

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING—

“Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love” vs. 1, 3, 5-6 #900

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (Both Services) (Please see below to prepare.)

Preface	p160
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Words of Institution, Lord’s Prayer and Pax Domini	p162
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PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Because Holy Communion is an expression of our oneness in faith, we request that each person desiring to commune with us examine him/herself on the basis of these points of faith:

I believe that:

- + I am a sinner in need of God’s forgiveness.
- + Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death.
- + Jesus Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and
- + The bread and wine I receive are also the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.
- + All my sins are forgiven through this Sacrament.
- + As God enables me, I pledge to thank, praise, serve and obey Him.

Those who hold in common these teachings are invited to join us at the Lord’s Supper. If you are visiting us for the first time, or have questions or reservations about these points of faith, we invite you to speak with the Pastor before the service.

The lighter colored wine is non-alcoholic for those with special needs. Gluten-free wafers are also available on the small table as you approach the railing.

Hymns during Distribution — Please join in singing:

- “Go to Dark Gethsemane” vs. 1-3 #436
- Special Music
- “Drawn to the Cross” #560

Nunc Dimittis p165
Post-Communion Collect p166

THE BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING HYMN – “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” #531

POSTLUDE

Palm Sunday March 29, 2026

WELCOME! “Palm Sunday” is named after the palms which were spread before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. The acclamation of the people, “Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,” clearly reveals that they hailed Jesus as the Messianic King. Yet only days later, our Lord would hear the cry “Crucify!” Thus the Church enters Holy Week — the most important week of the church year.

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THE PRESERVICE MUSIC

PRELUDE- “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” Peace Handbells

OPENING HYMN- “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” (choir and congregation) on screen

✕ THE PREPARATION ✕

THE INTROIT

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

Congregation: We bless You from the house of the Lord.

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

C: that the King of glory may 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, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

C: that the King of glory may come in.

P: Who is this King of Glory?

C: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory!

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

C: We bless you from the house of the Lord.

THE BLESSING OF THE PALM BRANCHES (The congregation raises their palm branches)

P: When we were lost our Savior sought us out, found us, and in His mercy rescued us.

C: Our palms are raised in glory and honor to the One who has sought us out only and especially because He loves us.

P: Let us pray. O God who found us, bless these branches raised in Your name and to Your glory, that they would be used as a way of honoring Your sacrifice and giving You praise. Be present in our praise that the words of mercy You speak to us would resound back to You in shouts of joy and songs of acclaim. In the name of Jesus we pray.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE – “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” #443

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Lord Jesus, on this day when we remember Your entry into Jerusalem as King and Savior, we walk with You to Your cross, where Your righteousness is given to all who believe. Search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We share in a moment of silence for self-examination.

P: With humble hearts, let us pray together.

C: Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Because of our King's mercy, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.

C: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

ANTHEM- "Behold the Lamb"

Peace Choir

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING — Isaiah 50:4-9a, ESV

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a 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 is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING – Philippians 2:5-11, ESV

Pew Bibles p1165

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL INTRODUCTION

P: Christ entered once for all into the holy place, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

C: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

P: He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

C: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

Hebrews 9:12; Philippians 2:8

THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – John 12:12-26 ESV

Pew Bibles p1068

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest!

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. **C: Hosanna in the highest!**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE SERMON HYMN — "Lift High the Cross" refrain, vs. 1-4, refrain

#837

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE — "Lift High the Cross" refrain, vs. 5-6, refrain

#837