

Worship Guide March 28, 2021

On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed Him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before Him led to self-giving, suffering and death. Today we greet Him as our king, although we know His crown is thorns and His throne a cross. We follow Him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by the dark road of suffering and death.



PALM SUNDAY

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's Paschal mystery.

C: The story of our salvation!

P: The prophecy must be fulfilled.

C: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: "See your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

C: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"
The crowds replied,

C: "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest."

FIRST HYMN: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

CW 131

(Melody: Christian Worship 131, Text: LW 102)

**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.**

**The company of angels is praising You on high,
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.
The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present.**

**To You before Your Passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
As You received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King.**



PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

P: Holy God, as we remember Your Son's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we confess that all too often we have been part of the crowd. When things go our way ...

C: we believe our lives are good because we worked hard.

P: When things do not go our way ...

C: we blame others for our troubles.

P: God, help us to take responsibility ...

C: not only for our own lives, but for the lives of our neighbors.

P: Forgive us when we have forgotten Your commandments and have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves, but instead have judged others, believing them not worthy of our help or our compassion.

C: Forgive us of our faults, and renew in us a sense of Your love and mercy.

P: Guide us in ways we might live out Your commandments more fully in our lives.

C: Guide us as the body of Christ to be your hands and feet. In your Son's precious name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: Even on the cross, Jesus cried out for forgiveness. In His name and by His command I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY

P: Lift up your heads, you gates. Lift yourselves up, you ancient doors,

C: and the King of Glory will come in.

P: Who is this King of Glory?

C: The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

P: Lift up your heads, you gates. Lift up, you ancient doors,

C: and the King of Glory will come in.

P: Who is he, this King of Glory?

C: The LORD of Armies—he is the King of Glory.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Pastor)

Hold us close, loving God, for in this week as we see your shadows and suffering, we also see our own. Comfort us so that we may find your grace as we look to your passion. Let us know your comforting hope in the midst of your anguish. Let us feel your forgiveness when we betray, deny and run away. Walk with us through the valleys and shadows until we come face to face with the radiant joy of the Risen Christ. Bring us to your Easter. We ask this in Jesus' name, for as Triune God you rule now and forever,

C: Amen



FIRST LESSON: ZECHARIAH 9:9, 10

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses 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.

(Ride On. Ride On in Majesty CW 133)

**♪ Ride on ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue your road,
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, your triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.**

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became 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 confess that Jesus Christ

is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Ride On. Ride On in Majesty CW 133)

**♪ Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
To see th'approaching sacrifice.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Your last and fiercest strife is nigh.
The Father on his sapphire throne
Awaits his own anointed Son.**

SERMON TEXT: Mark 11: 1-10

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'" They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest!"

Matthew 26:41 "Watch and pray that you do not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak."

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

SERMON RESPONSE:

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

CW 130

**♪ 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 saints and angels 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 royal presence eternally rejoice.**

PRAYERS:

Pastor: O mighty yet humble Lord, You sent forth Your Son as one of us in flesh and blood to bear the burden of our sin. We give You thanks that He came of His own will to meet the cross where our salvation would be won. We rejoice to add our voices to the crowds who honor Him with hosannas and thanksgiving. Make us of one mind with our King, that what we have received from His humility even to death, we might show forth in witness and service to the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven; give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

CLOSING RESPONSE:

P: The time has come. Jerusalem lies before Him.

C: Blessed is he...

P: The prophecy must be fulfilled.

C: who comes in the name of the Lord.

P: The Triumph is not in shouts

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The triumph is in his agony of body and spirit about to come.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

P: The cross awaits Jesus.

C: who comes in the name of the Lord.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN:

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

CW 100

**♪ A lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
Our guilt and evil bearing.
And laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden slaring.
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer,
Bears shame and stripes and wounds and death,
Anguish and mockery and says,
“Willing all this I suffer.”**

**From morn till eve, in all I do,
I'll praise you Christ, my treasure.
To sacrifice myself for you
Shall be my aim and pleasure.
My stream of life shall ever be
A current flowing ceaselessly,
Your constant praise outpouring.
I'll treasure in my memory,
O Lord, all you have done for me,
Your gracious love adoring.**

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS