

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

# **PALM SUNDAY**

MARCH 24, 2024

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

8100 Shady Grove Rd. Mechanicsville, VA 23111

SAINTPAUL-LCMS.COM 804.427.7500

LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

## **Sunday Schedule**

Sunday School – 9:15 a.m. Traditional Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Rodney E. Bitely, Pastor Mr. Bill Moats, Choir Director Mr. Roger Sethmann, Organist

Mrs. Debbie Harris, Church Secretary

### **A Word About Communion**

We Lutherans believe in the Real Presence, namely that Christ's body and blood are actually present with the bread and wine in a very special way (1 Cor. 10:16). Because we want to honor Christ and to grow closer to Him through this precious gift of forgiveness we practice close communion. Our faith in Christ brings us closer to Him and to each other. This sacrament is His way of keeping us close, that is, in union or communion with Him and fellow Christians. In order to build closeness, please read below before communing.

- I confess my sins to God and rely on Jesus Christ to save me from them.
- For I believe that Christ is really present in this Sacrament and that with the bread and wine I actually receive His true body and blood.
- I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life and live a life that is pleasing to God.



#### As We Gather

The death of Jesus on the cross is not cause for continued sorrow or ongoing relief. As the Epistle points out, our Lord's giving of

### **Key:**

 $|\mathbf{P}|$  – Pastor

A – Assistant/Reader

**C** – Congregation

 $\triangle$ – Stand

Himself for our sin makes His a glorious death. It causes "every tongue [to] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:11). How do we do that? First, our Lord's death draws us to Him, where we find forgiveness, grace, and mercy.

Then, each day we are given opportunity to die to sin ourselves and to receive Christ's forgiveness. It is an ongoing process that involves interacting with the people around us, with whom we share Christ's invitation to heaven itself. We sing "Hosanna," which means "save us." Because of the cross, we are confident that we have been saved already.

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome & Announcements

Stand

Reading John 12:12–19

St. John's account of Jesus' Triumphal entry.

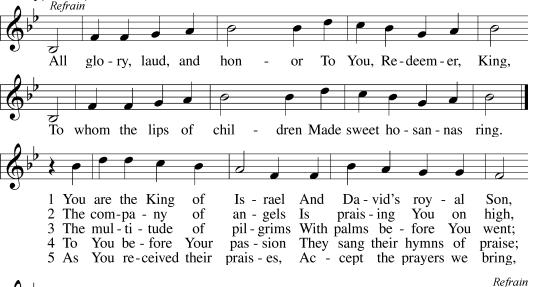
The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

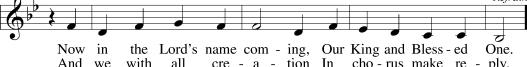
"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

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."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

### 442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor





And we with all cre - a - tion 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.

O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra-cious King.

Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- $label{eq:P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Confession & Absolution

1 John 1:8-9; [John 20:19-23]

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## Service of the Word

Introit Psalm 118:19–29

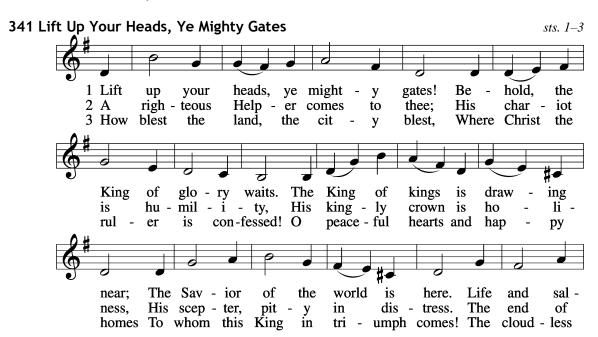
- P Open to me the gates of righteousness,
- that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.
- **P** This is the gate of the LORD;
- C the righteous shall enter through it.
- **P** I thank you that you have answered me
- **C** and have become my salvation.
- P The stone that the builders rejected
- **C** has become the cornerstone.
- **P** This is the LORD's doing;
- c it is marvelous in our eyes.
- **P** This is the day that the LORD has made;
- C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P Save us, we pray, O LORD!
- C O LORD, we pray, give us success!
- P Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
- **C** We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- **P** The LORD is God,
- and he has made his light to shine upon us.

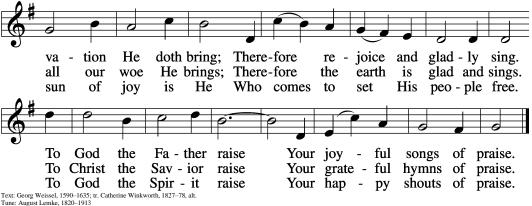
- **P** Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
- **C** up to the horns of the altar!
- P You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
- you are my God; I will extol you.
- **P** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
- **C** for his steadfast love endures forever!
- P Glory be to the Father, and to the 

  → Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
- as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie Mark 10:47

- P O Lord,
- C have mercy.
- P O Christ,
- **C** have mercy.
- **P** O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.





Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913 Text and tune: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion

**P** The Lord be with you.



Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

## **Old Testament Reading**

Zechariah 9:9-12

The King comes humbly on a donkey.

A The Old Testament Reading is from Zechariah, chapter 9.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem: and the battle bow shall be cut off. and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading Philippians 2:5–11

Because of His humble death, Christ has been exalted by the Father

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 2.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### Choral Anthem

Stand

### Gradual

Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a

- P [Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of his own blood,
- c thus securing an eternal redemption.
- **P** Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant,
- so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.
- **P** He sent redemption to his people;
- C he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

St. Matthew's account of Jesus' Triumphal entry.

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

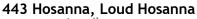
The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

### Children's Message

All children, preschool age through elementary school, are invited to come forward for a special message.





**Sermon -** *Matthew 21:1-11, "Hosana in the Highest!"* 

Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

Text and tune: Public domain

"And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest!""

Matthew 21:9

## **Reception of New Members**

- P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- **P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- R Yes, I do.
- **P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
- **R** Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- $\mathbb{R}$  I do.
- **P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- **P** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?
- R I do.
- Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?
- R I will, with the help of God.
- P Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you ar members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- Let us pray... Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- P The grace of our + Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
- C Amen.

The new member(s) return to their places.

Stand

#### Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For pardon and renewal, that the blessed Son of God would lift up the gates of our hearts and be glorified as the Savior of sinners, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For those in authority over us, especially President Biden and Governor Youngkin, that in the fulfillment of their duties they may have the same mind as Christ, our King, who laid down His life for His people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For all who suffer illness or physical disability, *especially*... that God would bless them according to His gracious will, and that we may serve their bodily needs; and for those who mourn the death of loved ones, *especially*... that they would have peace and comfort in His Holy Word, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

(additional petitions may be offered.)

- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

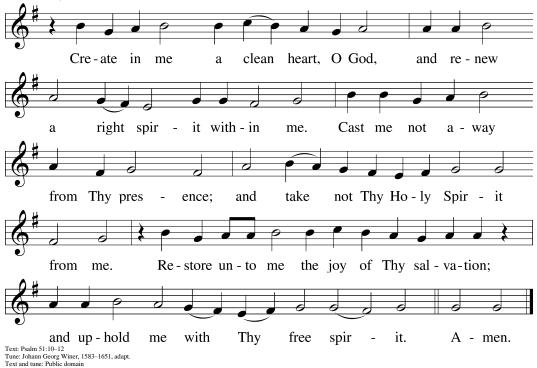
Sit

## Offering

## **Voluntary**

Stand

### 956 Create in Me



## Service of the Sacrament

### **Preface**

The Lord be with you.



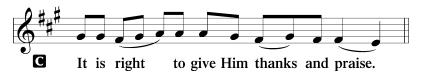
Lift up your hearts.



the Lord.

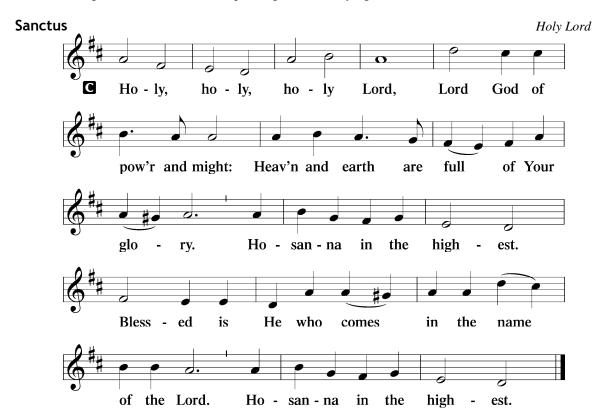
2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



## **Proper Preface**

P 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, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

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.

#### The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

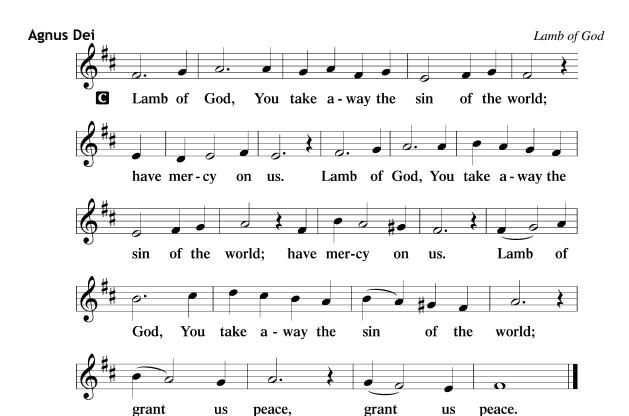
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My Hobody, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My Holood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Sit

#### Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

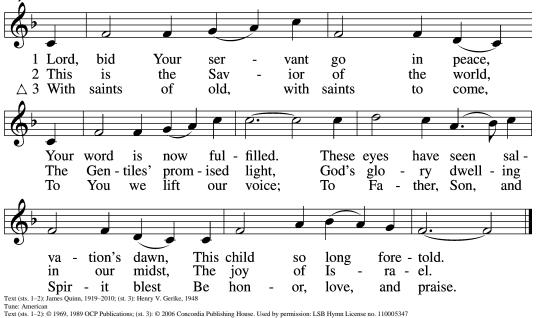
#### Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

#### Amen.

Stand





#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

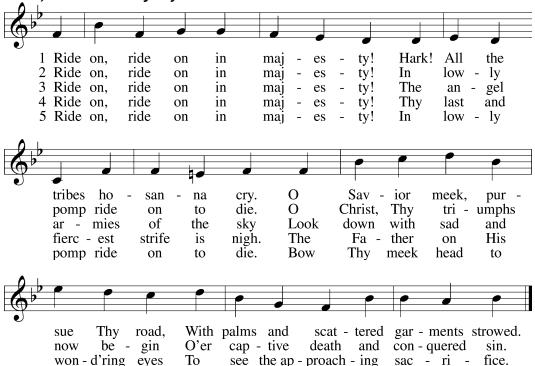
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



- **P** Go in peace.
- C Serve the Lord!

### 441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty



His

own

God.

a - noint - ed

and

Thy pow'r

Son.

reign.

Then take, pain, Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.

mor - tal

sap - phire throne

#### **Postlude**

#### Acknowledgments

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A - waits

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Service, 2023-04-02, Palm Sunday.docx

"...[Jesus] said, 'It is finished' and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit."





A Congregation Sharing Christ's Salvation By Grace... Through Faith... Revealed in Scripture... Alone.