St. Thomas Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Christian F. Just, Interim Pastor 9042 State Route 43 P.O. Box 2247 Streetsboro, Ohio 44241

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS. We pray that God will bless all who gather in worship with us this day. VISITORS AND GUESTS, we want to make you feel very much welcomed. Please identify yourself to Pastor Just and sign the Guest Book in the narthex.

PALM SUNDAY/THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

MARCH 28, 2021

THE PRELUDE

We gather in the Narthex, where palm branches are distributed to each person.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PALM PROCESSION LITURGY

- P: Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.
- C: Hosanna to the Son of David.
- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

THE PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-10

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ² 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. ³ If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?' just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' " ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders

said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" [NRSV]

- P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
- C: Praise to You, O Christ!

The members of the congregation raise their branches.

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.

- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path.

We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C: Amen.
- P: Let us go forth in peace,
- C: in the name of the Lord.





Text: Theodulph of Orleans; translated by John M. Neale. Tune: Melchior Teschner. In the public domain.

The Pastor stands behind the altar until the members of the congregation are in their places. Then the Pastor says:

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

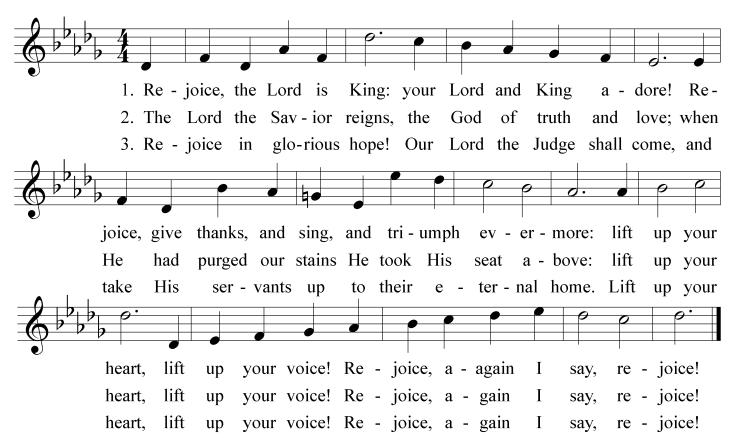
C: Hosanna in the highest.

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE — THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY (together)

Loving Father of all, Your only Son came as a servant and was obedient all the way to His death on the cross. Make us humble like Christ, and bring us to be with Him in His glory. For He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE "Rejoice, the Lord Is King!"



Text: Charles Wesley. Tune: William E. Fischer. In the public domain.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9a

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.

⁵ The LORD GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

⁶ 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.

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; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

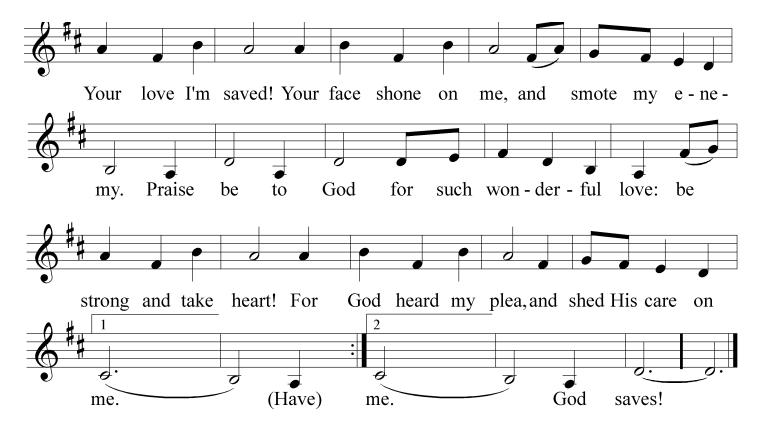
Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

⁹ It is the LORD GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

[NRSV]

R: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.





THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

⁵ 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,

⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

- 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross.
- ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
- overy 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. [NRSV]

R: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

A s soon as it was morning, the chief priests Aheld a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ² Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." 3 Then the chief priests accused him of many things. 4 Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." 5 But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. 6 Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. 7 Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. 8 So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. 9 Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" 10 For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. 12 Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" 13 They shouted back, "Crucify him!" 14 Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" 15 So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. 16 Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. 17 And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. 18 And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 19 They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. 20

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. ²¹ They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. 22 Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. 24 And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. ²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷ And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. 28 ²⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. 32 Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. 33 When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 34 At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice. "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 35 When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." 37 Then Jesus

gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he

breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" /NRSV]

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.





1 Je - sus, in Your dy - ing woes, Ev - en as Your life - blood flows,

2 Sav-ior, for our par-don sue When our sins Your pangs re-new,

3 Oh, may we, who mer - cy need, Be like You in heart and deed,



Crav - ing par - don for Your foes:

For we know not what to do: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.

When with wrong our spir - its bleed:

Text: Thomas B. Pollock.. Tune: Koralpsalmboken, Stockholm, 1697. In the public domain.

THE SERMON:

"Tears and Joy! Joy and Tears!"

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE CHURCH CARES FOR EACH OTHER & FOR THE WORLD

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(after each petition the following is said)

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayer concludes . . .

P: In the name of Him who endured even death for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

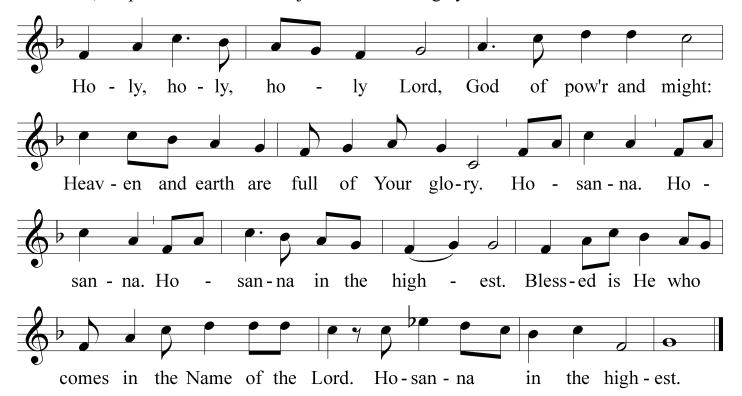
C: Amen.

GOD'S BANQUET WITH HIS PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of

heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,

his life-giving Passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension,

and his promise to come again,

we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought, but as we are able;

and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,

and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,

and these your own gifts of bread and wine;

that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son

may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and,

receiving the forgiveness of sin,

may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now

and forever.

C: 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.

THE COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may honor His sacrifice by continuing His mission in the world.

All are invited to take the communion packet that was provided as you came to worship this morning.

- P: Take and eat, this is the Body of Christ, broken for you to be made whole.

 All are invited to open the larger cup from the communion packet and partake of the wafer therein.
- P: Take, drink, the Blood of Christ, poured out for you to be filled with His endless life. *Please open the smaller cup to consume the wine.*
- P: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting.
- C: Amen.

MUSIC "Benedictus"

Benedictus, qui venit in nomine domini.

(Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.)

By Karl Jenkins; performed by Hauser, with the Zagreb Philharmonic Orchestra. Recorded on YouTube. Used by permission. Reprinted under CCLI License 1424971. All rights reserved.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, in this humble meal we remember Your death until You come.
- C: It is a reminder of the shouts of "Crucify!"
- P: In this meal we look to another banquet.
- C: It is the beginning of our never-ending shouts of "Hosanna!"
- P: We hail You as our King!
- C: Amen.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE BACK INTO THE WORLD

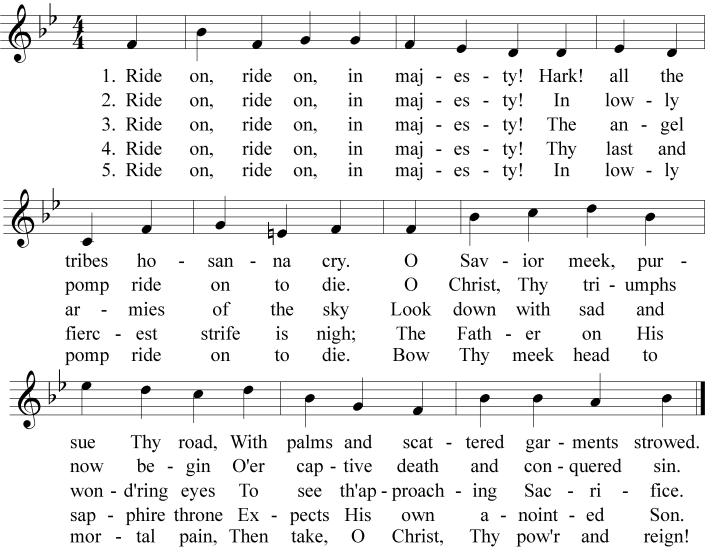
THE BENEDICTION

P: Go now and follow Christ in obedience.
Have the same mind as was in Christ Jesus;
Keep your ears open to God's teaching;
Be humble, even in the face of hostility
and do not turn back.

God help you and keep you from disgrace; Christ Jesus lead you through the gates of justice; the Holy Spirit keep you in God's steadfast love and fill your mouths with praise + to the glory of God.

C: Amen.

THE RE-ENTRY HYMN: "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"



Text: Henry H. Milman. Tune: "Musikalisches Handbuch," Hamburg, 1699. In the public domain.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!