

# Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

**Hope Lutheran Church of Rossmoor**

[www.hoperossmoor.org](http://www.hoperossmoor.org)

925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

**The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor**

**Prelude**

*Instrumental Music*

**Carlyn Obringer**

## **Welcome, Announcements & Introduction**

**Mark Krauth**

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.

## **Gathering**

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**All: Hosanna in the highest**

P: Just as Jesus was welcomed by the crowds waving palm branches as he entered Jerusalem, we too welcome the procession today.

*(Pastor processes in followed by the readers carrying palms. They place their palms in the vase.)*

**Processional Gift of Music**

*"The Palms" (Fauré)*

**Judy, Frank, Jaxon**

## **Processional Gospel**

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter. (21:1-11)**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: <sup>5</sup> "Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." <sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord

**Blessing of Palms** (*everyone holds up their palm cross*)

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

P: 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.

All: **Amen.**

P: Let us go forth in peace,

All: **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

*All Glory, Laud and Honor – ELW 344 (verses 1, 5)*

**Judy Ryken**



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.

## Greeting

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us all pray together.

**All: 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. Amen.**

## First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Karen Krauth

*The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

## Psalm: 31:9-16

Karen Krauth & Congregation

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**<sup>10</sup>For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>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.

**<sup>12</sup>Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>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.

**<sup>14</sup>But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

**<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."**

**Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

**Karen Krauth**

*Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.*

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

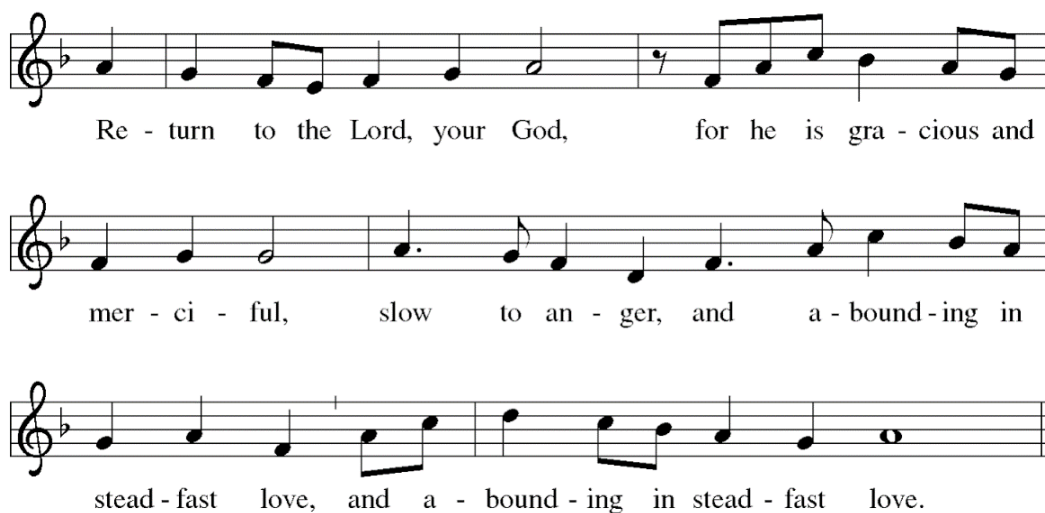
**Special Music**

*Were You There*

**TTBB Choir**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Judy Ryken**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
 mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
 stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*(Readers must use a microphone so those watching livestream or using T-Coil can hear)  
 Reading of the Gospel*

P: The Gospel of Our Lord

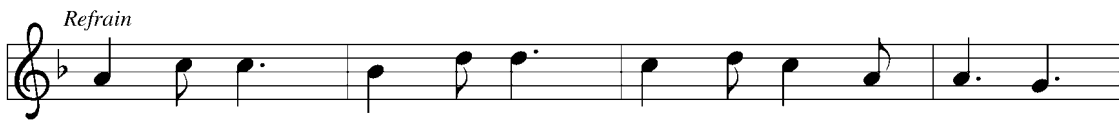
**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

### Apostles' Creed

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 of Intercession

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

Each petition ends with: *Hear us, O God,* Response: *Your mercy is great.*

### Offering

We invite you to place your **Offering** in the offering plate as it is passed.

### Special Music

*The Palms (Fauré)*

Judy, Frank, Jaxon

### Offering Prayer

P: As we lift up our offerings to the Lord, let us pray.

All: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### Offering Song

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

#### Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

#### The Lord's Prayer

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.

*At Hope we practice Open Communion. We believe the invitation to the table comes from Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this or any other congregation to join in the meal. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the pastor know you prefer one when your turn comes. To preserve the solemnity as guests at Christ's table, please return silently to your seat and refrain from talking while others receive Holy Communion. There will be plenty of opportunity afterwards at our coffee hour.*

Music During Communion

*Instrumental Music*

Carlyn Obringer

## Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray.

All: **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. Amen.**

**Blessing** (Please stand as you are able)

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always.

All: **Amen.**

### *Peace I Leave With You*

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you; Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled; Neither let it be afraid.  
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Amen*

P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

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## Announcements

**Pastoral Needs** – For any pastoral need, you can call or text Pastor Andreas Pielhoop at 415-577-5461 or via email at [pielhoop77@earthlink.net](mailto:pielhoop77@earthlink.net).

**Meet with Pastor Andreas** – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on April 16 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

**Anniversary Blessings** go out to **Wally & Lina Hale** who celebrate their 75th anniversary on Mar 30.

Thank you to **Hope's TTBB Choir** for providing special music for today's worship!

**Our Hope Choir** rehearses Apr 5 & 12 at 9:15am. All are welcome to join.

**Women of Hope** – The women's Bible study group will be meeting on Saturday, April 11, from 10:00-11:30am in the Mulligan Room at Creekside. We'll be covering the second session of Gather Magazine's three-part series on God's holy name and promise. Guidance and protection are the major themes of the famous "Good Shepherd" discourse in John 10. Our God who abides with us is also a God who moves with us - who knows us, protects us, and leads us through the ups and downs of life. Please join us for warm fellowship and stimulating discussion! See Priscilla Mah if you have any questions.

**Anchor Newsletter** – if you are not currently receiving Hope's Anchor newsletter and would like to, please give Robin your email address so you can be added to the distribution list.

**Fellowship** – Immediately following worship, please join us for a time of sharing coffee, goodies and great fellowship. Thank you to those helping with the set-up and clean-up. We ask one person from each table to

bring their tray up to the counter at 12:15pm. This helps the clean-up tremendously. You are welcome to stay, socialize and drink coffee beyond that but we must have the clean-up completed by 1pm.

**Helpers & Worship Assistants for:**

<b>Today – March 29</b>	<b>Next Sunday – April 5</b>
<b>Altar</b> Jean, Kathy	<b>Altar</b> Priscilla, Jean, Sara
<b>Greeters</b> Karen Peterson, John Moilan, Robin	<b>Greeters</b> Ingrid Wood, Lois Nelson, Robin
<b>Lay Reader</b> Karen Krauth, Kathy Odne, +9 more	<b>Lay Reader</b> Mark Krauth
<b>Communion Assistants</b> Mark & Karen Krauth	<b>Communion Assistants</b> John Moilan, Bill Kuhnsman
<b>Ushers</b> John Odne, Bill Kuhnsman	<b>Ushers</b> Forest & Diane Borene
<b>Livestream</b> Jaxon	<b>Livestream</b> Chase
<b>Special Music</b> TTBB	<b>Special Music</b> Steve Mullins

<b>Maundy Thursday – April 2</b>	<b>Good Friday – April 3</b>
<b>Altar</b> Gerda, Jean	<b>Altar</b> Kathy, Gerda
<b>Greeters</b> Sigrid Beach, Robin	<b>Greeters</b> Kathy Odne, Robin
<b>Lay Reader</b> David Rossing	<b>Lay Reader</b> Ann Marie Rossing
<b>Communion Assistants</b> David & Ann Marie Rossing, Gerda Peterson, Robin	<b>Communion Assistants</b> None
<b>Ushers</b> Sigrid Beach, Robin	<b>Ushers</b> Sigrid Beach, Robin
<b>Livestream</b> None	<b>Livestream</b> None
<b>Special Music</b> Judy & Lois	<b>Special Music</b> None

**Readings for next Sunday, Apr 5:** Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

**Rides to Church** – Our volunteer drivers to worship are Sally Lionetti, Nancy Conrad (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays only). If you need a ride to church, please contact them for the possibility of a ride.

**Our Worship Service is available to live-stream and view online each week on our website.** The link to the live-stream worship service is <https://bit.ly/3v6JTXm> The bulletin is available on the Hope website under the tab “Worship”. Select “Worship Bulletin” and click on the desired week.

**Your Offering** – If you would like to mail us your offering (including QCDs), please send it to: Hope Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94598 (This is Hope’s mailing address, not our worship location).

**Please remember in prayer:** Paula Tagliareni, Joan Birke (Carole Weyand’s friend), Haley Thaning (Todd’s daughter), Sandy Williams, Wayne Anderson, Lina Hale, Camilla Durham, Evelyn Olson