



St. Luke Ev. Lutheran Church

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Rev. Ronald C. Szep, pastor

9:00am, Sunday, March 28, 2021

Today's Order of Service has been printed out in its entirety in this service folder. *Printed and recorded under OneLicense.net #A-717066*

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SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT: PALM SUNDAY
The Hands of the Passion
Hands of Praise (the disciples and the crowds)

Lent began with an almost equal focus on the sinner and the Savior. But increasingly and now in Holy Week the focus is on Christ. The readings for today want us to understand once and for all who it really is who has come to save us, so that with all confidence we may do as the Prayer for the Day suggests, follow him from Holy Week to Easter, from earth to heaven.

Greeting by the minister

GATHERING RITE FOR PALM SUNDAY:
Psalm 24 (selected verses) and "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

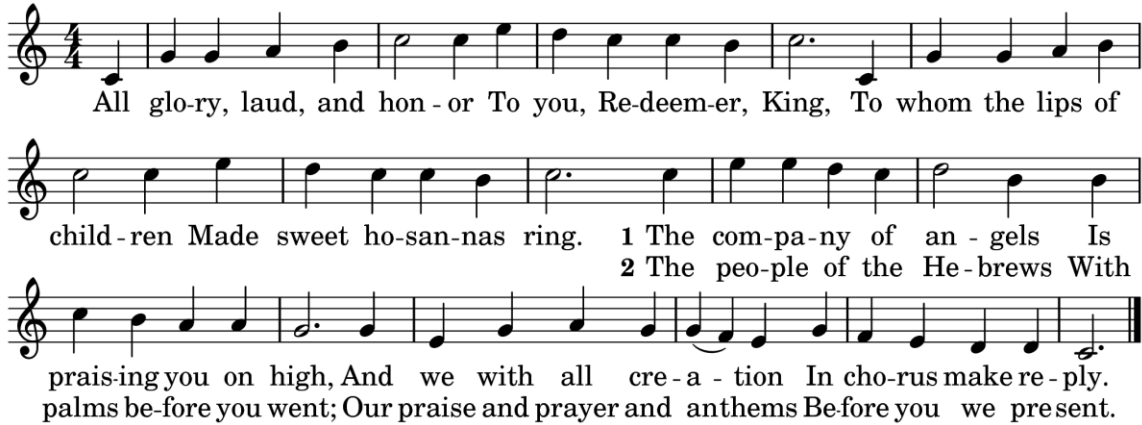
Minister: Sing hosannas! Loud hosannas!

Congregation: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or To you, Re-deem-er, King, To whom the lips of
child-ren Made sweet ho-san-nas ring. 1 You are the King of Is - rael, And
Da-vid's roy-al Son, Who in the Lord's name com-ing, Our King and Blessed One.

M: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

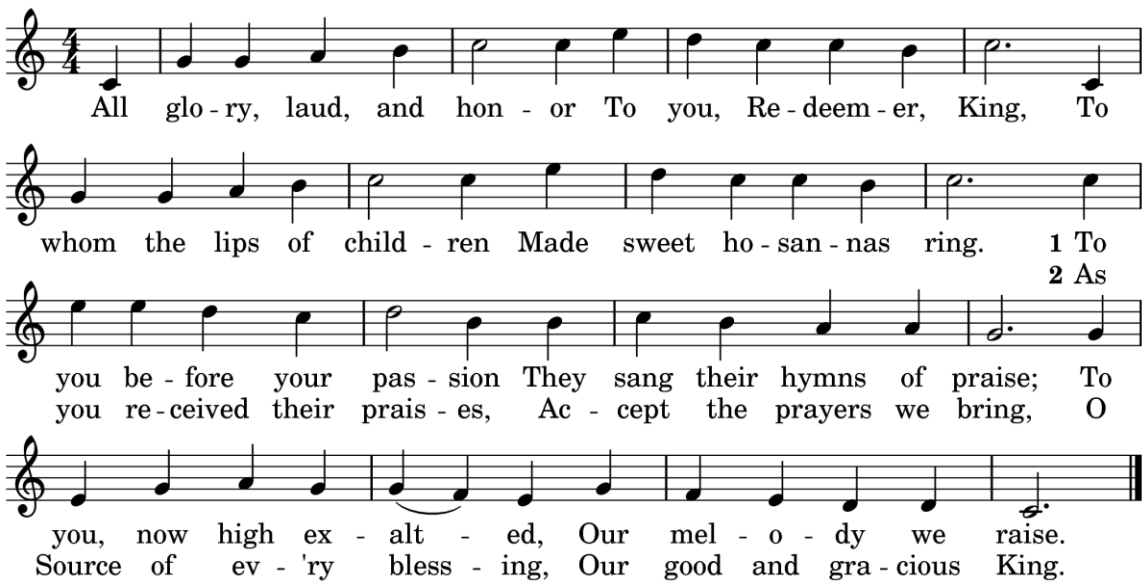
C: Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, he will receive blessing from God his Savior.



All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or To you, Re-deem-er, King, To whom the lips of
child-ren Made sweet ho-san-nas ring. 1 The com-pa-ny of an - gels Is
2 The peo-ple of the He-brews With
prais-ing you on high, And we with all cre-a - tion In cho-rus make re-ply.
palms be-fore you went; Our praise and prayer and anthems Be-fore you we present.

M: Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

C: Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty-he is the King of glory.



All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or To you, Re-deem-er, King, To
whom the lips of child - ren Made sweet ho-san-nas ring. 1 To
2 As
you be-fore your pas-sion They sang their hymns of praise; To
you re-ceived their prais-es, Ac-cept the prayers we bring, O
you, now high ex-alt-ed, Our mel-o-dy we raise.
Source of ev-'ry bless-ing, Our good and gra-cious King.

M: Sing hosannas! Loud hosannas!

C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 762–821; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN (76 76 D) Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

Please Stand

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am all together sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

M: We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

Please Be Seated

FIRST LESSON: Zechariah 9:9-10

Who is this Jesus who comes thus into Holy Week? He is the fulfillment of all of God's promises in the Old Testament. He is the King like none other, who comes to triumph for, not over, his subjects. He is the victorious hero who has come to take on the foes of his people and win the victory forever. He will do it all by himself without any help from his people or any cost to them! It is time in Holy Week to watch his procession through this most sacred week with growing wonder and awe and adoration! It's all for sinners! That means, it's all for you!

⁹ *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.

¹⁰ *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.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

Who is it who enters into Jerusalem and Holy Week this day? This reading is the great foundation doctrine for the two states of Christ in one person. The verses apply to the human nature assumed by the divine nature. It is in that human nature that the God-man is humbled. He starts on the bottom rung of the human ladder in the womb of the Virgin and then goes downhill from there! For sinners: humbled, then humbled, then humbled some more! And so as a reward God exalts that human nature as highly as it can be exalted and gives him the highest possible name: Savior! So as he rides his donkey we hear his name and kneel; we hear his name and confess: Jesus is Lord, he alone and none other. We confess it most gladly and heed the call of the apostle in the first verse of the reading: we who have everything in Christ gladly stoop to follow him in humility, in a life for others.

⁵ *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

⁶ *Who, being in very nature God,*

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ *rather, he made himself nothing*

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man,*

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
 and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Please Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW Hymn 133 v1-4
“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LM) *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! All the
 2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The an - gel
 4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and
 5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur -
 pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs
 ar - mies of the sky Look down with sad and
 fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on his
 pomp ride on to die. Bow your meek head to



sue your road, With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
 now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 won - d'ring eyes To see th' ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 sap - phire throne A - waits his own a - noint - ed Son.
 mor - tal pain, Then take, O Christ, your power and reign.

SERMON: based on the Mark 11:1-10
"Hands of Praise" (the disciples and the crowds)

Who is he? He is the King of kings most lowly. Who is he? He is the King of kings who unlike any other king has come to save us. Bid him welcome and follow in his train. Throw the robes of your own righteousness under his feet, so that he may dress you with the robe of his righteousness. Wave the palm branches God made and gives those symbols of eternal life in salute. He delights in and receives your trust in him for eternal life, the trust that he himself has given you in his Word. Blessed is he, for he will finish what he has begun! For that reason and none other, blessed are we! Hosanna in the highest!

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples,
2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.
3 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"
4 They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it,
5 some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?"
6 They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go.
7 When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it.
8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields.
9 Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,
"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
10 "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"
"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Please Stand

PRAYERS AND BLESSING:

M: Lord Jesus Christ, our gracious and glorious King, on that first Palm Sunday you came in triumph to Jerusalem with people shouting their "Hosannas" and little children singing your praise. But you did not come to reign over an earthly kingdom. You came in peace as the Prince of Peace to lay down your life on Calvary for the sins of the world.

C: **Through the sacrifice you made, God and sinners are reconciled. Savior and King, accept our humble thanks for giving the kingdom of heaven to us sinners.**

M: O Lamb of God, who came to suffer and die, come now as King into our hearts to reign. Come to stay. Rule us with your grace, forgiving all our sins. With your love, change our lives so that we no longer serve sin but only righteousness. Cleanse our hearts with the purifying fire of your Word and the Holy Spirit. Cleanse us from sin and unbelief and doubt.

C: Give us faith to trust you, courage to confess you, strength to bear our crosses, and zeal to follow you all the days of our lives.

M: O Savior, whose tender heart was filled with such love for lost sinners that you even wept over an unbelieving Jerusalem, knowing the terrible judgment that would befall it, fill us with compassion for all sinners who because of unbelief are still traveling the broad road to damnation.

C: May we feel compelled to witness your saving name at every opportunity, and to join with others in sending missionaries to the far corners of the earth to preach the gospel to every creature.

Special Prayers and Intercessions (optional, read by the minister)

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

M: Though many who once shouted "Hosanna" later denied you and doubtless joined in crying "crucify him," fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may ever confess and never deny your holy name, glorifying you constantly by holy living.

C: May we who serve you here in faith ever behold you in your glory hereafter in the Paradise of God.

M: Until that day, direct our prayers through your intercession to the heavenly throne where they are heard because in you the Father is well pleased.

C: Hear us, blessed Jesus, our Redeemer and King. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: CW Hymn 133 v5 (see page 8)
“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”