

Palm Sunday March 24, 2024 Divine Service, Setting 4 8:30 AM

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

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> Rev. Nils Niemeier ~ Pastor Mr. Thom Brownworth ~ Deacon Mr. Chris Cuvier ~ Organist

WELCOME TO MESSIAH!

To all who carry a burden of sin and need a Savior; to all who wish to rejoice and give thanks; to all who are strangers and need a Church home; to all who are lonely and long for companionship; to all who worship the Lord, our Creator; to all who hunger for the Word; to all who are weary and need rest, the people of Messiah, in the Spirit and Name of Jesus, say WELCOME!

If you are a visitor, we ask you to please introduce yourself to our pastors (don't worry, they're friendly!) and please sign our Guest Register in the narthex or fill out the yellow card in your bulletin. This will help us to get to know you better!

If you would like us to pray for you (or with you), please see one of our pastors before the church service or write a prayer request on the back of the yellow card.

OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church exists in order to lead people to faith in Christ Jesus and Fellowship in His family, to celebrate His presence in worship and the study of His Word, and to use all their God-given Time, Talents, and Treasures according to His Will in the ministry of His church and mission to the world.

PRIVATE PRAYERS FOR BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER WORSHIP:

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

Before confession & absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for my many sins I justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, my Lord Jesus Christ, who won for me forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant me a true confession that, dead to sin, I may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant me Your Holy Spirit that I may be ever watchful and live a true and godly life in Your service; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

After communing

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Choral Anthem

Procession of Palms

If the procession begins outside the nave, the congregation gathers around the processional cross. If the congregation is already seated in the nave, it now stands and faces the processional cross at the entrance to the nave.

Greeting

- P The grace of our Lord

 → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.
- **P** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna to the Son of David.

Collect

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Holy Gospel Mark 11:1–10

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.
- ¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately." ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.
- **P** Let us go forth in peace,
- **C** in the name of the Lord.

Blessing of the Palms

The Procession Begins

Opening Hymn: 422 All Glory, Laud, and Honor



When all have arrived at their places, the procession concludes with the following:

- P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the highest.

A time of silence may be observed to highlight the contrast between Jesus' triumphal entry and His passion.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- C Amen
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **©** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

Introit

Service of the Word

Psalm 24:7-10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26

LSB 204

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,* that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,* that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Any children present (and Mom and Dad, too!) are encouraged to come up to the chancel.

Lectionary Summary

The Son of David Ascends His Throne and Reigns in Love from His Cross

The Son of David comes in gentle humility, "sitting on a donkey's colt," yet as the King of Israel "in the name of the Lord" (John 12:13–15). He comes to be lifted up in glory on the cross in order to cast out "the ruler of this world" and draw all people to Himself (John 12:23–32). The Church is thus called to "rejoice greatly," because her King comes with salvation, and "he shall speak peace to the nations" (Zech. 9:9–10). As He is anointed "beforehand for burial" (Mark 14:8), He also ascends His royal throne as "the King of the Jews" by way of His Passion (Mark 15:2, 17–19, 26). He goes "as it is written of him," wherefore "you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power" (Mark 14:21, 62). For the glory of God is love, which crescendos in the humble obedience and voluntary self-sacrifice of the Son of God for the salvation of sinners. So, God the Father has "highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name" (Phil. 2:9), that He might reign over us in love with the forgiveness of His cross.

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9–12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a

[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of | his own blood,* thus securing an eternal re- | demption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new | covenant,* so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal in- | heritance. He sent redemption to his | people;* he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

Epistle Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

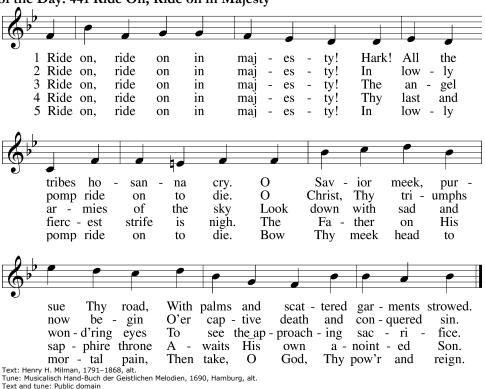
Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life 1 everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 441 Ride On, Ride on in Majesty



Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

The response for the prayers of the church is as follows:

P ... Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The Sharing of the Peace

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3). You are invited to greet one-another in whichever manner you are comfortable.

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. Therefore, we invite all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Christian faith and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table. If you have any questions about this, please speak to one of our pastors. They will be happy to discuss it with you.

If you do not wish to commune or have not been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. When you come forward toward the altar, please ask the pastor if he would bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to one of our pastors!

Stand

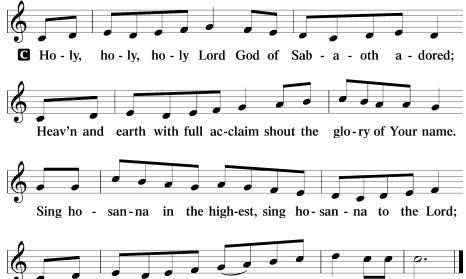
Preface LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 208



in

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tru - lv

Text: Stephen P. Starke

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

the name of the Lord!

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

blest is He who comes

Lord's Prayer

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 Words of Our Lord

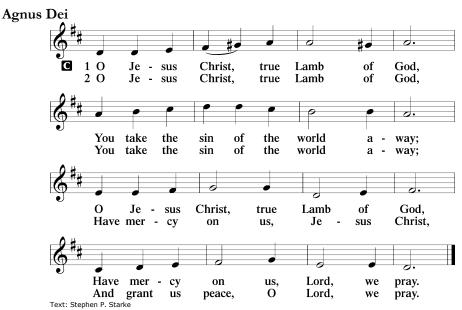
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LSB 210

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit

Distribution

Attendance Cards

Prior to the communion liturgy, we ask that all attendees fill out the yellow attendance card in the pew. When the usher dismisses your row to go to the altar, please hand your yellow card to the usher. Thank you!

Distribution Hymn: 423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



The Dismissal

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

LSB 211

C Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis 1 O 2 All Your vant Lord, now let ser De glo the ther, All ry part in heav'n - ly For have the peace, seen the glo - ry to Son, All glo to the ry Of For Your re deem - ing grace: Three One; ev er Gen light to lead the tiles Un For the be gin ning, The glo - ry of Your God's tri - une name re -Your ho - ly ev - er hill, The now, shall be, peo - ple, sound - ing Your cho Is sen ter -Through all е ni ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

- **A** Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and H give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Matters of Importance

Stand

Closing Hymn: 443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



Postlude