

God Be With You!

Prior to beginning the Worship service the Joys / God Moments that were shared during the week are listed below:

A Joy from the Nannestads: “We had to take Moses to the ER this week for an unexpected allergic reaction and to our great joy it was easily treated; also a joy was that the hospital was not crowded and we got in and out quickly!”

PRAYERS: *You will notice that several people have been added to our prayers this week who have become ill with or passed away from COVID-19. There have been a few others added, as well. We pray for all people who are in need and who suffer.*

SPECIAL NOTES:

Pastor Brady has provided an audio of this service's SERMON, which is included in separate e-mail.

The Nannestads have made a YouTube video of the three hymns included in this Worship Service, which may be accessed OSLC's Facebook Page.

Our Saviour's Palm Sunday 2020



**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Durant, Oklahoma**

Worshipping in Place in a Time of Pandemic

**Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday
April 5, 2020**



Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We, too, are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Opening Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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.

Text: Theodolph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635
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Invocation

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be among us all, together and apart. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lessons

Isaiah 50:4-9a, RSV

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him that is weary.
Morning by morning he wakens,
he wakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I turned not backward.
⁶I gave my back to the smiters,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I hid not my face
from shame and spitting.
⁷For the Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been confounded;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸ he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.
⁹Behold, the Lord God helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Psalm 31: 9-16. RSV

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;
my eye is wasted from grief,
my soul and my body also.
¹⁰ For my life is spent with sorrow,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,^[a]
and my bones waste away.
¹¹ I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror^[b] 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 Yea, I hear the whispering of many—
terror on every side!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.
¹⁴ But I trust in thee, O Lord,
I say, “Thou art my God.”
¹⁵ My times are in thy hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors!
¹⁶ Let thy face shine on thy servant;
save me in thy steadfast love!

Philippians 2:5-11, RSV

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,^[a] being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which 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 confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 27: 11-54, RSV

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” ¹² But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. ¹³ Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” ¹⁴ But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly. ¹⁵ Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶ And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barab’bas.^[1] ¹⁷ So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Barab’bas or Jesus who is called Christ?” ¹⁸ For he knew that it

was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹ Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream." ²⁰ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barab'bas and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barab'bas." ²² Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified." ²³ And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified." ²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵ And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶ Then he released for them Barab'bas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸ And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, ²⁹ and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him. ³² As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyre'ne, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Gol'gotha (which means the place of a skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; ³⁶ then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷ And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." ³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, ⁴² "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴ And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. ⁵ Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land^[d] until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, la'ma sabach-tha'ni?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" ⁴⁷ And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "This man is calling Eli'jah." ⁴⁸ And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Eli'jah will come to save him." ⁵⁰ And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. ⁵¹ And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; ⁵² the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Sermon

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In these continuing days of pandemic coronavirus we continue to Worship in Place in a Time of Pandemic. If we were able to be together, would sing together in the classic words of the Palm Sunday hymn... and those of the Holy Week of the Passion beyond...

“All glory, laud and honor, to thee, Redeemer King, ...To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! ...The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; ...Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present!”

Here comes Jesus...Coronavirus or not, worshipping in place or not, as we stand in that Jerusalem Palm Sunday crowd...It is a great day to be in Jerusalem...as God’s holy city welcomes the advent of her Saviour...the royal Messiah... who is Prophet...and Priest...and King...

Here comes Jesus...riding upon the donkey of peace...”Hosanna!” we cry out with the crowd...”Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord...Hosanna in the highest!”

Here comes Jesus...Caught up in the joy of the moment...some take the coats from their backs...to line his way...others cut branches from the trees...in welcome and celebration and honor and homage...worthy of one who is come to save his people...in welcome and celebration and honor and homage...worthy of one who is come to fulfill all of the hopes of his people...all of their hopes...both Messianic and Apocalyptic...in welcome and celebration and honor and homage...worthy as one come in the name of God, himself!

Here comes Jesus...After three years of building notoriety, most of us standing in the crowd, have some idea as to who this triumphant conqueror might be...Who is this? “This” declare so many, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee!”

Here comes Jesus...and with waving palms...and coats lining his pathway...and with ear-splitting shouts of Hosanna...It is indeed a great day to be in Jerusalem...

“ Thou art the king of Israel, Thou David’s royal son...Who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and Blessed one...To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise...to thee, now high exaltation our melody we raise...”

But then, incredibly somehow the song changes...

“Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh ...Sometimes it cause me to tremble, tremble, tremble...Were you there when they crucified my Lord? ... Were you there when they nailed him to the tree...Were you there when they nailed him to the tree...Oh...Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble...Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?”

Well...there goes Jesus...fame and popularity certainly are fleeting...There goes Jesus...It looks like his fifteen minutes of Jerusalem celebrity have been used up...He has been betrayed by the kiss of a friend...He has been arrested...He has been knocked around...Flogged...Capped with thorns...and run through fake trials and false accusations...and...in sharp contrast to the mood of our crowd a few days ago...our mood has turned decidedly ugly...Yes, we are there as Jesus makes his way to the killing grounds.

There goes Jesus...Even the foreign military governor has seen through it all and sought to release him as a festival favour...But no, we won't have any of it...We reject the very Jesus whom we met with cries of “Hosanna in the Highest” ...for a highway robber, we now demand, “Give us Barabbas!”...Perplexed by our sudden ugliness, the governor asks, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” “Let him be crucified...Let him be crucified!” as we condemn him to suffer the execution reserved for the lowest form of criminality.

There goes Jesus...condemned by the same voices which had celebrated his arrival in Jerusalem...only short days ago...There goes Jesus...condemned by our voices...for the voice of praise is only divided by a hair from the voice of rejection, condemnation, and denial...”Hosanna! Let him be crucified!”

There goes Jesus...the eternal Word by which God created all that is...clothed in human flesh...prepared to stretch out his loving arms in embrace of those who would praise and condemn him in one breath...to stretch out his arms in loving embrace of you and me...even as they are nailed to the cross...the eternal Word by which God created all that is...clothed in human flesh...come to die...for us.....There goes Jesus to death on the cross because he loves you and me so much that he will die for us, even as we are sheltering under threat of deadly virus, even while we are yet dead in our sin...”Truly this was the Son of God.”

In the week to come, together and apart as we continue to Worship in Place in a Time of Pandemic, the song again changes as we watch Jesus make his way through his Passion and toward his Cross.

“O sacred head now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down; Now scornfully surrounded with thorns thine only crown...O Sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine...What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend...for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love to thee...”

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn of the Day:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

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Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the People

Responsive sentence for the Sunday of the Passion:
We trust in you O LORD: **You are our God.**

Lord God, our Heavenly Father and Helper, open our ears that we may hear you as clearly as Isaiah did. Teach us to listen more intently to your Word than we do to the sounds of the world. When we hear, may we obey and rejoice with those who sang you into Jerusalem. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ, you emptied yourself for us. You set aside the glories of heaven and came to earth as the only Son of God. You were obedient unto death, even death on a cross. We confess that you are our Lord, the glory of God the Father. **R**

Holy Spirit, even as you were with Christ at His trial, be with us in our trials that we may not fear the forces of this world that can only inflict death. You remembered those you were. You are the resurrection and the life. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ when we cry out in joy, hear our song as a song of thanksgiving. When we cry out in despair, remind us to commit our cause and our spirit into your hands. **R**

On this Sunday of the Passion, remember the suffering of those among us who need to know your love for them surpasses all human understanding: _____. **R**

- **HUGHES & MERIDETH FAMILIES** *struggles w/numerous health issues*
- **KYM Earles** *health & life struggles*
- **ALBERT Jackson** *life struggles*
- **SHARON Cottengim** *health struggles*
- **ADDIE Curtis** *child with health struggles*
- **JIM Watt** *health struggles*
- **WAYNE Weissenbuehler** *health concerns*
- **ADAM & FAMILY** *life struggles*
- **CHISUM FAMILY** *life struggles*
- **STEVE Kirven** *health/healing*
- **TERRY Bona** *health struggles*
- **ASHLEY Monk** *health*
- **RICK Payne** *multiple health issues/struggles*
- **IRENE Ruse** *health issues*
- **JUSTIN McNabb** *health*
- **LINO Ramirez** *health/healing*
- **STEPHANIE Mangrum** *healing/health*
- **MEGAN & BRAD Hill** *life struggles*
- **RHONDA Clouse** *health struggles*
- **GARY Dominick** *health struggles*
- **DEBRA Johnson** *health/healing*
- **KELLY Finley** *serious health issues*
- **PAISLEY & FAMILY Choate** *child with serious health issues*
- **PAM Neal** *health/well-being*
- **DAVID Anderson** *health/well-being*

- **CHARLIE & CAROL** Burnette *health & healing/strength & well-being*
- **HAROLD** Harmon *health*
- **RAJEANIA & FAMILY** Johnson *Thanksgiving for improvement*
- **VICTIMS OF CORONA VIRUS & CONTROL OF SPREADING THIS VIRUS**
- **CORSON FAMILY** *transition/life changes*
- **CURT** Silvestri *health*
- **JOANNA & JOSH** Nannestad *life changes*
- **JAN** Eggleston *recovery/healing*
- **MARILYN** Comer *health concern*
- **JAY** Nick *healing*
- **TIM** Nick *heath/healing*
- **FAMILY OF ROBYN** Sanders *mourning loss of loved one*
- **JACKSON FAMILY** *health issues*
- **JOSH** Dufur *35yr son of DHS teacher recuperating from COVID-19*
- **STEVEN** Rhodes *ill with COVID-19*
- **COURTNEY** *ill with COVID-19*
- **BAILEY** Clark *ill with COVID-19*
- **LORENDA & GARY** Hicks *ill with COVID-19*
- **GLENDIA** Wheat *Bailey's mother caring for him & exhibiting early symptoms of COVID-19*
- **FAMILY OF VINCE** Cass *mourning loss of loved one*
- **BROWN FAMILY** *2 family members have died & 1 suffering from COVID-19*
- **KARLA** Vasek *health issue*
- **JOHN** Harris *health/healing from surgery*
- **KATHLEEN, BRANDON & FAMILY** Burnette *stillborn baby boy*
- **WASHINGTON IRVING SCHOOL** *prayer & partnership with staff, teachers & students*
- **WESLEY CENTER** *students, staff & programs*
- **LIGHT OF HOPE SHELTER** *praying that this homeless shelter soon becomes a reality.*
- **JOY LUTHERAN** *Rockwall*
- **CENTRAL LUTHERAN** *Dallas*
- **ECUMENICAL PARTNERS**
- **OUR SAVIOUR'S** *ministries/community outreach/transition*

Though we remember we are dust and to dust we shall return, we remember that we are your precious dust. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn:

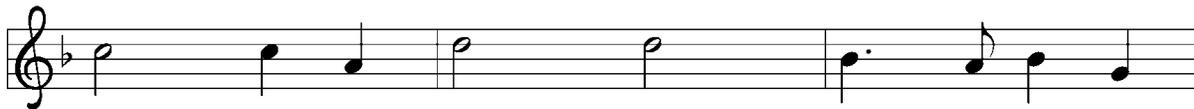
There in God's Garden



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
self - hood feed on its life - blood.
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

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Benediction

And now may Almighty God, the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us together and apart, keeping us in his light, in his grace, in his love, and his mercy, and his truth, now and forever. Amen.



*Worship Service developed by The Rev. T. Brady Eggleston
Hymn Selections by Joanna Nannestad*

