

THE CRY OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION

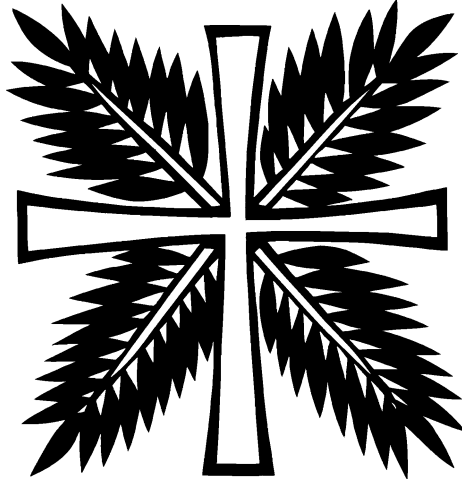
Palm/Passion Sunday

March 29, 2026

8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 am



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.



Today's worship begins in Crossroads as we bless palms and reenact the Entry into Jerusalem

PRELUDE

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Pastor	We praise you, O God, for entering into Jerusalem, and for entering into McLean today. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow Jesus throughout this Holy Week, that we, too, might follow the way of the cross and live in newness of life, for us and for all creation. We pray this in the name of the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Congregation	Amen.

*The procession into the church begins, the congregation following the cross, Assisting Minister,
and Pastor*

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

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

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

When Jesus drew near to Bethpage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying,

“Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of it.’” So those who were sent away found it as he had told them . . .

And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it.

And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near at the descent of the Mount of Olives the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen.

THE PREPARATION AND THE EATING OF THE LAST SUPPER

Then came the day of unleavened bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John saying,

“Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.”

They said to him, “But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?”

“Behold, when you have entered the City, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters and tell the householder, ‘The teacher says to you, ‘where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?’ And he will show you a large room furnished. There make ready.”

And they went and found it as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them,

“I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.”

And he took the cup and when he had given thanks he said,

“Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the Kingdom of God comes.”

+ COME TO THE TABLE +

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

Pastor Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
All **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

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction. For those not comfortable receiving from those who are distributing the elements, a separate tray is available. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Anyone who is not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine is invited to come forward for a blessing. To receive a blessing, please cross your arms. You are an important part of our faith community.

In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.



COMMUNION SONG

All sing.

One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of

bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y

through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
 3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939
 Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ
 Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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Pastor The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood,
 strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

All Amen.

PRAYER

Asst. Min. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

And they began to question,

“Who Lord? Who is going to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?”

“He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Is it I, Master?”

“You have said so.”

Simon Peter was indignant,

“But not I! Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you.”

“Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows you will deny me three times.”

“Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!”

And so said all the disciples, over and over again.



THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

PEOPLE:

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW 347, verse 1

*Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's power,
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with him one bitter hour,
Turn not from his griefs away, Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.*

And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them,

“Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.

And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw away, and knelt down and prayed.

“Father, if Thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but Thine be done.”

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done . . .

And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them,

“Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near Jesus to kiss him.

“Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?”

“Hail, Master.”

When the disciples saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”

And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

“No more of this!”

And he touched his ear and healed him.

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Jesus said to those who had come out against him,

“When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

Then they seized him.



THE JUDGMENT

PEOPLE

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW 347, verse 2

*Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned,
Oh the wormwood and the gall! Oh the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from Christ to bear the cross.*

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the high priest's house.

Peter followed at a distance, and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

Then a maid, seeing him in the light, said, "This man was with Him."

"Woman, I do not know him."

And a little later, someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not."

An hour later another insisted saying, "Certainly this man was with him; for he is a Galilean."

"Man, I do not know what you are saying!"

And immediately, while he was speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and he wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

"Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council.

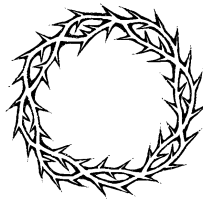
And they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us."

“If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God...”

And they said, “You are the Son of God, then?”

“You say that I am.”

And they said, “Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, Blasphemy!”



DAWN FRIDAY: JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Then the whole company of them arose and brought Him before Pontius Pilate. Pilate then called together the chief priests, leaders, and the people.

And they began to curse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!”

And Pilate asked him,

“Are you the King of the Jews?”

“You have said so.”

And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes,

“I find no crime in this man.”

But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place.”

And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.

Pilate said to the rulers of the people,

“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!”

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

And Jesus said,

“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

Forgive us our trespasses.

And they cast lots to divide his garments.

Forgive us our trespasses.

And the people stood by, watching.

But the rulers scoffed at him, saying,

“He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!”

Forgive us our trespasses.

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar. There was an inscription over him: “This is the King of the Jews.”

Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, O Lord, our trespasses!

One of the criminals who were hanged with him railed at him, saying,

“Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

But the other rebuked him, saying,

“Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Forgive us our trespasses, deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom-

And Jesus said to him-

And the power-

“Truly, truly, I say to you-”

And the glory-

“Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Forever and ever. Amen!

It was now about the sixth hour... And there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed... And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to the bottom...

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice said,

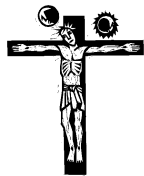
“Father, into Thy hands I commend my Spirit!”

And having said this, he breathed his last.

When they saw what had taken place,

they returned home beating their breasts.

All Women: And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things-



LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON: BURIAL

Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a good man, a righteous man, one looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

All Women: The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

We depart the sanctuary in silence

This service is based on “The Cry of the Whole Congregation” from Ragman and Other Cries of Faith by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

Redeemer's Holy Week and Easter Services

April 2 Thursday 7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Remember Christ and his command to love one another.
April 3 Friday Noon	Good Friday Worship On this sacred day, worship at noontime.
April 3 Friday 7:00 pm	Tenebrae Service Experience the solemn majesty of this special service as we remember Christ's death.
April 5 Sunday 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00	Easter Morning Services Celebrate our Risen Lord this great day. The brass musicians will accompany our talented choir, making this a festival celebration to honor our Lord.

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 personal hearing amplification units available for your use. Please speak with the person at the sound board.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: church@redeemerclean.org

Sunday Services:

8:30 and 11 am for traditional services and 9:45 am for the contemporary service

Next Sunday's Scripture:

Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 114 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Luke 24:13-49

True Humility

The servanthood of a teacher in Isaiah, the outcast in the psalm, those who bow down in Philippians: today's readings teach humility. On this day we move from Christ's triumphant ride on a humble donkey to the humiliation of the cross. The humility of the characters in the passion story is in question: Judas, Pilate, the Twelve, chief priests and elders, Barabbas, the crowd, the soldiers, two bandits. Among other things, their lack of humility is what brings about the passion of Christ. There is only one truly humble person in this story: Jesus the Christ. Matthew's humble Jesus cries out from the cross to ask God why he has been forsaken.

Only in the stories of the resurrection do other humble characters appear: the centurion, the women, Joseph of Arimathea. A careful look at the complexity of humility in the palm and passion stories could set up a reflective theme carried through to Easter. Who in each story do we regard as humble? Why? How does our humility compare? Are there characters who seem to gain or lose humility in the course of the story from the triumphant entry to the resurrection? A deep and meaningful understanding of humility is a worthy and lasting gift to take away from the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter.

Joseph of Arimathea is a particularly good character on which to base an understanding of humility. A close look at all references to him in the Gospels, and a bit of creative narrative, create an image of a truly humble believer. He is referenced in both canonical and apocryphal texts. His devotion represents deep humility that leads to the very finest of good works as he cares for the body of Jesus.

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