

Worship Service

for

Sunday, March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

Hosanna!
HOSANNA!
Hosanna!



Trinity Lutheran Church

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*Trinity is a Christ-centered community of believers, saved and
enlightened by God's grace.*

We serve God by serving others.

Introduction

Today's liturgy begins with a processional gospel reading, and a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The tone of the service will change soon after as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Mark's account of the passion today and John's account on Good Friday. Though Jesus is obedient unto his death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his sacrifice for the life of the world, his death so new life can emerge, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy and love. This holy week begins with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, goes through his suffering and death and culminates with his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Opening Litany *(repeated 3 times; because 3 is a holy number!)*

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

C **Hosanna in the highest!**

Palm Sunday Processional Gospel

P When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and

Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples

and said to them,

Jesus: "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

P They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

**C "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

Blessing of the Palms

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 you and give you thanks, O Lord, 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.

We ask that you would bless these branches and those who bear
them, grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and 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.

Procession & Hymn *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* Hymn #344
(p. 22 this bulletin) *Singers* – Mike Grabenstein, Grant MacLean, Jan Gruber,
Pam Hunt, Beverly Knutson, Dolores Johnson
Violin & Viola – Gerry Fairchild & Terry Fairchild

***Prayer of the Day**

P Everlasting God, 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.

C Amen.

Congregational Reading of the Passion Story

P It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

"Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

Jesus: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

P So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Jesus: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."

P They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" Jesus said to them,

Jesus: "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

P While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I

will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when
I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

The 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.

Invitation to Communion

The Lord's Supper

We celebrate together the Meal of Grace. The Lord is Host. We are the Guests. All are invited to the Table to feast in the promise of Jesus to be present in the bread and cup. Grape juice (light liquid) and gluten-free wafers are available by asking a server. The communion cups will be pre-filled and placed in trays with every other space left open to allow you to take without touching neighboring cups. Bread will be pre-cut. You will walk up to the altar steps to receive bread and wine, with no kneeling at the front. Communion servers will wear masks and gloves.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

*The body of Christ given for you
The blood of Christ shed for you
And you may respond: **Amen***

Communion Distribution

Post-Communion Prayer

P God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them:

Jesus: You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

C **Even though all become deserters, I will not.**

Jesus: "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

C **Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.**

P And all of them said the same. They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he told his disciples to sit while he prayed.

Hymn *There in God's Garden* Hymn #342
(p. 23 this bulletin) *Singers* – Mike Grabenstein, Grant MacLean, Jan Gruber,
Pam Hunt, Beverly Knutson, Dolores Johnson
Violin & Viola – Gerry Fairchild & Terry Fairchild

P He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them,

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.

P And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

Jesus: Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.

Prayers of the Church

A Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Grant relief from natural disasters and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused.

Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer; grant respite and renewal. We pray especially for Greg Johnson, Harold & Carol Lietz, Connie Gridley, Alison Sonju, JoAnne Hurdelbrink, Phyllis Bacon, Ken Amundson, Sarah Brehm (for military deployment), Lee Ray, Michael Mundt, Loretta Olson, Jim McDonnell, Marion Keating, Sally English, Delores Luttrupp, John Kinney, Mavis Fuchs, and Susan Kirkpatrick. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A For what else do the people of God celebrate and pray?

P We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Jesus came back and said,

Jesus: Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

P Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. All the disciples deserted him and fled. They took Jesus to the high

priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." But he denied it, saying,

C I do not know or understand what you are talking about.

P And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." But he began to curse, and he swore an oath saying,

C I do not know this man you are talking about.

P At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus: You say so.

P Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began

to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

C (shouting) **Crucify him!!**

P "Why, what evil has he done?"

C (louder) **Crucify him! Crucify him!**

P So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

C Hail, King of the Jews!

P They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

C Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!

P In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying

C He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.

P Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

P which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

C Listen, he is calling for Elijah

P And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

C Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Homily

- Pastor Dan Forsgren

P Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said

C **Truly this man was God's Son!**

P There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him

whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where the body was laid.

Blessing

P Passing from joy into sorrow and on to elation,

C **we come to Christ this holy week.**

P Today is only a part of the story.

C **Jesus' triumph leads to his death, his death to his resurrection.**

P May the journey of this week lead you into the fullness of Christ's love.

Closing Hymn

Were You There

Hymn #353

(p. 24 this bulletin) *Singers* – Mike Grabenstein, Grant MacLean, Jan Gruber,
Pam Hunt, Beverly Knutson, Dolores Johnson
Violin & Viola – Gerry Fairchild & Terry Fairchild

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain

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,

Refrain

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.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

There in God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man -
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982
 Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950
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Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual
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