

Service of the Word – Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Roanoke, VA

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

1. All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,
2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
3. To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in chor - us make re - ply.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us 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

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

A reading from Zechariah.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *Ride On, King Jesus* – arr. Hall Johnson

Brynn Scozzari, soloist

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can-a hinder me.
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on! No man can-a hinder me.

For He is King of kings,
He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last,
No man works like Him

King Jesus rides a milk-white horse,
No man works like Him.
The river of Jordan he did cross,
No man works like Him.

King Jesus rides in the middle of the air, oh!
He calls the saints from everywhere, ah!

- text African-American spiritual

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Philippians.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 11:1-11

The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Prepare the Royal Highway*

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who are ill, hospitalized, having surgery, or recovering: **Stacey & Darrell Hayes, Christie Scott, and Barbara McLelland**. Attend to the needs of all those we name before you now. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love,

we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.

Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,

and at the end bring all the world to your feast;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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**

PRAYER FOR OUR TIME

Let us pray.

God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we continue to face uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us and our leaders as we consider how best to continue to respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Be with us in these days when gathering together as often as we would like is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of safety, we trust that you surround us with your sheltering wings. Encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

SENDING SONG: *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!*

1. Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the tribes Ho -
2. Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride
3. Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! The wing - ed squad - rons
4. Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride

- san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, pur - sue thy road with
on to die: O Christ, thy tri - umphs now be - gin o'er
of the sky look down with sad and wond' - ring eyes to
on to die; bow thy meek head to mor - tal pain, then

palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
see th'ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
take, O God, thy pow'r and reign.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, loving God and loving your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

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All Glory, Laud, and Honor – text: Theodulph of Orleans, tr. John Mason Neale, alt.; music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner.

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