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**Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion**

“They took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!’” *John 12:13*

**AS WE GATHER**

Sunday, “the eighth day of the week,” is celebrated by Christians as the first day of the eternal life into which they were baptized. Today, the beginning of the great and Holy Week of Lent, we begin with the note of great joy as the crowds receive Jesus entering Jerusalem. This will be the last time He comes to the holy city. For we then follow Him to the judgment hall, the cross of suffering, and the fearful tomb of death. The penitential season of Lent concludes with the three holy days, the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Let us follow our Lord and allow Him to take our sins upon Himself that we may receive His new life in the forgiveness of our sins and the joy of the resurrection.

**+ PROCESSION OF PALMS +**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**PRAYER**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

**People: Amen.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 12:12-19

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,  
 “Fear not, daughter of Zion, behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!”  
 His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

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

**People: Hosanna in the highest.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”* (*LSB* 442)

*(Chorus)* All glory, laud, and honorto 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 Blessèd One. *(Chorus)*

The company of angels is praising You on high,

and we with all creation in chorus make reply. *(Chorus)*

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went;

our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present. *(Chorus)*

To You before Your passion they sang their hymns of praise;

to You, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *(Chorus)*

As You received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,

O Source of ev’ry blessing, our good and gracious King. *(Chorus)*

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT** Zechariah 9:9-12 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**INTROIT** *(bulletin insert)*

**EPISTLE** Philippians 2:5-11 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PASSION HISTORY** Mark 14:1—15:47 *(partially in bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN** *“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”* (*LSB* 438)

A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, the guilt of sinners bearing

and, laden with the sins of earth, none else the burden sharing;

goes patient on, grows weak and faint, to slaughter led without complaint,

that spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,

the mockery, and yet replies, “All this I gladly suffer.”

This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend, the Lamb of God, our Savior,

Whom God the Father chose to send to gain for us His favor.

“Go forth, My Son,” the Father said, “And free My children from their dread

of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,

but by Your passion they will share the fruit of Your salvation.”

“Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I’ll bear what You command Me.

My will conforms to Your decree, I’ll do what You have asked Me.”

O wondrous Love, what have You done! The Father offers up His Son,

desiring our salvation. O Love, how strong You are to save!

You lay the One into the grave Who built the earth’s foundation.

Lord, when Your glory I shall see and taste Your kingdom’s pleasure,

Your blood my royal robe shall be, my joy beyond all measure!

When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown;

with these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought,

as Your own bride shall we be brought to stand in joy beside You.

**SERMON “*Breathed His Last”***

# THE NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD’S PRAYER

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**+ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION +**

(*LSB*, Corporate Confession and Absolution, pg. 290)

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However, if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PEACE OF THE LORD**

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* (*LSB* 450)

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown.

O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss, till now was Thine!

Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

How pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!

How doth Thy face now languish that once was bright as morn!

Grim death, with cruel rigor, hath robbed Thee of Thy life;

thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners’ gain;

mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.

Lo, here I fall, my Savior! ’Tis I deserve Thy place;

Look on me with Thy favor, and grant to me Thy grace.

My Shepherd, now receive me; my Guardian, own me Thine.

Great blessings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts divine.

Thy lips have often fed me with words of truth and love;

Thy Spirit oft hath led me to heav’nly joys above.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend,

for this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?

O make me Thine forever! And should I fainting be,

Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for Thee.

My Savior, be Thou near me when death is at my door;

then let Thy presence cheer me, forsake me nevermore!

When soul and body languish, O leave me not alone,

but take away mine anguish by virtue of Thine own!

Be Thou my consolation, my shield, when I must die;

remind me of Thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.

Mine eyes shall then behold Thee, upon Thy cross shall dwell,

my heart by faith enfold Thee. Who dieth thus dies well.

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, for the gift of forgiveness won by Your Son’s offering on the cross and for the strengthening of our souls and bodies by His body and blood. Go with us now, and keep us steadfast in Your Word through the blessed days of this great and Holy Week and to our eternal life with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”* (*LSB* 441)

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.

O Savior meek, pursue Thy road, with palms and scattered garments strowed.

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.

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.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.

The Father on His sapphire throne awaits His own anointed Son.

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.

**Holy Week’s Service Schedule**

**Maundy Thursday**

**6:00 Seder**

**7:00 p.m. Holy Communion**

**Good Friday**

**7:00 p.m. Tenebrae**

**Saturday**

**5:00 p.m. Vigil**

**Easter Sunday**

**8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Easter Morning Services of the Word**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Rev. Craig Fiebiger, Rev. Doug DeWitt

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**All are welcome …**

**… Christ is honored.**