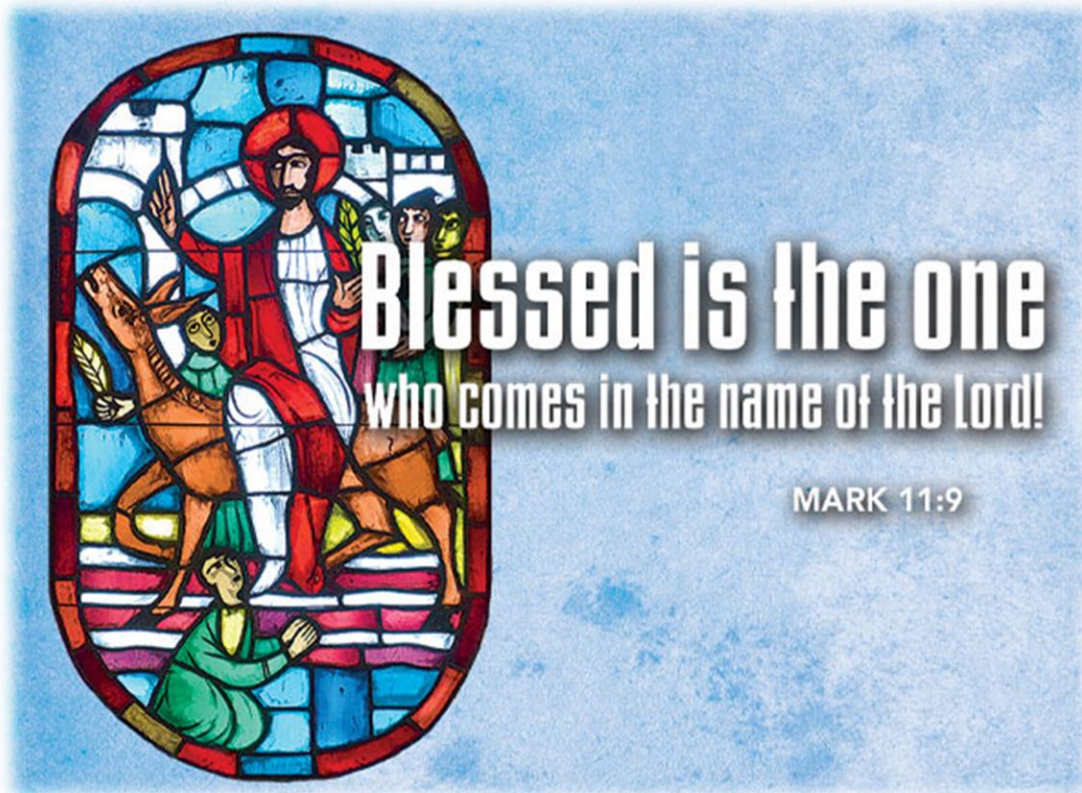




SERVICE OF THE WORD FOR
PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 28, 2021

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES ARE IN **BOLD TYPE**



PRELUDE

WELCOME

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Liturgy with Presbyterians and Palm Sunday Processional

Lutherans: **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Presbyterians: Hosanna in the highest!

Lutherans: **The Lord be with you!** (*waving greenery*)

Presbyterians: And also with you! (*waving greenery*)

Grace Reader: Let us pray...

Lutherans: **We praise you, O God,
for redeeming the world through Jesus Christ.**

Presbyterians: Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph
and was proclaimed Messiah and King

Lutherans: **by those who spread garments and branches along His way.**

Presbyterians: Bless these branches and those who carry them.

Lutherans: **Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,**

Presbyterians: so that, joined to his death and resurrection,
we may enter into your kingdom;

Lutherans: **through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

Presbyterians: one God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

Grace Reader: The holy gospel according to Luke.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

OAPC Reader: When he had come to the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the
disciples, 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. If anyone asks
you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were
sent departed and found it as he had told them.

Grace Reader: As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the
colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing
their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading
their cloaks on the road. 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, saying,

All: **"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"**

OAPC Reader: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him,
“Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

Grace Reader: He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent,
the stones would shout out.” The gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(waving greenery)*

Lutherans: **Let us go forth in peace,** *(waving greenery)*

Presbyterians: in the name of Christ. *(waving greenery)*

All: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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 and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

⁴The 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 wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I 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. ⁷The 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; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 31:9-16

⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.
¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**
¹¹I 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.
¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
¹³For 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.
¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.**
¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and 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.

LENTEN ACCLAMATION (*Stand*)

Refrain

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end-less glo - ry!

Turn to the Lord with all your heart,

³ for the time of sal - va - tion is here. *To refrain*

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:23-27

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, from the 13th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

²³But be alert; I have already told you everything. ²⁴‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!"

ELW 346



1	Ride	on,	ride	on	in	maj	-	es	-	ty!	Hear	all	the	
2	Ride	on,	ride	on	in	maj	-	es	-	ty!	In	low	-	ly
3	Ride	on,	ride	on	in	maj	-	es	-	ty!	The	hosts	of	
4	Ride	on,	ride	on	in	maj	-	es	-	ty!	In	low	-	ly



tribes	ho	-	san	-	na	cry;	O	Sav	-	ior	meek,	your	road	pur	-
pomp	ride	on	to	die.	O	Christ,	your	tri	-	umphs	now	be	-		
an	-	gels	in	the	sky	look	down	with	sad	and	won	-	d'ring		
pomp	ride	on	to	die,	bow	your	meek	head	to	mor	-	tal			



sue,	with	palms	and	scat	-	tered	gar	-	ments	strewed.				
gin	o'er	cap	-	tive	death	and	con	-	quered	sin.				
eyes	to	see	the	ap	-	proach	-	ing	sac	-	ri	-	fi	ce.
pain,	then	take,	O	Christ,	your	pow'r	and	reign!						

APOSTLES' CREED

We now profess the faith we share, using the words of the 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

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and grant us faithful hearing as we work to do your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked. Accompany all who suffer, including, Wayne, Scott, Steven, Jackie, Vicky, Julie, Margaret, Kay, Yvonne, Eddie, Bea, Jack, Eric, Mary, Frank, Bill, Madeline, Earl, Barbara, Steven, Kathy, and Ted, that they may find healing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, and all who offer their support in grief. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of Baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE

Our Lord Jesus Christ sent forth his peace long ago, and it has continued to flow through generations of faithful followers. Today, his peace continues in you. The Peace of Christ is with you.

And also with you. Amen.

At this time in our worship, we invite you to share the Peace of Christ with others.

Feel free to share the peace with others nearby, or, if you are alone, give someone a call after worship!

OFFERING

<https://onrealm.org/gracerockhill/-/give/now>

ANTHEM

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

arr. Mark Hayes
Virtual Choir & Brass

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Stand)*

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Holy and generous God, empower 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

We unite our voices in this time, joining in the prayer that our Lord taught us:

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en,
hal - low - ed be thy name; thy king - dom come; thy
will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread; and for -
give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give those who
tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to temp -
ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
All: For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er - more. A - men.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR A TIME OF PANDEMIC

We continue to lift our prayers and hopes to God, trusting in the mercy of the Almighty.

Healing Lord, you know our pain. We pray for all those who suffer from this pandemic. Hold close those who are sick, care providers, and those who have been harmed in any way. Let us all find our strength renewed by your presence in our darkest hours. Bless us with vaccines, and hearts that care for one another. Make our whole lives a witness in this time, so that your grace may be seen by all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Bless - ed be Your name in the land that is plen -
 Bless - ed be Your name when I'm found in the des -
 Bless - ed be Your name when the sun's shin - ing down
 Bless - ed be Your name on the road marked with suf -

ti - ful, where Your streams of a - bun -
 ert on place, though I walk through the wil -
 fer - ing, when the world's all as it
 though there's pain in the of -

dance flow,
 der - ness,
 should be
 fer - ing, bless-ed be Your name.

2. 4.
 Ev - 'ry bless - ing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the dark - ness clos - es in, Lord, still I will say, Bless-ed be the

name of the Lord, bless-ed be Your name. Bless-ed be the

name of the Lord, bless-ed be Your glo - ri - ous name.

2.
 You give and take a - way. You give and take a - way, My

heart will choose to say, Lord, Bless - ed be Your name. Bless-ed be the

name of the Lord, bless-ed be Your name. Bless-ed be the

name of the Lord, bless-ed be Your glo - ri - ous name. Bless-ed be the

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

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