

## **Palm/Passion Sunday, April 5, 2020**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Maple Shade, New Jersey

### ***Introduction to the day***

*Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.*

### **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **ACCLAMATION**

*The presiding minister begins (repeated one or more times):*

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:**

*An assisting minister or the presiding minister reads the processional gospel.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>"Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



## BLESSING OF PALMS

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

We praise you, O God,

for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Today he entered the holy city in triumph

and was proclaimed messiah and king

by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

Bless these branches and those who carry them.

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.**



## PROCESSION *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

*The assisting minister addresses the assembly.*

*The assembly follows the ministers into the church. "All glory, laud, and honor" (#344) and other hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung as the people process into the church or once they have taken their places.*

### 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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*In these or similar words, the presiding minister may introduce the prayer of the day.*

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.

*Silence is kept. Then the presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.*

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.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST READING:

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he awakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM:

- <sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.
- <sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**
- <sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to | my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street | they avoid me.
- <sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;  
I am as useless as a | broken pot.**
- <sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.
- <sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O LORD.  
I have said, “You | are my God.**
- <sup>15</sup>My times are | in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.
- <sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;  
save me in your | steadfast love.”**

## SECOND READING:

*The reading may be announced:*

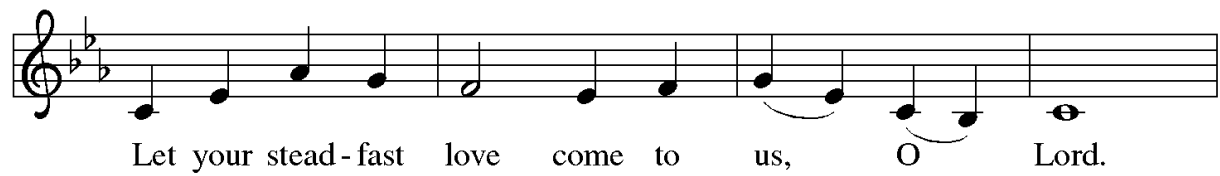
A reading from Philippians.

- <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.
- <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL - *THE PASSION ACCORDING TO MATTHEW***





HYMN OF THE DAY *What Wondrous Love Is This*

## What Wondrous Love Is This

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing down God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my be-neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown for my who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will I'll sing God's love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul? soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul. sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing. on, I'll sing on; and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.

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## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

In our separate homes but gathered together in the Spirit, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with words from one of today's psalms, "**O Lord, save us.**"  
*A brief silence.*

O triune God, God of majesty, mercy and might, hear and heed our fervent prayers:  
for the church around the world, that the faithful be nourished by your presence in the word;  
for pastors and bishops, that they be strengthened for their tasks of ministry;  
for all those who are assisting the digital sharing of worship materials;  
for guidance in keeping this Holy Week in devout prayer and praise;  
O holy God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

For the earth, that it be saved from pollution and disregard;  
for endangered animals, that they and their habitats be protected;  
for scientists, that their knowledge of your earth will direct our society's choices;  
O creating God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

For peace through the world, especially in Syria and Afghanistan;  
for an end to terrorism and religious violence;  
for all elected leaders, that they see our crisis rightly and make judgments wisely;  
for wisdom in distributing governmental economic aid;  
O mighty God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

For our distraught world facing the coronavirus;  
for countries hardest hit, especially China, Italy, Spain, and the United States;



for those who grieve their dead;  
for the sick and their families;  
for those fearful of an unknown future;  
for the millions of unemployed;  
for children at home, that they be safe from abuse;  
for those who have been led to rely on empty remedies;  
for hospitals, in their desperate need for supplies;  
O compassionate God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

For all who are facing the criminal justice system;  
for those falsely accused of crime;  
for those who are incarcerated, that they be kept safe;  
for those who face isolation or execution;  
O righteous God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

For those whose needs we know, for those whose needs are hidden;  
for those with prior illnesses whose treatments are now postponed;  
for all who today will die;  
for those who are homeless;  
for all who are sick;  
especially for those we name here aloud and in the silence of our hearts;  
O benevolent God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

With thanks for the technology by which we stay connected;  
with thanks for enough food;  
with thanks for the support of our community of faith;  
with thanks for the saints who struggled through life and died in you,  
especially those Christian artists whose work has enriched our faith,  
we praise your salvation now and unto our end.  
O eternal God, we pray to you: **O Lord, save us.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Holy and generous host,  
you set a table where we feast as friends.  
Prepare us to witness to your goodness  
with every gift you have given us to share,  
that all people may know your peace  
through Jesus Christ, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



## THANKSGIVING

### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

*The presiding minister leads one of the following or another appropriate prayer.*

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time.

Now is the day of salvation.

Holy God,

speaking, spoken, and inspiring,

✝ bless you, unbind you,

and send you in love and in peace.

**Amen.**

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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