

Passion Sunday - March 28, 2021



The mood of the Scriptures today takes us from joy and exultation as Jesus rode into Jerusalem, to sadness and sorrow as he was betrayed and executed. The full weight of the events of Jesus' last days on earth causes us to reflect on our own betrayal of Christ. Hearing his cries of forsakenness, we can relate to his suffering; this shows us that our God is intimately acquainted with our human experience.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

PASTOR

DAVE HANSEN (912) 826-2711

- ◆ You are here by God's calling and we extend Christ's hospitality to you this day.
- ◆ We start today's worship outside the building with palm branches in hand. We joyfully march into the sanctuary as followers of King Jesus. Later, we hear the story of our Lord's last hours which reveals him to be God's Son.
- ◆ Restrooms and a nursery are located in the backside hallway. Look for the horseshoe cross.

*This morning's worship begins outside under the front portico.
Palm branches are provided for all to wave in honor of God's chosen King.*

THE PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. C: **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY Mark 11:1-11 ESV

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!**"

¹¹And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day, he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of Kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in His path.

C: We ask that You bless these branches and those who bear them.

P: And grant that we may ever hail Him as our Lord King and follow Him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: **Amen.**

P: Let us go forth in peace and joy. C: **In the name of the Lord.**

*Following behind the cross, we march to the double doors.
When the music starts we enter the sanctuary singing and waving our palms.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR" LBW #108

Refrain: **All glory, laud, and honor, To you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

**You are the king of Israel, and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, Our King and Blessed One. (Refrain)**

**The company of angels, Are praising you on high,
Creation and all mortals, In chorus make reply. (Refrain)**

**The multitude of pilgrims, With psalms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems, Before you we present. (Refrain)**

**To you, before your Passions, They sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. (Refrain)**

**Their praises you accepted; Accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. (Refrain)**

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Please Sit)

FIRST LESSON: ZECHARIAH 9:9-12

⁹ 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.

SECOND LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL VERSE *(Stand, Sung)*

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

PASSION NARRATIVE: MARK 14 & 15

(Narrator-Karen Williams, Jesus-Robin Ratliff, Peter-Kristy Wheeler, Judas-Ben Williams, Priest-Connie Bazemore, Accuser-Pastor Dave, Maid-Beth Helmy, Pilate-Ramona Kessler, Soldier-Logan Ratliff)

PASSION HYMN *(Stand, Sung)* "ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED" LBW #98

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?**

**Was it for sins that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!**

**Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut its glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died For his own creatures' sin.**

**Thus might I hide my blushing face While his dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt my eyes to tears.**

**But tears of grief cannot repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: It's all that I can do.**

APOSTLES' CREED *(Spoken)*

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING HYMN *(Sung)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER *(Spoken; Romans 12:1-12)*

P: We offer our lives to you, O God, as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing in your sight.

C: Transformed by the renewing of our minds, we will practice your good, pleasing and perfect will. Amen

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Thanksgiving Prayer from St. Hippolytus of Rome, 170-235 A.D.)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: We give you thanks, Father... both now and forever. **C: Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Spoken)*

AGNUS DEI *(Sung)*

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT *(Sit)*

(Taizes sung during Distribution. Played through once; sung 3 times. Pew Insert.)

"JESUS, REMEMBER ME"

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

"LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING"

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

"EAT THIS BREAD"

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

"O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER"

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (*Stand, Sung*) "LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE" LBW #423:1

**Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, leave the table With our hearts renewed by you,
Eager always, by your Spirit, love's true service to pursue.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Spoken*)

P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life.

C: Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 give you peace. **C: Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN "PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY" LBW #26

**Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, Foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!**

**God's people, see him coming: Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!
Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!**

**Then fling the gates wide open To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation Its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; Their voices join your singing:
Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!**

**His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding:
Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!**