Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024 The Service at 8:30 and 11 am



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. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.



GATHERING

PRELUDE 8:30 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna", arr. J. Wayne Kerr

11:00 "Shout to the North" Martin Smith, arranged by Patricia Cota Bell Choir

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Congregation Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Congregation Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he

sent two of his disciples 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. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then 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.

Mark 11:1-11

Pastor The gospel of the Lord. Congregation Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

Pastor The Lord be with you. Congregation And also with you.

Raise your palm branch.

Pastor Let us pray.

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.

Congregation Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR ELW 344

We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



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

Pastor Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Congregation **Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate

on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us

pray.

Silence is kept.

Pastor 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.

Congregation Amen.

Please sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD

Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The 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.

The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

I 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.

The 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;

he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader Word of God, word of life.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

Congregation sings words in bold.



Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

I 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.

Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;

I am as useless as a broken pot.

For 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.

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.

I have said, "You are my God."

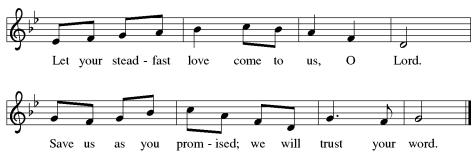
My times are in your hand;

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Let your face shine up- on your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing.



The Gospel is announced.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Congregation Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 14:1-9

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY #264 Please stand and sing.

Prepare the Royal Highway



APOSTLES' CREED

Seminarian With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Congregation 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

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns. After each portion of the prayers:

Seminarian Hear us, O God.
Congregation Your mercy is great.

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,

trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Congregation Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.

Congregation And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please give as you are able. We appreciate those who give in-person and those who give electronically.

Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

OFFERTORY

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates" from 'The Messiah' by G.F. Handel

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG Please stand and sing.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Congregation Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor The Lord be with you. Congregation And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Congregation We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Congregation It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ,

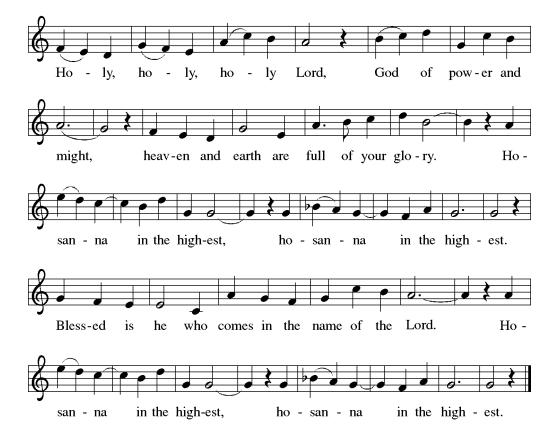
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross,

transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All sing.



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All sing.

Pastor Congregation Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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,

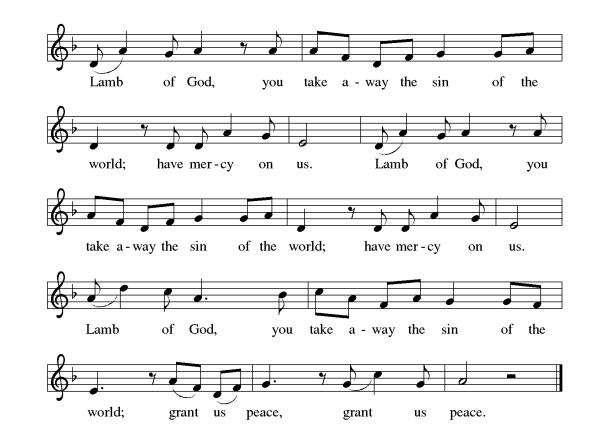
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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.



Invitation to Commune

Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

We gather around the communion rail either kneeling or standing to receive communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction.

For those not comfortable receiving from the pastors' hands a separate tray with preset elements will follow. Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

You are an important part of our faith community.

Let Us Break Bread Together



Text: African American spiritual Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Please stand.

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Congregation

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Please stand and sing.



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Seminarian

Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting make us hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation

Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life,

and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

Congregation Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME #634

Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew. As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.

All sing.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



- 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.
- 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6 Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

DISMISSAL

Seminarian Go in peace. Serve in love. Congregation Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"All Glory, Laud and Honor", arranged by Emma Lou Deimer

The Heart of the Story

Martin Luther called the Psalms a "little Bible." He wrote that all the rest of the Holy Scriptures could be found in them. Luther went so far as to suggest that in the Psalms the church can glimpse the death and resurrection of Christ. In these ancient songs and prayers of the Hebrew people, every human emotion is laid bare: joy and contentment, anger and sorrow, hope and despair. The Psalms give voice to the wide spectrum of experiences that mark our human lives. This is their power—they speak the heart's language, turbulent as our hearts may sometimes be.

In a similar way, Holy Week places us at the center of the whole story of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. From the "hosannas" of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the seeming abandonment of the cross, emotions run high this week as the story of Christ's passion reaches into the depths of our human experience. The palm and passion stories are themselves a "little Bible" of salvation for the church within the wider story of God's saving love for all.

As we gather to hear the story of Christ's passion anew, the words and rituals of the church's worship life invite us to feel our way into this story from the inside out. We hear the shouts of blessing and come to the Passover in quiet hope. We follow to Gethsemane and to the cross, with mixed emotions. What does betrayal feel like in our bodies? What about amazement? Fear? How have we experienced ridicule or shame? How have we ourselves dismissed or derided others?

The palm and passion stories offer us a chance to contemplate Christ's sufferings and meditate on our salvation—to come side by side with Christ's passion and so to know and access our own. We are invited to honestly glimpse the workings of our own hearts. Nothing is off limits to God's grace. No human experience is untouched by the story of God's redemptive love.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

Hearing help available: We have for your use, personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346 Email: Church@redeemermclean.org

Sunday Services 8:30 and 11:00 am for the traditional service and 9:45 am for the contemporary service

Next Sunday's Scripture: Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Mark 16:1-8

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

Today we are using Setting 9 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

CCLI License# 1850655

Please return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.