

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
INTO JERUSALEM
MARCH 28, 2021**



Note: This morning the large wooden cross stands outside Trinity's red doors, surrounded by Palm leaves. We invite you to stop by and pick up a palm leaf anytime between 8am-1pm.

INTRODUCTION TO HOLY WEEK

L: This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

OPENING GOSPEL: Mark 11: 1-11

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

P: Glory to you, O Lord.



When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples² and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: Praise to you, O Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Raising our palms we join the crowd: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: Hosanna! We come to praise the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

P: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: “All Glory, Laud and Honor” v. 3 & chorus

Accompanied by Val Bushnell

**All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king.
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

P: Amen.

L: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.
Fountain of living water,

P: Pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: Beloved, God’s word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

P: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: 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.

P: Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME: “All the Big Feelings”

SONG: “He Knows My Name” Group VBS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f-ePEMd2S4>

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9

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 the Lord God 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;

⁸the one 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?

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 31

⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For 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.

¹²Like 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.

¹⁴But 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.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

PREACHING TEXT: Philippians 2: 5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, although being in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but relinquished it all,

taking the form of a slave,

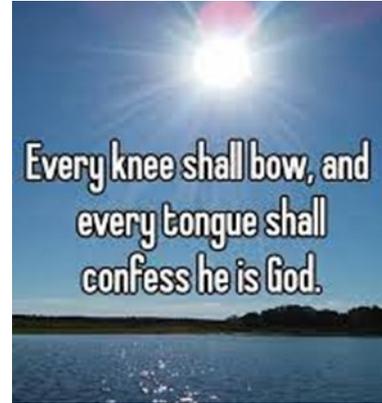
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself

(continued on next page)

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.



SERMON: Shivon Miller

SONG: “Weeping Over Jerusalem”

1) He journeyed there for the last time.
Jerusalem, you were still so blind.
He was the message of truth,
but you would not believe,
so you hung him on a tree.

2) He journeyed there for the last time.
Jerusalem, could not see the sign.
He brought you healing and life,
but you just turned him away
and you screamed out crucify.

Chorus:

He was weeping over Jerusalem
He was crying, tears were running down his face.
He was weeping over Jerusalem
Because they could not see God’s grace.

3) He journeys to us ev’-ry day
Jerusalem, do we walk your way?
He wants to give us new life,
but do we turn him away
and do we scream crucify?

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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.

OFFERING

Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly. Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.

OFFERING SONG: “Just As I Am”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGtGcTekp3M>

(Words for “Just As I Am” are on the following page)

Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea
But that your blood was shed for me
And that you bid'st me come to Thee
O Lamb of God, I come! I come

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind
Sight, riches, healing of the mind
Yea, all I need, in you to find
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot
to you whose blood can cleanse each spot
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, you will receive
Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve
Because you promise I believe
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

On this Sunday of the Passion, we pray for all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "**save us in your steadfast love.**"

A brief silence.

O God of majesty, mercy and might, hear and heed our fervent prayers:
for the church around the world, that the faithful be nourished by your presence in the word,
for bishops, pastors, and deacons, that they be strengthened for their tasks of ministry;
for those who are providing the necessary technology for our worship at this time, . . .
O holy God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

For the earth, that it be saved from pollution and disregard;
for endangered animals, that they and their habitats be protected;
for scientists, that their knowledge of your earth will guide our society's choices, . . .
O creating God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

For peace throughout the world;
for an end to terrorism and religious violence;
for all elected leaders, that they serve the common good.
for all who suffer from gun violence; bind up their wounds, restore their bodies, and heal their hearts. Comfort the mourners and embrace the lonely. Empower us to change this broken world. Make us advocates for a stable society, alive with hope in you.
O mighty God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

For the countries hardest hit by the coronavirus;
for the fearful and the sick and their families;
for medical personnel and hospitals, . . .
O compassionate God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

For all who are facing the criminal justice system;
for those wrongly accused of crime;
for those who are incarcerated, that they be kept safe, . . .
O righteous God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

For those whose needs we know,
for those whose needs are hidden; for all who are sick,
for the hungry, for the dying; and for those we name here: **the Tomaich family, the Dundas family, Craig Godmare and the family of Yvonne Patterson.**
O benevolent God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

And finally we pray for ourselves:

A longer period of silence.

O loving God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

With thanks for this Holy Week; with thanks for the support of our community of faith;
with thanks for the saints who struggled through life and died in you;
we praise your salvation now and unto our end.
O eternal God, we pray to you:
save us in your steadfast love.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy,
through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (all are invited to unmute)

L: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

P: 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 BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you that you may be a blessing in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: "All Glory, Laud and Honor" v. 5 & Chorus

Accompanied by Val Bushnell

All glory, laud and honor to you redeemer, king.
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring.
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, share the Good News.
Thanks be to God.



Maundy Thursday, April 1—5pm Facebook, 6:30 Zoom
Good Friday, April 2—5pm Facebook, 6:30 Zoom
Easter Sunday, April 4th—
8am Sermon on Facebook
10am Worship at Home on Facebook
11am Zoom Worship

AFTER THOUGHTS

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of the Palms

Congregations across the world were asked to refrain from worshipping in person during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 to stem the spread of the deadly virus. For many, the loss was felt most sharply on Palm Sunday just as Holy Week services were scheduled to begin.

One congregation in Central Washington State worshiped in their homes that morning via conference call. They hadn't been able to distribute palms to one another, so pretending to wave imaginary branches in their own homes felt inauthentic and strange. Absent their usual practices, the pastor of the little church composed a non-traditional "Blessing of the Palms" for worship as they gathered in the safety of their homes. Instead of blessing palm branches on that Palm Sunday morning, the assembly was invited to bless the palms of their own outstretched hands.

The word *hosanna*, shouted by those witnessing Jesus' entry into Jerusalem in Mark's gospel, can be translated, "Help, please, now!" With this very word on our lips, today we are invited to lay down more than coats and leafy branches at the foot of Jesus. We are invited to lay down our very own palms just as they are.

Imagine today that the palms laid out at the feet of Jesus today are the very palms of hands we meet every day in our own community and in the world. Some of these will be cracked, old, and tired with work; others will be sweating and nervous with worry; still others might be hopeful and open, excited or twitching with anticipation. Today we are invited to lay every one of those things that excite, demand, and trouble us at the foot of Jesus with a word of "Hosanna!" on our lips.

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