

Easter Morning Brunch – The Fellowship Board will be serving a brunch following the Sunrise Service. We also welcome families after the 8:00am service to enjoy coffee, baked goodies, and fellowship.

OUR WEEK AHEAD

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| Today | <i>Palm Sunday;</i> 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class |
| Tuesday | 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 6:00 Handbells |
| Wednesday | 8:20 Chapel; 5:45 Midweek School |
| Thursday | 7:15 Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion |
| Friday | 7:15 Good Friday Service; <i>School closed, Church Office closes at noon</i> |
| Sunday | <i>Easter Sunday;</i> 6:00 Sunrise Service; 7:00 Easter Brunch; 8:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion; 9:30 Divine Service w/Holy Communion, Sunday School; 10:45 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion |

Easter Sunday Services – A 9:30am service of Holy Communion has been added for Easter Sunday. Schedule for Easter Sunday: 6:00am Sunrise Service, 8:00am, 9:30am and 10:45am Divine Service with Holy Communion. Please call or email the church office to make a reservation for Easter Sunday: 359-1123;

LWML Salad Supper will be a St. John LWML only. Bring your own bag supper for fun and fellowship April 19th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women of St. John are welcome. Bring one or two "Thinking of You" cards with a stamped envelope to send with a \$10 gift card to encourage St. John's college students. The gift cards will be purchased through St. John School gift card program. Please give your donations for the gift cards purchase to Martha. Contact Linda or Martha for more information.

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting - We will be having a planning meeting on Saturday, April 10 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall for Vacation Bible School, which will be happening June 21-25. We will be going over the Bible lessons, plans for the week of VBS, and what will need to be ordered. If you are unable to make the meeting and are willing to help, please contact me, also be on the look out for more information in the bulletins to come. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Sara.

Enrollment for 2021-2022 – St. John Lutheran School and Little Lamb Preschool offer a Christ-centered education for students age three through eighth grade. Our caring, skilled teachers use a variety of strategies to engage students' minds in a safe learning environment, with the focus on teaching every subject with a Biblical worldview. Little Lamb Preschool offers morning and full day classes. Two-day (T/TH), three-day (M/W/F), and five-day options are available. Tell everyone about our wonderful school. Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year has begun. For more information, contact the school office at (217) 359-1714.

Educating A New Generation Of Lutherans - Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Hymn "Chief of Sinners Though I Be," Lutheran Church Bodies in America, The Catholicity of Lutheranism, Responding to Roman Catholic Proof Texts and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

St. John School Wish List – There are several items that our teachers, students and school would benefit from: interactive projectors, new classroom flooring, Chromebooks, outdoor pavilion, office computers, new assessment program. Please see the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall for more details and estimated costs and consider making a donation towards one of the items. If your donation goes in the offering plate, the donation remains anonymous. If your donation is turned into the school office, we can thank you for your generosity. All donations will be included on your Contribution Statement.

LEARN BY HEART
THE FAMILY ALTAR

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

The Table of Duties - Of Civil Government

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Rom. 13:1-4

Bible Passage: ...And without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Hebrews 9:22b

Hymn 450 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (st. 6-7)
Psalm 92

Bible Readings for the Week:

Israel Crosses over the Jordan River – Joshua 3:1-17

Israel Celebrates the Passover in the Promised Land – Joshua

5:10-15

The Destruction of Jericho- Joshua 6:1-27