

Palm Sunday

Order of Service for April 5, 2020

INTRODUCTION BY PASTOR

OPENING LITURGY

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Dear friends in Christ, for five weeks in Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. Today, we come together to begin the solemn celebration of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Messiah: to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us remember with devotion his entry that culminated at the empty tomb and follow him with a lively faith. United with him by Baptism, we share in his resurrection and new life.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest!

All: Let the Lord enter; he is the King of glory.

P: Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

C: This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter.

All: Let the Lord enter; he is the King of glory.

P: O Lord, save us; O Lord, grant us success.

C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

P: The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine on us.

C: With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

All: Let the Lord enter; he is the King of glory.

P: Let us pray. God our Father, we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as king by those who shouted "Hosanna" and spread their clothing and palm branches in his path. Accept our praise and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of the Lord.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest!

THE WORD

First Lesson: Zechariah 9:9,10

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that 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.

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ⁵ “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.’” ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!” ¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS