

Greet the King

Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall for small children.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for the Lord's Supper, perhaps with the help of page 129 in the front portion of the hymnary.

OPENING PRAYER

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. Please open our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Through the preaching of your Word teach us to repent of our sins, to believe in Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

HYMN

No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

1. *No tramp of soldiers' marching feet with banners and with drums,
No sound of music's martial beat: "The King of glory comes!"
To greet what pomp of kingly pride no bells in triumph ring,
No city gates swing open wide: "Behold, behold your King!"*

2. *And yet he comes. The children cheer; with palms his path is strown.
With ev'ry step the cross draws near: The King of glory's throne.
Astride a colt he passes by as loud hosannas ring,
Or else the very stones would cry, "Behold, behold your King!"*

3. *What fading flow'rs his road adorn; the palms, how soon laid down!
No bloom or leaf but only throne the King of glory's crown.
The soldiers mock, the rabble cries. The streets with tumult ring,
As Pilate to the mob replies, "Behold, behold your King!"*

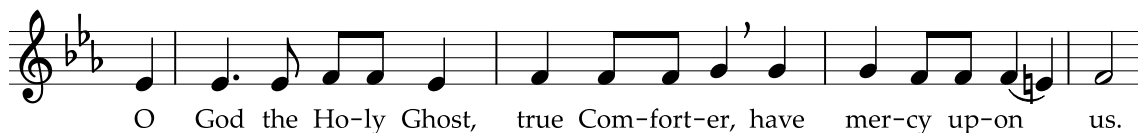
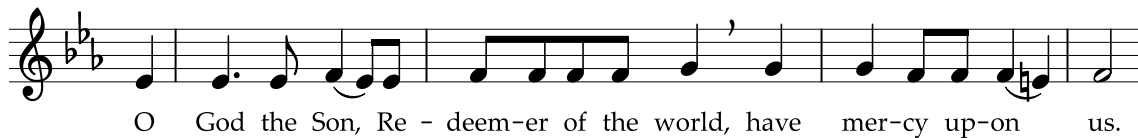
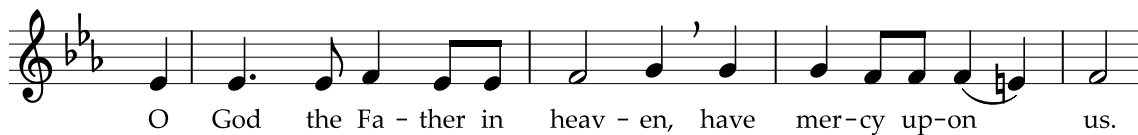
**4. Now he who bore for mortals' sake the cross and all its pains
And chose a servant's form to take, the King of glory reigns.
Hosanna to the Savior's name till heaven's rafters ring,
And all the ransomed host proclaim, "Behold, behold your King!"**

CONFESSION OF SIN

- P: Let us confess our sins to God and pray: We poor sinners confess to you, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended you, our Lord and Maker, with our thoughts, words, and actions. You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity. Therefore we come before you with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.
- P: O merciful God, in this hour you still remind us of your fatherly goodness. On account of the promises in your Word, we flee for refuge toward your infinite mercy. We implore you, dear Father—on the basis of the work of Jesus Christ, your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was handed over to death because of our sins and was raised to life again for our justification—forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full confidence.
- C: We therefore pray you, O Lord, through your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

HYMN

Kyrie



ABSOLUTION

P: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor | #277

Service of the Word

The praises of the crowd foreshadowed the victory which Jesus was to win over sin, death, and the devil. With repentant hearts we join our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, confident of his everlasting rule and greeting him as our eternal King.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray for humility: 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.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:1–11

Jesus rides into Jerusalem as a king, great David's promised greater son. But he rides on to bring the promised eternal reign of the Messiah by dying.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ "Say to Daughter Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2:5–11

Only some people in Jerusalem acknowledged Jesus as Lord on Palm Sunday. But St. Paul says every tongue will eventually acknowledge him.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

- ⁶ Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death —
even death on a cross!
⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN

Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty | #280

The prophet describes the coming of the Messiah using the image of the king triumphantly returning to Jerusalem from battle, having established his rule over the nations.

⁹ Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,

righteous and victorious,

lowly and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope;

even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

What should you believe/think/feel/do (the new life)?

Rejoice and shout. Return to the fortress.

Why? What is the good news for God's people (the gospel)?

Because your king comes with salvation and peaceful rule.

Why is that good news? What is a trouble human beings face about this topic (the law)?

[By implication:] Because right now we are prisoners without peace who need salvation.

HYMN

Hail, Thou Once-Despised Jesus

1. Hail, thou once - de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i - le - an King!
2. Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap-point-ed, All our sins on thee were laid;
3. Je - sus, hail, en - throned in glo - ry, There for - ev - er to a - bide!
4. Wor-ship, hon - or, pow'r, and bless-ing Thou art wor-thy to re-ceive;



Thou didst suf - fer to re-lease us, Thou didst free sal - va - tion bring.
 By al - might - y love a-noint-ed, Thou hast full a - tone-ment made.
 All the heav'n-ly hosts a-dore thee, Seat - ed at thy Fa-ther's side.
 Loud-est prais-es, with-out ceas-ing, Meet it is for us to give.



Hail, thou u - ni - ver-sal Sav - ior, Who hast borne our sin and shame;
 Ev - 'ry sin may be for-giv - en Through the vir - tue of thy blood;
 There for sin - ners thou art plead-ing, There thou dost our place pre - pare,
 Help, ye bright an - gel-ic spir - its, Bring your sweet-est, no-blest lays;



By whose mer - its we find fa - vor; Life is giv - en through thy name.
 O - pen is the gate of heav-en; Peace is made 'twixt man and God.
 Ev - er for us in - ter - ced-ing Till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
 Help to sing our Sav-ior's mer - its; Help to chant Im - man - uel's praise.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

The teaching and evangelism work of King of Grace is supported entirely by donation. You can support this work by giving a gift in the offering plate or at www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Service of the Sacrament

The members of King of Grace invite members of other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with our pastors before our next communion service.

P: Dear friends in Christ! In order that we may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that we consider what we believe. From the words of Christ: "This is my body; this is my blood," we believe that Jesus Christ is himself present with his body and blood, as the words declare. From Christ's words "For the forgiveness of sins," we believe that Jesus Christ gives us his body and blood to actually deliver to us the forgiveness of all of our sins. And finally, we do as Christ commands when he says, "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "Do this in remembrance of me."

We also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and then love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end, may God the Father grant us his grace; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

CONSECRATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND RECEPTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: “Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: “Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord is King | #376

THANKSGIVING HYMN

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee | #325

PRAYER

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank you, Lord God the Father, that you have given your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life. We thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, that you have carried in your sacred body all our sins, and by your blood have wiped out all our betrayals. We thank you, Lord the Holy Spirit, that you have created in our hearts true faith, that we don't trust anything for our salvation except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

O God, grant us your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven on the basis of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Open our eyes by your Holy Spirit, that—in the power of our Redeemer's resurrection—we may day by day put off sin and never abandon the Lord Jesus Christ. Keep us in faith until we see him face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



CLOSING PRAYER

P: O Lord, we give you our heartfelt thanks that you have taught us what you want us to believe and to do. Help us, O God, by your Holy Spirit, on the basis of Jesus' work, to keep your Word in pure hearts, so that by that means we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Preacher..... Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad | **Liturgist**..... Vicar Max Kerr
Organist Karen Merseth | **Accompanist**..... Emily Bredeson
Pianist..... Johnny Moldstad



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