

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday



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WELCOME TO ALL who have come to worship on this Passion Sunday. As we picture our Lord riding into Jerusalem, we see into his near future; his last supper with the disciples; his suffering and death on the cross. But beyond that, we see the empty tomb which proves Christ's triumph over death for us. Let us recall these things as we go about our lives this Holy Week.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Our Service This Morning Begins In the Gathering Area

GATHERING

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL LUKE 19:28-40

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ²⁸After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’”³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

P: Bless these branches and those who carry them.

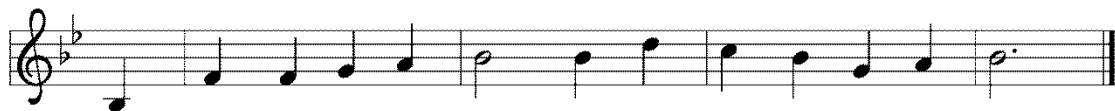
C: Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

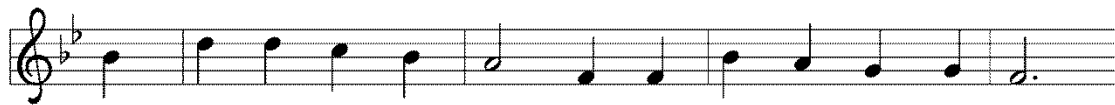
All Glory, Laud, and Honor



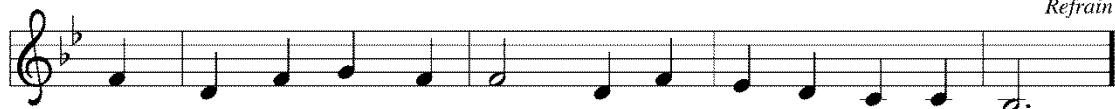
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray. Everlasting God,

C: In your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation is invited to sit.

**A READING OF THE PASSION NARRATIVE ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW 26-27:66** Follow along with the insert.

The congregation is invited to stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Savior, Precious Savior



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,



we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Led by Christ in our journey of repentance and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

A: Be with all who wave palm branches and walk the road to the cross. For the mission of the gospel where your church is forgotten, for disciples wrestling with betrayal, for all who seek the Lord, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Renew the waters of the earth and restore us to right relationship with all creation. For villages without access to clean water, for cities with an abundance, for flood lands and drought lands, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: End human trafficking in every nation. For children taken from their families, for men and women without hope, for governments and nonprofits seeking resolutions, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Comfort the afflicted. For those imprisoned, for those waiting on death row, for all overwhelmed by sorrow, and for all who live with disease, chronic pain, and anxiety in this world especially those we name aloud or silently in our hearts... let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Enrich the children and youth of our congregation with an abundance of your Spirit. For each child in our community, for parents and guardians, for confirmation mentors and faith formation leaders, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Sustain the weary. For all who mourn, for all who yearn to be with you in paradise, for funeral home staff, for hospital chaplains and grief counselors, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING *(Offering plates can be found on your way out of the sanctuary.)*

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

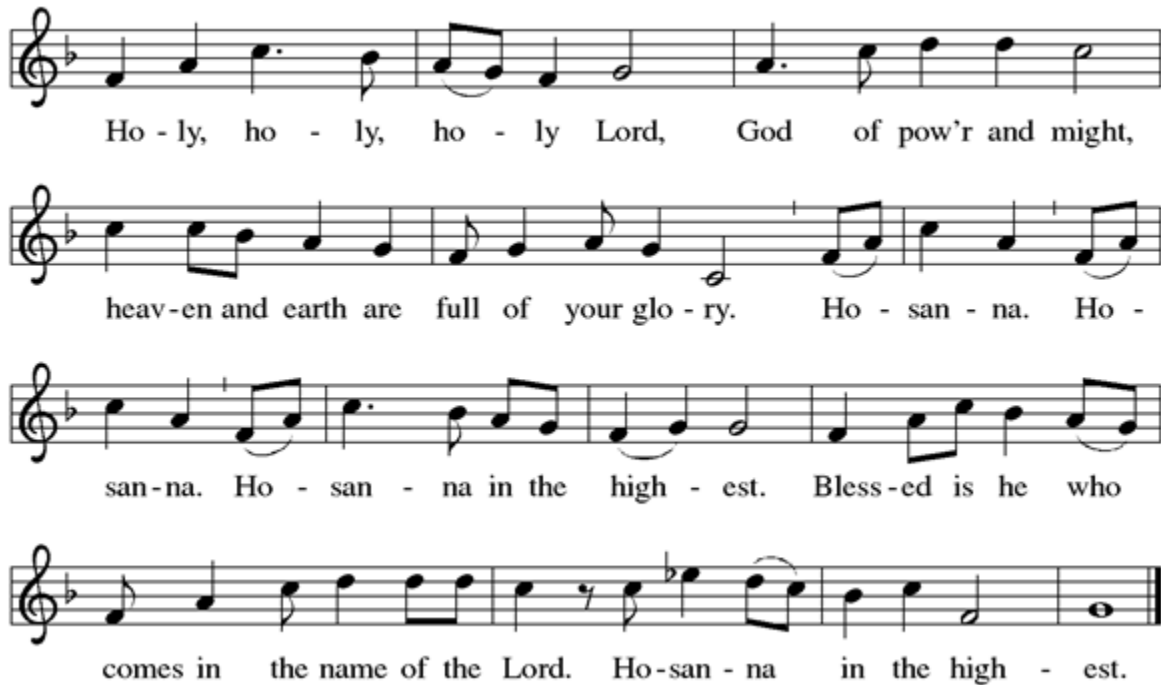
DIALOGUE

The image shows four lines of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each line consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a series of notes with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise."

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

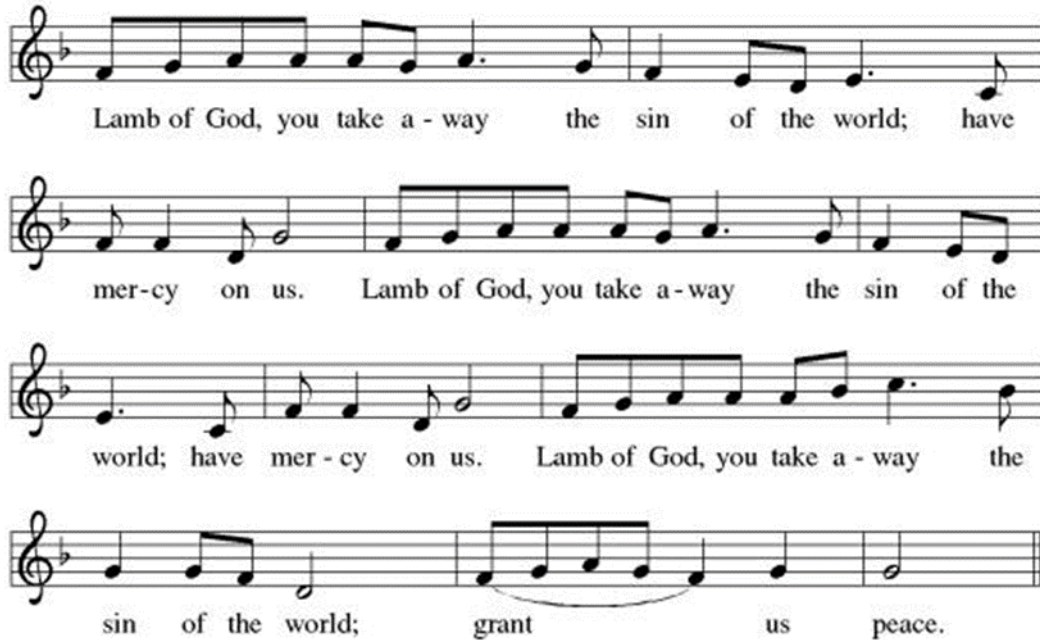
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

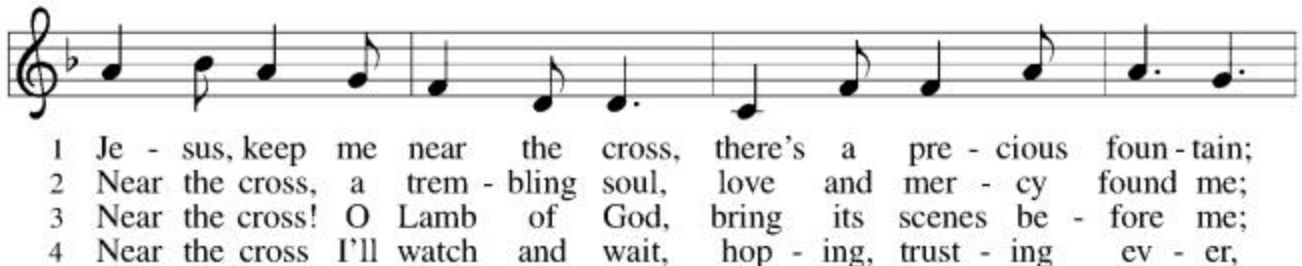
The congregation is invited to sit.

COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. All who believe that with the bread and the wine we receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are invited to come forward and commune. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my
 4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain al -

a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the
 shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing
 though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es

heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.
 hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.
 trea - sury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.
 me in vain, and I am owned a child.

- 5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
 my prophet, priest, and king,
 my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
 accept the praise I bring.
- 6 How weak the effort of my heart,
 how cold my warmest thought;
 but when I see thee as thou art,
 I'll praise thee as I ought.
- 7 Till then I would thy love proclaim
 with every fleeting breath;
 and may the music of thy name
 refresh my soul in death!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
 Music: ST. PETER, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877

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Savior, When in Dust to You



1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,



when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-turing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,



oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,
by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,
oh, from earth to heav'n re-stored, might-y, re-as-cend-ed Lord,



bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
turn, oh, turn a fa-v'ring eye; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
lis-ten to our hum-ble sigh; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.
Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

The congregation is invited to stand.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

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*Thank
you*