



March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Invocation

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

2 Corinthians 13:14

Amen.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Matthew 21:9

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“The King of Glory”

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

♪ Who is the King of glory; how shall we call Him?

He is Emmanuel, the Promised of ages. ~The King...

♪ In all of Galilee in city or village,

He goes among His people curing their illness. ~The King...

♪ Sing then of David’s Son, our Savior and Brother;

In all of Galilee was never another. ~The King...

♪ He gave His life for us, the Lamb of salvation;

He took upon Himself the sins of the nation. ~The King...

♪ He conquered sin and death, He truly has risen;

And He will share with us His heavenly vision. ~The King...

The Other Song Book, Hymn 206-Text: Willard F. Jabusch; Tune: Israeli Folk Song;

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Opening Prayer

Let us pray. Lord God, as the people in Jerusalem gathered to welcome Your Son, our Lord, when He came into His holy city, so we sing of Your coming among us today with songs of praise. Keep us steadfast in our hope and confession of faith throughout our lives that we may meet Him with grateful hearts when He comes again in glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Processional Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything

to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID! HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

Matthew 21:9

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

~All glory, laud, and honor To You, Redeemer, King,

To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

♪ You are the King of Israel And David’s royal Son,
Now in the Lord’s name coming, Our King and blessed One. ~All glory...

♪ The company of angels Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation In chorus make reply. ~All glory...

♪ The multitude of pilgrims With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems Before You we present. ~All glory...

♪ To You before Your passion They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. ~All glory...

♪ As You received their praises, Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev’ry blessing, Our good and gracious King. ~All glory...

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 442—Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821;
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; Text: Public domain*

Prayer

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Matthew 21:9

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.

Amen.

Hymn Response

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

♪ Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang; Through pillared court and temple
The lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.

♪ From Olivet they followed Mid an exultant crowd, The victor palm branch waving
And chanting clear and loud. The Lord of earth and heaven Rode on in lowly state
Nor scorned that little children Should on His bidding wait.

♪ “Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing; For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heav’n our King. Oh, may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice
And in His blissful presence Eternally rejoice!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 443—Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–80, alt.; Text: Public domain

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4–9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The 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 emptied himself, by 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.

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message

Hymn

“Lift High the Cross”

~ Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim Till all the world adore His sacred name.

♪ Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. ~ Lift high the cross...

♪ Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine. ~ Lift high the cross...

♪ All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. ~ Lift high the cross...

♪ O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. ~ Lift high the cross...

♪ Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. ~ Lift high the cross...

♪ So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! ~ Lift high the cross...

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn: 837 – Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.;
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Proclamation of the Word

“With Whom Are You Dealing?”

Matthew 27:49–50

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Matthew 21:9

The Holy Gospel & Hymn *Please Be Seated*

Matthew 27:11–66 & “The Lamb”

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.”

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?

Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

~Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

²²Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” ²³And he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.” ²⁵And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” ²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling

before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”³⁰ And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head.³¹ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.

The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing. ~Worthy...

³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross.³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull),³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.³⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there.³⁷ And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads⁴⁰ and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying,⁴² “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.”⁴³ He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”⁴⁴ And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill

So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. ~Worthy...

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”⁴⁷ And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”⁴⁸ And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink.⁴⁹ But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.⁵² The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised,⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.⁵⁴ When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

♪ He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.

He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. ~Worthy...

⁵⁵There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him,⁵⁶ among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus.⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new

tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

♪ He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.

His song prolong Till ev’ry heart to Him belong. ~Worthy....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 547—Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953–2023;

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Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Matthew 21:9

Postlude