

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

"Gathered by Grace - Sent to Serve"

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

If you would like to support the mission of Prince of Peace so that we can continue worship, community outreach, and other ministries, you can give any amount by cash, check, online, through the Give+ app by Vanco, or by sending a text to 833-394-7887 (text your dollar amount and follow the prompts). Thank you for your generosity.

ORDER OF SERVICE *The assembly speaks the bold verses*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION & PRAYER

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD (*Psalm 118:24-29*)

²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷ The Lord is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ **You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;**

you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever. **Amen!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus is coming!

From the mountainside, from the seaside,
from the homes of the rich
and the company of the poor,
from the bedside of those who are sick,
Jesus is coming!

Along dusty roads,
with a ragged band of travelers,
Jesus comes to Jerusalem,
Jesus comes to worship.

Will we greet him with Hosannas?

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray:

We have come to meet you today, Jesus.

We don't know quite what to expect.

We think we know what we need,
how you can meet our needs.

But we come humbly, laying our coats before you.

It's your call.

Reveal to us who you are,
how you are the Savior in our lives,
a Savior in our world today.

Come Lord Jesus!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

Hosanna in the highest!

Gathered here, let each one of us in our hearts step aside from the crowd to realize the treasures of this day as we lay our worship before God who deserves our devotion, and in that devotion let us sing "Hosanna! Welcome to Christ the King!"

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. 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.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*“All Glory, Laud
and Honor”*

#344

Refrain:

**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. (*Refrain*)**

**The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply. (*Refrain*)**

**The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. (*Refrain*)**

**To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. (*Refrain*)**

**Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. (*Refrain*)**

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’”⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?”⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

DWELLING IN THE STORY

HYMN

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

#346

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hear all the tribes hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, your road pursue,
with palms and scattered garments strewed.**

**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.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The hosts of angels in the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die,
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!**

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.

REFLECTION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Here we are, Jesus.

**We find ourselves alongside you in a garden of grief
for the violence so many of this world endure.**

We are tired. We don't know what to do next.

**And so we sleep sometimes,
hoping to awake from a bad dream.**

Forgive us, O God.

**Help us face this hour
knowing you are always here.**

You only ask the same of us . . . to be present, to be awake.

**You entered our story through Jesus,
now help us to enter fully into the story
of your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON & ENTERING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LISTENING FOR THE STORY

Ephesians 6:11-17

“Put on God’s armor so that you can make a stand against the tricks of the devil. We aren’t fighting against human enemies but against rulers, authorities, forces of cosmic darkness, and spiritual powers of evil in the heavens. Therefore, pick up the full armor of God so that you can stand your ground on the evil day and after you have done everything possible to still stand. So stand with the belt of truth around your waist, justice as your breastplate, and put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace. Above all, carry the shield of faith so that you can extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is God’s word.”

HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

#347 (vs. 1-4)

**Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away;
learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall,
view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
learn from him to bear the cross.**

**Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

**Early hasten to the tomb,
where they laid his breathless clay;
all is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.**

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

DWELLING IN THE STORY

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 14:26-52

²⁶ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" ²⁸ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹ Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." ³⁰ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹ But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

³² They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴ And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." ³⁵ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible;

remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”³⁷ He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour?”³⁸ Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”³⁹ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.⁴⁰ And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.⁴¹ He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.”⁴² Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

⁴³ Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders.⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”⁴⁵ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him.⁴⁶ Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.⁴⁷ But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?”⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.”⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.⁵¹ A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him,⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

THE BODY OF CHRIST PRAYS

Congregation sings:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full on his wonderful face

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim

In the light of his wonder and grace.

PRAYER (*inspired by Philippians 2:5-11*)

Congregation responds after each petition: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Were You There"

#353

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

Text: African American spiritual

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JESUS MAFA. *Christ on Gethsemane*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48391>. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr>.

Additional photos by Patty Rasmussen (Prince of Peace Palm Sunday processional) and J. Alex Fluegel (Prince of Peace and Jerusalem, Israel)

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“Gathered by Grace ~ Sent to Serve”

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MISSION STATEMENT

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a community who believes in God’s love, knows Jesus as Savior, and is blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Thankful for these gifts, we gather to pray and praise, explore God’s Word and its meaning for our lives, strengthen each other in our witness, and serve each other and our neighbors in the world.

VISION STATEMENT

Gathered by Grace ~ Sent to serve.
*Core Values: Spirituality, Community,
Grace, Helping Others, Creativity.*