

# April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday

## Procession with Palms

Today we enter Holy Week, with its cycle of death, life and new life.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.**

Jesus, the holy one, enters Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Crowds threw down their coats, waved palm branches and shouted out:

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.**

Jesus, holy one, enter the gates of our hearts today as we join in the time of your Passion. Let us remember and celebrate your birth, your calling, your ministry.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.**

Jesus, holy one, guide us through the streets of our journey. Open our eyes and ears to the guiding of God's Spirit who calls us to costly faithfulness and to joyous wholeness. Let us sing with all our hearts:

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosanna in the highest!**

## Processional Gospel

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] 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. <sup>8</sup>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.

## Blessing of the Palms

O God, who in Jesus Christ triumphantly entered Jerusalem  
be with us now as we follow the way of the cross  
In these events of defeat and victory you have sealed the closeness  
of death and resurrection, of humiliation and exultation.  
We thank you for these branches that promise to become for us  
symbols of martyrdom and majesty  
bless them and us that their use this day may announce in our time  
that Christ has come and that Christ will come again  
Amen. Come, Christ Jesus.

*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

**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**

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.**

# WORD

## Children's Time

### First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

*The prophet tells of the coming of a future king, not as warrior but as one to bring an end to violence and war.*

Rejoice 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.  
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the warhorse 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.

### Psalm 31



Verses

1. In you, O Lord I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, oh my faithful Lord, in your hands I commend my spirit.
2. For all my foes reproach me; all my friends are now put to flight.  
I am forgotten, like the unremembered dead, like a dish that now is broken.
3. I place my trust in you, Lord; in your hands is my destiny.  
Let your face shine upon your servant, Lord, in your hands I will place my life.

Text: Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17; Marty Haugen, © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL  
Music: Marty Haugen; refrain adapt. by Diana Kodner, © 1983, 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

### Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11

*Paul writes to the church at Philippi in a hymn that speaks of Christ's self-emptying.*

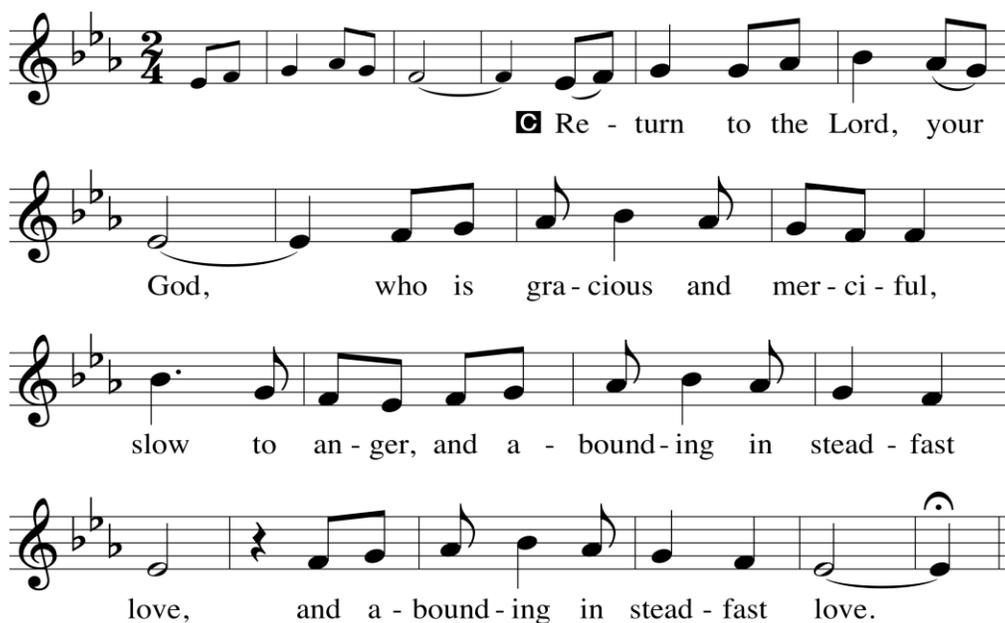
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus:

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### Gospel verse



Re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who 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.

Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

### Holy Gospel Matthew 21:12-17

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written,  
"My house shall be called a house of prayer";  
but you are making it a den of robbers.'  
The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read,  
"Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies

you have prepared praise for yourself?’

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

## Sermon

## Song of Response

### *The King Shall Come*

ELW 260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

## Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**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

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church. Bless all who call upon your name. Unite your church in bearing witness to the gospel. Pour your love into our hearts, and inspire us to pour out our lives in service to your world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world. For palm trees and figs. For trees with leafy branches. For olive groves and gardens. For mountains and hillsides, valleys and canyons. For places affected by rising sea levels or depleted water sources. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations. For peace among all, especially those who honor Jerusalem as holy ground. For all who hold positions of authority and power. For all who suffer oppression, and for those who serve in the armed forces. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. For those who have suffered betrayal. For those who live in poverty. For those who have no voice or power. For the forsaken and forgotten. For those who are in crisis, and for those who are ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation. For musicians, altar guilds, ushers, and all who lead us in worship. For those who serve our community through food pantries, homeless shelters, and clothing banks. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember all who (*like Mary, the mother of Jesus,*) have been obedient to your will and all who have died in faith (*especially*). Bring us with them into your glory, to dwell with you in life eternal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## The Peace

### Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things; you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God.  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life.  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us, renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call upon you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

### **The 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.**

### **Benediction**

God, who fills the creation with abundance,  
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,  
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,  
✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **Sending Song**

*The King of Glory Comes*

#### *Refrain*

The King of glory comes the nation rejoices  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.

Sing then of David's son, our Savior and brother;  
in all of Galilee was never another. Refrain

He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation,  
he took upon himself the sins of the nation. Refrain

He conquered sin and death; he truly has risen,  
and he will share with us his heavenly vision.

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**