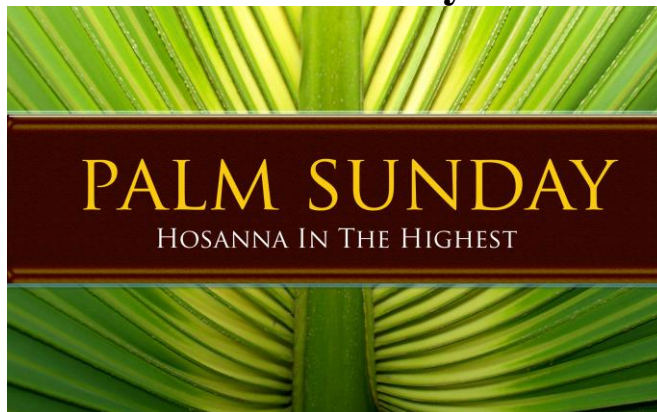


Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday



WELCOME TO ALL who have come to worship on this Passion Sunday. As we picture our Lord riding into Jerusalem, we see into his near future; his last supper with the disciples; his suffering and death on the cross. But beyond that, we see the empty tomb which proves Christ's triumph over death for us. Let us recall these things as we go about our lives this Holy Week.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Avon Lake, Ohio 44012

440-933-6263

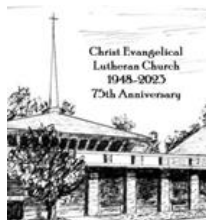
celc.mainoffice@gmail.com www.christlutheranavonlake.org

Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick

Sanctuary and Bell Choirs: Johanna Markko



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Our Service This Morning Begins In the Gathering Area

GATHERING

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL LUKE 19:28-40

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ²⁸After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

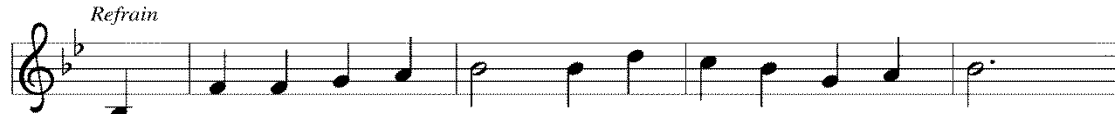
P: Bless these branches and those who carry them.

C: Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation is invited to sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A READING OF THE PASSION NARRATIVE ACCORDING TO MARK 14:1-15:47

Follow along with the insert.

The congregation is invited to stand.

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

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1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: William H. Doane, 1832–1915

NEAR THE CROSS
 7 6 7 6 and refrain

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 OF INTERCESSION

A: Led by Christ in our journey of repentance and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

A: Be with all who wave palm branches and walk the road to the cross. For the mission of the gospel where your church is forgotten, for disciples wrestling with betrayal, for all who seek the Lord, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Renew the waters of the earth and restore us to right relationship with all creation. For villages without access to clean water, for cities with an abundance, for flood lands and drought lands, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: End human trafficking in every nation. For children taken from their families, for men and women without hope, for governments and nonprofits seeking resolutions, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Comfort the afflicted. For those imprisoned, for those waiting on death row, for all overwhelmed by sorrow, and for all who live with disease, chronic pain, and anxiety in this world especially those we name aloud or silently in our hearts... let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Enrich the children and youth of our congregation with an abundance of your Spirit. For each child in our community, for parents and guardians, for confirmation mentors and faith formation leaders, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Sustain the weary. For all who mourn, for all who yearn to be with you in paradise, for funeral home staff, for hospital chaplains and grief counselors, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.


DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin. 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.

Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

The congregation is invited to sit.

COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. All who believe that with the bread and the wine we receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are invited to come forward and commune. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor.

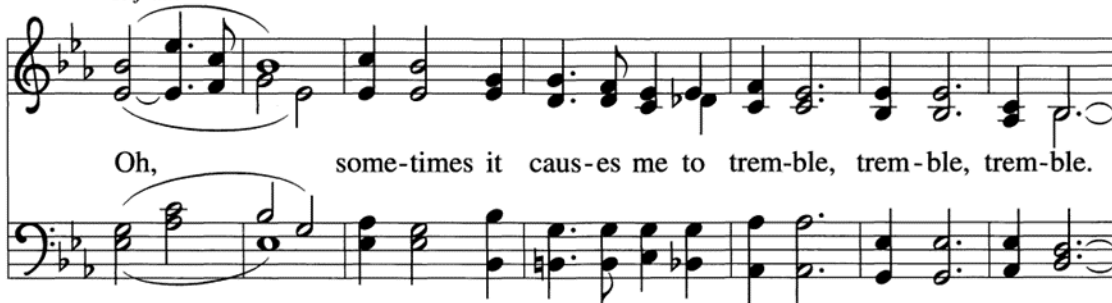
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Were You There

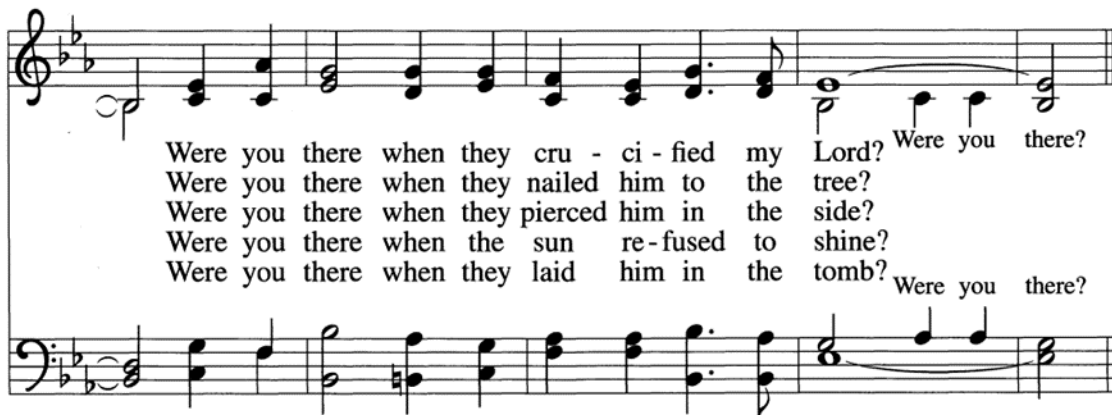
1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: African American spiritual
 Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

WERE YOU THERE
 10 10 14 10

They Crucified My Lord

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1 They cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 2 They nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 3 They pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 4 The blood came stream-in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 5 He hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;



they cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 they nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 they pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 the blood came stream-in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
 he hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;

not a word, not a word, not a word.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: African American spiritual

SUFFERER
 6 10 6 10 9

The congregation is invited to stand.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

(vs 4 is instrumental only)

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There in God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982
 Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950
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 Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

SHADES MOUNTAIN
 11 11 11 5

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

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