

ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

9:00AM
APRIL 2, 2023



Making the
Love of
Christ
Known

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

Doug Meyer
Pastor Emeritus

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Vicar

Blessed

Saying, Blessed be
the King that
cometh in the name
of the Lord: peace
in heaven, and
glory in the highest.

Luke 19:38

Prelude

Welcome /Announcements

Introduction to the Day

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!
Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!
Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!
Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

In the midst of the bustle of Jerusalem at Passover comes a parade into the city—not filled with grandeur and might—but one that has reverberated through the ages. It continues to call us as a church to join with palms of praise and protest. Let us stand and greet the Parade of Jesus that proclaims a kingdom of justice and peace.



Processional Matthew 21:1-11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead 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, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”



Praise Songs

*10,000 Reasons
Fresh Wind
Way Maker*

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

Kids' Praise *At this time children age 3 - grade 4 are now dismissed, at the parent's discretion, to the Octagon.*

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 50:4-9a

This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's obedience in the midst of persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.

⁴The 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.

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

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;

⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?



*The reading is concluded:
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.*

Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54
In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.



*Not printed due to length.
Those unable to remain standing may be seated.*

*The gospel is concluded:
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offering Song



Offering Prayer

Communion Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Distribution of Holy Communion

I Will Rejoice

Passion Gospel Matthew 26: 36-46

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;^[a] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."



Benediction

Now go with confidence
that God is making us whole and holy,
recovering our depth of love for all
and our joy of living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears:
“Take heart.”

And may the Spirit hover, move, and deliver
salve to your soul
and a spring in your step.
Amen.

Closing Song

Trading My Sorrows



