



Palm
SUNDAY

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION
MARCH 28, 2021 – 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, we celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

Today begins a Holy Week –

A week set apart for the special purpose of remembering and honoring Jesus Christ for the gift of Salvation through His Holy Precious Blood, and His innocent Suffering and Death.

We focus on events in our Lord's Life including His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem; and His ensuing Passion and Death on the cross; culminating with His Glorious Resurrection.

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

Abide with Me with Glory Be to Jesus – arr. G. Lanier

WELCOME

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Zechariah 9:9-12

(Rejoice, Jerusalem; your King comes to you.)

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!
Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

See, your King comes to you, righteous
and having salvation, gentle and riding on
a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will take away the chariots from
Ephraim and the war-horses from
Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be
broken.
He will proclaim peace to the nations.
His Rule will extend from sea to sea and
from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you, because of the blood of My
Covenant with you, I will free your
prisoners from the waterless pit.
Return to your fortress, O prisoners of
hope; even now I announce that I will
restore twice as much to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



THE ENTRANCE TO HOLY WEEK

P The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!

C **Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest!**



PALM SUNDAY GOSPEL

John 12:12-19

(The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on a donkey.)

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

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

P The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on
His way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet Him,
shouting,

C **“Hosanna!”**

“Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the King of Israel!”

P Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written:

“Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your King is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”

At first His disciples did not understand all this.

Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written
about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

Now the crowd that was with Him when He called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that He had given this miraculous sign, went out to meet Him. So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after Him!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Lea Webb, Director of Children’s Ministry

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P When we were lost our Savior sought us out, found us and rested us on His Shoulders.

C **Our palms are raised in glory and honor to the One who has sought us out only and especially because He loves us.**

P Let us pray.
O God Who found us, bless these branches raised in Your Name and to Your Glory, that they would be used as a way of honoring Your Sacrifice and giving You praise. Be present in our praise that the Words of Grace You speak to us would resound back to You in shouts of joy and songs of acclaim.
In the Great Name of Jesus we pray.

C **Amen.**



PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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. 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 Heaven, our King;
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
And in His Holy Presence eternally rejoice!

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❖ CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS

P As Jesus enters Jerusalem and this Holy Week begins, our hearts are turned to the Lord in repentant confession, for it is our sin that draws Him to the cross and causes Him to give His Life.

C **Most merciful God, like lost sheep we have strayed from You.
Because of our sinfulness and selfishness we have sought the things that give us pleasure instead of following after the things that show our faith in You and our love for others.**

We are lost in the wilderness of our sin by what we think, say, and do, and by the things that we leave undone.

Out of Your Great Love and Mercy, find us, your lost sheep, forgive us of our sin, and grant us Your Grace, Mercy and Forgiveness.

P Like a shepherd who searches for a lost sheep, Jesus came searching for us in the midst of our sin solely because He desired to give us what we need the most: the forgiveness of all of our sins. He came from Heaven to earth to accomplish this monumental task. Because we were lost in sin, Jesus' Searching Heart found us and now forgives us. Because of the Sacrifice of the Good Shepherd, as a Called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to you; and in the Stead, and by the Command of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

❖ SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, as we celebrate Your Triumphal, yet Peaceful, Entry into Jerusalem, remind us that You entered Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday to seek us out and to create the way that leads to our salvation.

For we were lost in our sins, doomed to die eternally, and assaulted by the attacks of the devil. But now that we have been found by the Savior of the world, we are free to wave our palm branches in praise to You, the One Who lifts us on Your Shoulders and carries us home.

C **Strengthen our faith that we may be bold to honor, serve, and obey You in all things, for the glory of Your Name, for You live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5-11

(Paul describes the humiliation of Christ in His Death, and the exaltation of Christ in His Resurrection.)

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be grasped, but made
Himself nothing, taking the very nature of
a servant, being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled Himself and became
obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest
place and gave Him the Name that is
above every name, 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 118:19-29

(The king's song of thanksgiving for deliverance and victory.)

P Open for me the gates of the righteous;
C **I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.**

P This is the Gate of the LORD
C **through which the righteous may enter.**

P I will give You thanks, for You answered me;
C **You have become my Salvation.**

P The Stone the builders rejected
C **has become the Cornerstone;**

P the LORD has done this,
C **and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

P The LORD has done it this very day;
C **let us rejoice today and be glad.**

P LORD, save us!
C **LORD, grant us success!**

P Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the LORD.
C **From the House of the LORD we bless you.**

P The LORD is God,
C **and He has made His Light shine on us.**

P With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession
C **up to the horns of the altar.**

P You are my God, and I will praise You;
C **You are my God, and I will exalt You.**

P Give thanks to the LORD, for He is Good;
C **His Love endures forever.**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL WITH ACCLAMATIONS** – arr. R. Hillert John 12:20-43
(Jesus predicts His Death.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast.
They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request.
“Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.”
Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.
Jesus replied,
“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed.
But if it dies, it produces many seeds.
The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I Am, My servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me.
“Now My Heart is troubled, and what shall I say?
‘Father, save me from this hour’?

No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your Name!”
Then a voice came from Heaven,
“I have glorified It, and will glorify It again.”
The crowd that was there and heard It said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to Him.
Jesus said,
“This Voice was for your benefit, not Mine.
Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.
But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.”
He said this to show the kind of death He was going to die.
The crowd spoke up,
“We have heard from the Law that the Christ will remain forever, so how can You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’?
Who is this ‘Son of Man’?”

Then Jesus told them,
“You are going to have the Light just a
little while longer.
Walk while you have the Light, before
darkness overtakes you.

The man who walks in the dark does not
know where he is going.
Put your trust in the Light while you have
It, so that you may become sons of light.”
When He had finished speaking,
Jesus left and hid Himself from them.

Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not
believe in Him. This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet:

*“Lord, who has believed Our Message
and to whom has the Arm of the Lord been revealed?”*

For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:

*“He has blinded their eyes
and deadened their hearts,
so they can neither see with their eyes,
nor understand with their hearts,
nor turn—and I would heal them.”*

Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus’ Glory and spoke about Him. Yet at the same time
many even among the leaders believed in him.

But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put
out of the synagogue; for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

All Glory, Laud and Honor

LSB 442

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 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*

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SERMON

Just the King We All *Need*
John 12:20-43

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

(For an outline of the sermon, see page 14 of this worship folder.)

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.

❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3*) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow) is welcome.

OFFERING

(The offerings of God’s people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Ride on Ride on in Majesty

LSB 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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❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Merciful Father, Your Son endured triumphs and terrors in Jerusalem.
Give steadfastness to all Your people in this Holy Week, and give us insight to
Meditate faithfully upon its mysteries.

C **Merciful Father, hear us when cry to You; renew us, and uphold us with Your Spirit.**

P Merciful Father, keep us in communion with those who have gone before us into Your endless joy, and bring us with them into Your Kingdom of Light.

C **Merciful Father, may the gentle rule of Jesus as the Prince of Peace be known throughout the world.**

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your Hands, O Lord, 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 to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**



CLOSING HYMN

Jesus I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440, vs. 1-2, 4 & 6

1. Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of Your suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.
2. Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
4. Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?
6. Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above Sing Your praise forever.

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POSTLUDE

The Holy City – arr. M. B. Foster

Acknowledgments

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Servants for Worship

Preacher.....	Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Liturgist.....	Alan Shaw, Vicar
Organist.....	Michael Haertling
Vocalist.....	Rebecca Melland-Kuo
Reader.....	Bill Xenakis

Just the King We All *Need* (John 12:12-41)
Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

Jesus was a King who came to wear a crown of thorns and die for the sins of the world. When He entered Jerusalem, all who welcomed Him welcomed One they thought would give them what they wanted. Jesus' arrest, suffering, and crucifixion on behalf of a dead and dying world demonstrate that God rescues us by not giving us what we *want*. He rescues us by giving us what we truly needed: abundant Life lived IN Him FOR others.

1. **The king God's people thought they “___” and _____:**
 - a. One who would fulfill all their dreams and aspirations;
 - b. One who would be their very own Champion—no one else's—and kick out their nation's enemies (the Romans)!
2. **The King _____ He would be:**
 - a. One who, like a “grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies...bears much fruit” (12:24): in other words, a King that does not “love” His own life or make life a power grab to serve Himself;
 - b. One who, by His death would cast out “the ruler of this world” (12:31): Satan, the one-and-only Enemy...our powerful Adversary.
3. **The King _____ of the world truly _____:**
 - a. One who, when He was lifted up on a cross, would “draw all people to [Him]self” (12:32-33);
 - b. A king of Israel (12:13) who is, nevertheless, a Champion for all people, including “Greeks” (12:20) and “many nations” (cf. 12: 38–40; Isaiah 52:15).
4. **The King we are enabled to _____ and _____ as our own: the triumphant Son of God, Jesus Christ!**
 - a. As followers of the crucified and risen Christ, we strive more and more to live no longer for ourselves...but for others;
 - b. As followers of the crucified and risen Christ, we live in mission to the world so that all people might be drawn to the Lord of Life!