

PALM SUNDAY/PASSION SUNDAY

Saturday, March 27, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
4101 Washington Street NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

RINGING OF THE BELL

(Please rise and face the processional cross)

INVOCATION:

P: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

C: **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. Amen.**

HOLY GOSPEL:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 12.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

P: The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival 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 on it, as it is written: “Do not be afraid, Daughter 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 these things had been done 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 performed this 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 our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

P: Let us go forth in peace

C: **In the name of the Lord.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: “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.**

**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 palms before you went,
Our praise and prayer and anthems Before you we present. REFRAIN:**

**To you, before your Passion, 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.**

(“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”, setting copyright 1976 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

(Waving palm branches)

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David!

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: With great joy we welcome you, Lord Jesus! The journey has been long and we have longed to enter the Holy City. You come into our hearts and our lives, humbly, patiently, encouraging us to learn and grow, to embark on journeys of hope and healing. Open our hearts today to hear your words and live your story, as we sing praise to you. Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord’s name, Amen.

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses 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, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming 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 acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE: “The Humble Servant of the Lord”

The humble servant of the Lord is now prepared for glory;

He enters that for which He came, The cross the heart of His story.

“Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you,”

Soon, soon the crown of thorns Transformed the crown of heaven.

(“The Humble Servant of the Lord”, text by Allen Lunneberg, copyright 2020 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission.)

MESSAGE: “Preparing for the Surprise Ending” – Pastor Bill Hugo

SONG OF THE DAY: “No Tramp of Soldiers’ Marching Feet”

1 No tramp of sol - diers' march - ing feet
2 And yet He comes. The chil - dren cheer;
3 What fad - ing flow'rs His road a - dorn;
4 Now He who bore for mor - tals' sake

With ban - ners and with drums, No sound of mu - sic's
With palms His path is strown. With ev - 'ry step the
The palms, how soon laid down! No bloom or leaf but
The cross and all its pains And chose a ser - vant's

mar - tial beat: “The King of glo - ry comes!”
cross draws near: The King of glo - ry's throne.
on - ly thorn The King of glo - ry's crown.
form to take, The King of glo - ry reigns.

To greet what pomp of king - ly pride
A - stride a colt He pass - es by
The sol - diers mock, the rab - ble cries,
Ho - san - na to the Sav - ior's name

No bells in tri - umph ring, No cit - y gates swing
As loud ho - san - nas ring, Or else the ver - y
The streets with tu - mult ring, As Pi - late to the
Till heav - en's raf - ters ring, And all the ran - somed



("No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet", text by Timothy Dudley-Smith, copyright 1984 Hope Publishing Company, OneLicense.Net #A-704112)

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Lord, we confess that when we started this journey, it seemed like an easy exercise. Walk the road with Jesus, we thought. But the journey has had many difficult times when our spirits have been challenged and tried.

C: We have come to the time of entrance into the Holy City. We want everything to be wonderful; for you to conquer all those things that threaten us and our peace.

L: We want you to do what we direct.

All: Forgive us, Lord, when we place our fears and ignorance before your love. Forgive us when our words, thoughts and actions don't look or sound anything like yours. Help us to look again at the many ways in which we can be a blessing to others, through serving them and you. Release us from our panic and mistrust and help us to place our lives solely in your hands. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

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

PROPER PREFACE:

L: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. As He endured the shame and suffering of our sins, He became the one and only sacrifice worthy and able to free us from everlasting death. By faith in His resurrection from the dead, all who believe in Him have and share in His everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS: "Holy, Holy, Holy"
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Lamb of God"



1. Your on - ly Son no sin to hide, But You have
(2.) love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3. I was so lost I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died, The hum - ble King they named a
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod And to be - come the Lamb of God. 1. Your gift of
fraud And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of
rod, And to be called a lamb of

2., 3.

God.
God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the

ho - ly Lamb of God. O wash me in His pre - cious

blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God. _____

("Lamb of God" by Twila Paris, copyright 1985 StraightWay Music/ASCAP, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

+ + +

Lay Minister: Jim Geslin