LCR
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Mount Kisco, NY

Palm Sunday
Worship Gathering
April 10, 2022

15 South Bedford Road, Mount Kisco, NY 10549
914.666.5123 Office
www.LCRonline.org
Ministers, People of LCR
Pastor, The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe
Music Director, Ms. Xiaojing Chang

A Welcoming Community Making Christ Known Through Worship and Service

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

- **Breathe**
- **Ponder:** Whom did you bring with you on your heart today? For what or whom are you feeling thankful? What is making you anxious today? What do you need to confess today?
- **Be still,** empty your hands, empty your mind, let sounds pass you, wait upon God.

Gathering

The congregation gathers outside the sanctuary.

CALL TO WORSHIP

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing.

It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

It is holy to remember.

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing.

Here and now, let us do all of these things.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: **Luke 19:28:40**

28 After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
29 When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent
two of the disciples, 30 saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied
there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you
untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" 32 So those who were sent departed and found it as he
had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the
colt?" 34 They said, "The Lord needs it." 35 Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their
cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the
road. 37 As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude
of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they
had seen, 38 saying,
"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"
39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." 40 He
answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." The Word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. 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

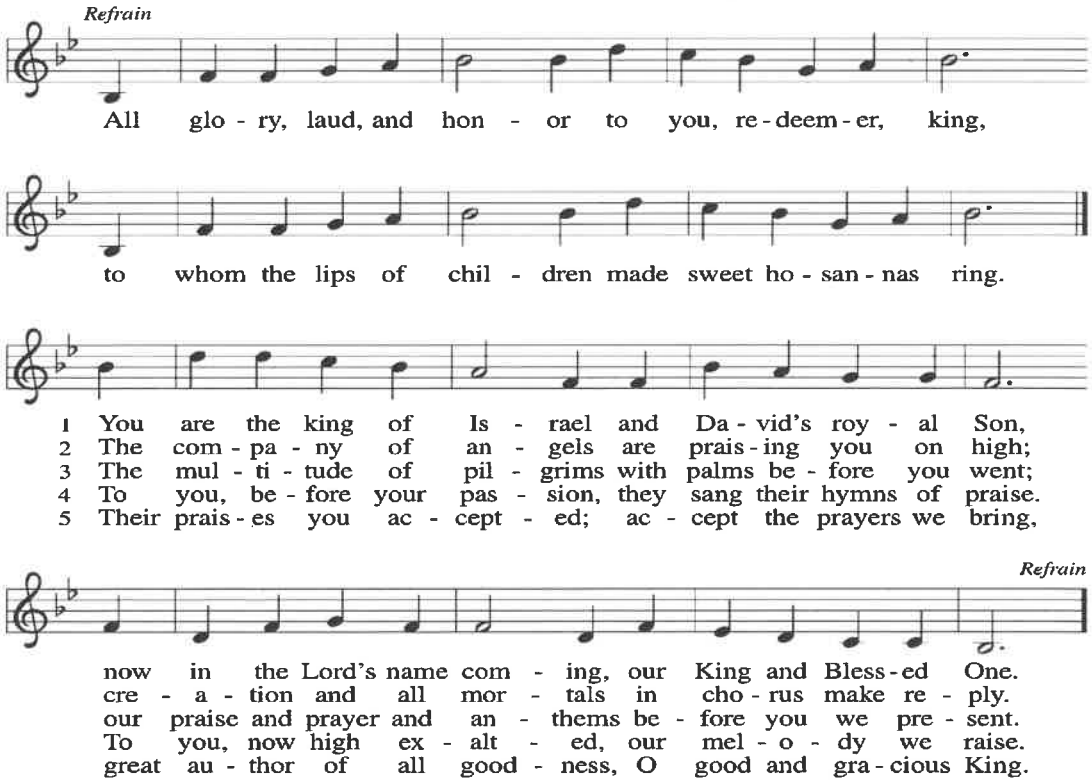
Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



CALL TO CONFESSION

The word 'hosanna' is often sung with joy and glee on this day. We process in, we wave palm branches, and it feels like a celebration. But the truth is, the word 'hosanna' actually means, "save us." The people along that parade route so many years ago were crying out to Jesus for help, because they knew—this world is not as it should be.

There is still too much hurt here. They were crying, "Save us!"
In the prayer of confession, we have our own hosanna moment, because we cry out to God, admitting the ways in which we have fallen short, and we ask for God's saving hand.
So friends, let us pray together, for there is still too much hurt here.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God of street parades and hosannas,
we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression,
to speak up for love and to speak hope to fear,
but so often we are silent.
We worry that we'll say the wrong thing,
so we don't say anything at all.
We worry that we'll offend,
so we keep our convictions to ourselves.
We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard,
so we stay silent.
And meanwhile, the parade marches on.
Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!"
Gratefully we pray, amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS
Friends, even when we are silent, even when we are scared,
even when we miss the moment,
even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing—we belong to God.
There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that, so rest in this good news:
We are forgiven. We are known.
We belong to God, every day and always. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Holy God, sometimes life feels like a parade rushing by us
as we stand on the sidelines and try not to miss it!
There are hundreds of things that catch our eye, but the thing we fear missing the most is you.
So slow down the speed on this parade. Paint the colors of this world a little brighter.
And dance through the words in our scripture passage until it is almost impossible for us to miss you there. God we are here. We are trying to pay attention. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

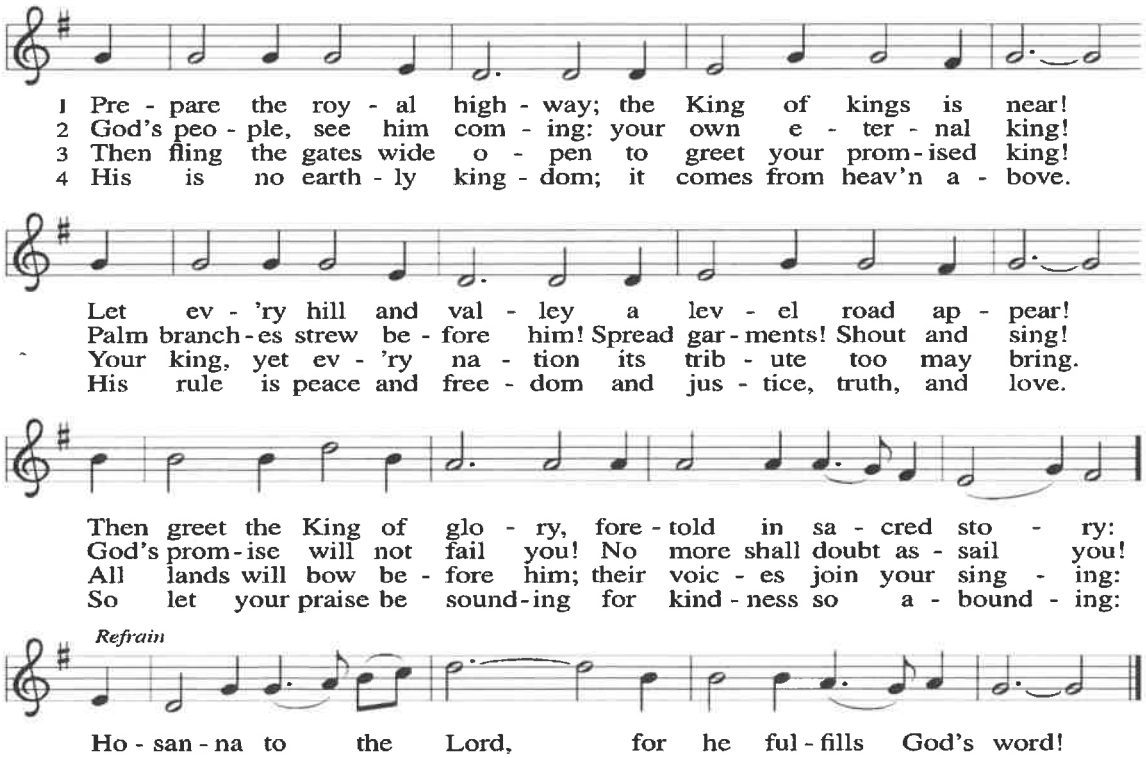
Bell Choir - *All Glory. Laud and Honor*

PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16
9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,
my soul and body also.

[10]For my life is spent with sorrow,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.
[11]I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.
[12]I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.
[13]For I hear the whispering of many - terror all around!
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.
[14]But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."
[15]My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.
[16]Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

SERMON The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe

Prepare the Royal Highway



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Paraphrased from and inspired by Luke 19:28-40.

Go to the village ahead of you, and you will find a colt tied there. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, "The Lord needs it."

We believe in a God of surprises. We believe in a God with a sense of humor.
We believe that there are things we may never understand,
but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.

They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

We believe in giving what we have.
We believe that actions of generosity change us.

We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.

The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully praising God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen.

We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker.
We believe in a God of good news.
We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

We believe there will be forces that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous. We do not believe those voices will have the last word.

"I tell you," Jesus replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way.
We believe. Help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

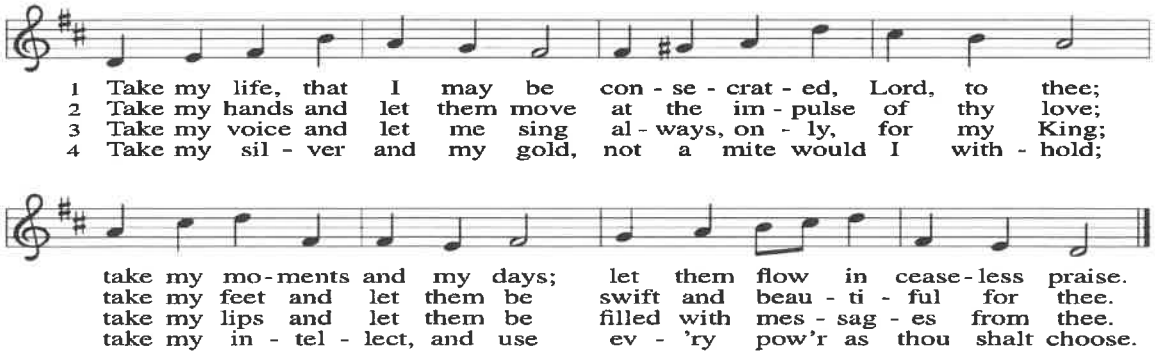
Response: **Receive our prayer.**

Meal

OFFERING *The giving of our time, talents, and money to the work of Christ's Church is an act of worship. As God has blessed us, let us return thanks to Him.*

Take My Life, That I May Be

Verse 1



GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, …

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God who knows us, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up. We wish that we could be more like you in that way. In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking. In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling. In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating. We long for these things. So today we ask you—be with us on the hamster wheel. Be with us when compassion fatigue rears her head. Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe. Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close. Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language. Be with us, and show us the way to the life you long for us. Show us a life of expansive faith. Show us a life of overflowing joy. Show us a life of absorbing beauty. Show us a life of engrossing purpose. Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led. And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table. Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst. So pour out a double portion of yourself onto this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness. God, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here. Together we pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Jesus has always been one to invite. He said, "Drop your nets and follow me." He said, "Let the little children come." He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed." Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed. So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table. And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy. So come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

COMMUNION
All are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of Christ as he comes to us in the Holy Eucharist.

BLESSING *All Stand*
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen

Sending

BENEDICTION
As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy. And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life. In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—go in peace, full to the brim.
Amen.

PRAYER LIST

Strength
Albert Burkhart
Meg Gaffney
Astrid Grossmann
Karl Hurowitz
Marge Taylor
First Responders and Healthcare Workers

Serving in the Armed Forces
Bryan Bennett
Carmen Green
Nicole Hetzer
Jim Oliveto
Justin Ortega
Sean Hudgins
Jesse Fritz

Sister Congregation
Epiphany Bayamón

Holy Week Schedule
Maundy Thursday - 6:30pm
Good Friday - Noon & 7pm
Easter Sunday - 9:30am