Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020



Our Savior Ev. Lutheran

1332 Arrowhead Rd Grafton, WI 53024 OurSaviorGrafton.org Taking palm branches, they went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!"- John 12:23

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

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.

WORSHIP NOTES

WELCOME! We are pleased that you are joining Our Savior Lutheran this morning by Live Stream to celebrate His persistent love for this dying world, for us and for those who serve us in ministry. We gather to hear about Jesus' majestic ride into Jerusalem and into our place of punishment. Through his humiliation (putting aside his heavenly power and glory) he lowered himself into our position: under the law and guilty of death. Our readings reflect the palms waved before our king and our meditation opens this holy week of worship with joy alongside our grief that we, through our sin, caused your sacrifice. Help us never to forget. Hosanna!

SERVICE THEME

Jesus' ride into Jerusalem launches Holy Week with several themes. The fulfillment of prophecy is a theme that reverberates through the entire week. The humble self-sacrifice of the Savior is in paradoxical tension with the truth that he is the King of the Universe. To see God's plan of salvation played out in Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection is to join throngs of Christians throughout history in the song of praise: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

GUESTS Welcome to our visitors!

A Celebration of Palms

April 5th, 2020

THE INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG "From All that Dwell below the Skies"

(CW, #250, see p. 5-6)

THE ACCLAMATION On Palm Sunday a throng of people acclaimed Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on his way to the cross.

- **P:** Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest.
- C: Hosanna to him who by his willing sacrifice, canceled the guilt of all our offenses! Hosanna to the Son of David!
- **P:** Hosanna to him who ascended on high as king, leading captivity captive!
- C: Hosanna in the highest!

THE CONFESSION AND PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

- **P:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore let us turn to him, acknowledge our sinfulness, and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in the perfect life and innocent death of my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- **P:** Our gracious God has shown us his mercy and given his only Son to save us from our sins. As a servant of Christ and by his authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

THE PRAYER

- **P:** Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but to Your name be the glory
- C: because of Your love and faithfulness.
- **P:** We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ.
- C: 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. AMEN.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Zechariah 9:9-12

In remarkable detail the prophet foretells Jesus' ride into Jerusalem and anticipates the peace and hope that his Passion brings to the nations.

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

THE GOSPEL Matthew 21:1-11

The account of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem sets the stage for his Passion and demonstrates that he is the Messiah who fulfills prophecy, the Savior who will die to redeem us.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." "The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

THE SERMON Zechariah 9:9-12 "We Shout Aloud for Victory"

OFFERING

Please see the CoVid-19 letter (email / website) or call the church office at 262-377-6363 for information about how you can continue to support God's work through our ministry at Our Savior.

SPECIAL PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER

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

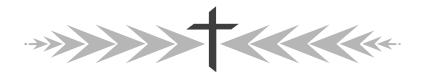
BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

SONG "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

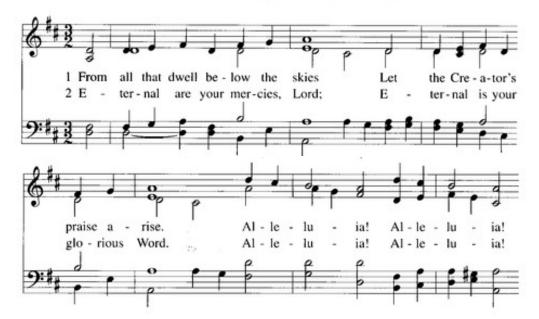
(CW, #130, see p. 7)



SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP AND PRAISE

250 From All that Dwell below the Skies





130

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



Text: Jeanette Threlfall, 1821-80, alt.

Tune: Ellacombe (76 76 D) Gesang-Buch . . . der Herzogl . . . Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784, alt.

HOLY WEEK CUSTOMS

The eight days of worship that begin with Palm Sunday are called "Holy Week" for good reason. During this special week we recall the most important teachings of the Bible: Our Savior's regal yet humble entry into Jerusalem on Sunday, his institution of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, his crucifixion and death on Friday, and on Easter Sunday his resurrection from the grave. A review of the background of these commemorations can help the reader gain a better appreciation for this "Holy Week."

It was inevitable that Easter Sunday would become the most important day on the Christian calendar. For the first several centuries of the New Testament era, Easter was by far the most important day of the year. A remembrance of Jesus' suffering and death was part of that day's worship, of course, but the early Christian emphasis on the living Christ and his promise to return at any time made the Savior's resurrection day much more important than his death day. The church did not stop celebrating the resurrection on Easter Sunday, either. It was the chief subject of worship every Sunday from Easter until Pentecost, eight weeks later.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday did not become a part of congregational worship until about the Fifth Century. It was during that era that Christians began to travel again to the Holy Land. While they were in Jerusalem, these pilgrims retraced Jesus' steps from the upper room to Calvary. These processions (which are still a part of Holy Week observances in Jerusalem) made deep impressions on European believers, who carried these customs back to their homelands.

It was not long before Maundy Thursday became the "birthday of the chalice" in Christian churches. The day probably took its name from the command (Latin: *mandatum*) to "love one another as I have loved you" -- something Jesus commanded his disciples to do right after he washed their feet. The Good Friday commemoration began with an austere *tenebrae* (Latin for "shadows") service late on Thursday evening, and the quiet, contemplative mood of that service continued until late Saturday. Just past midnight on Saturday night bells began to peel and European churches began to celebrate the Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord.

In Luther's day the custom of reading the Passion episodes was also a part of Holy Week. The accounts written by Matthew, Mark and Luke were read on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, while the reading of St. John's account was reserved for Good Friday. The popularity of midweek devotions contributed to our present practice, that of reading the history of Christ's suffering and death on the Wednesday evenings of Lent.

Customs have changed through the centuries. What has not changed is the importance of Holy Week and the deep spiritual value it holds for believers. Let this week of worship thrill you as the Scriptures prompt you to reflect on the holiest events of our Christian faith!



THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR

Palm Sunday (4/5) 9:30 AM Worship Service (Live Stream)

Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Worship Service (Live Stream)

Good Friday 1:00 PM Worship Service (Live Stream)

7:00 PM Worship Service (Live Stream)

Easter Sunday 7:00 AM Prerecorded Devotion

9:30 AM Worship Service (Live Stream)

Check out the Our Savior Facebook Page



Check out our podcast at http://oursavior.podbean.com/ Live Stream at 9:30am at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC50XJX9adFfQ6f3RQC8V17q.



THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICE

"THE PALMS UNCOVER GOD'S PLAN"

Service Theme

Pastor:

Mark Wagner

MUSICIAN:

Zach Steinbach

HYMNS: PRINTED

VIDEO:

Chris Spietz

WEBSITE:

Jimmy Pautz

FACEBOOK:

Tom Hering

EMAIL:

Sarah Smith

FIRST LESSON:

Zechariah 9:9-12

GOSPEL:

Matthew 21:1-11

OUR SAVIOR EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

(Wisconsin Synod)

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Zechariah 9:9-12

"We Shout Aloud for Victory"