

PALM SUNDAY- MARCH 24, 2024 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PASTORAL INTERN

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
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ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 24, 2024 | Palm Sunday | 9:00 AM

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / C = Congregation)

WELCOMING WORD *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.*

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude for quiet reflection and preparing for worship

WELCOME

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

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

C- Hosanna in the highest!

Processional Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

1When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples 2and 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. 3If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" 4They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, 5some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" 6They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. 7Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. 8Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. 9Then 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 the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of Palms;

L -The Lord be with you.

C -And also with you.

L - 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.

C- Amen

L - Let us go forth in peace,

C - In the name of the Lord.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: # 344 - All Glory, Laud and Honor

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L - Everlasting God,

C - 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.

Congregational Songs- *Prepare the Way
Forever*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

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 awakens—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?

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Hosanna! Blessed Is He”

ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

L: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

The Passion According to Mark

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN: #521 *O Day of Rest and Gladness*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

+APOSTLES’ CREED pg. 105

OFFERING –

OFFERING SONG – “Weeping Over Jerusalem”

OFFERTORY #186 “*Create in me...*”

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the pastor concludes each petition with the words:

“Lord in your mercy...” The people respond: **Hear our prayer.**”)

+THE LORD’S PRAYER (pg. 145) (right hand column)

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+HYMN #338 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 2024

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 36:5-11, Human Wickedness and Divine Goodness

Tuesday, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Christ the Power of God

Wednesday, Isaiah 50:4-9a, The Suffering Servant

Thursday, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Friday, John 18:1-19:42, The Passion Story

Saturday, Ezekiel 37:1-14, The Valley of Dry Bones

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

***“Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last”
-Matthew 27:54***

The passion story in Mark's gospel presents Jesus as one who dies abandoned by all. He shows himself to be the true Son of God by giving his life for those who have forsaken him.

- Have you ever set your face like flint toward something? In what ways did God help you? (Isaiah 50:7)
- What helps you see each day as a gift made by God? What helps you rejoice in the gift of each day? (Psalm 118:24)
- Does it matter if the same people who cried “Hosanna” later shouted “crucify him?” (Mark 11:9)

PRAY: 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.

BLESS: God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. Amen.