

Service of Prayer and Proclamation

April 5, 2020 • Palm Sunday

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS

Charleston, WV

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

P Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PALM SUNDAY OPENING AND PRAYER

Beloved in Christ: For the five weeks of Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's suffering and death.

Today, together with the whole church, we begin this holy week by welcoming our Messiah. So, like the people of long ago, let us welcome Jesus and follow him to the cross.

P Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!

Palm Sunday Processional Gospel

John 12:12-19

P 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. (Hosanna in the Highest!)

PALM SUNDAY OPENING PRAYER

P Lord, as we remember how Christ the King entered Jerusalem to the sound of joyful shouts, increase our faith and listen to our prayers, so that we may praise You every day, by living always in Him. For He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess

P O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we 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 us, poor, sinful beings.

ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

P 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. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Palm Sunday

P 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. Amen.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 28:14-20

R A reading from Isaiah, the twenty-eighth chapter.

Therefore, hear the word of the LORD, you scoffers, who rule this people in Jerusalem! Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we have an agreement, when the overwhelming whip passes through it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and in falsehood we have taken shelter"; therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.' And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plumb line; and hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and waters will overwhelm the shelter." Then your covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; when the overwhelming scourge passes through, you will be beaten down by it. As often as it passes through it will take you; for morning by morning it will pass through, by day and by night; and it will be sheer terror to understand the message. For the bed is too short to stretch oneself on, and the covering too narrow to wrap oneself in.

R This is the Word of the Lord. (Hosanna in the Highest!)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

R A reading from Ephesians the first chapter.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

R This is the Word of the Lord. (Hosanna in the Highest!)

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 8:14-25

P The Gospel according to St. Mark the eighth chapter.

Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And he [Jesus] cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?" And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" And he looked up and said, "I see people, but they look like trees, walking." Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. (Hosanna in the Highest!)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**What is Baptism?**

Baptism is not simple water only, but it is the water included in God's command and connected with God's Word.

Which is that Word of God?

Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" [Matthew 28:19].

What does Baptism give or profit?

It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" [Mark 16:16].

How can water do such great things?

It is not the water indeed that does them, but the Word of God, which is in and with the water, and faith, which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without the Word of God the water is simple water and not Baptism. But with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul says in Titus chapter three, "He saved us ... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy" [vv. 5–8].

What does such baptizing with water signify?

It signifies that the old Adam in us should, by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts. And also, it shows that a new man should daily come forth and arise, who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans chapter 6, "We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" [v. 4].

APOSTLES' CREED

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the Church, that the Lord would defend her against all her enemies and keep her true to Jesus Christ by the power of Your Word and Spirit:

Gracious Lord, keep Your Church in Your mercy, that she may endure the assaults of the evil one and remain faithful for the sake of those numbered within Your Kingdom and those who have not yet heard the Gospel and been brought to faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all pastors, for all church-work vocations and for all the baptized in their vocation as God's people:

Almighty God, by Your Spirit You have established us as Your Church and granted to us particular vocations within the Church, home and community in which to serve You. Grant to us every gift and blessing needful, that we may honor our calling and serve You to the best of our ability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for Baptism, for the newly baptized, for those being catechized as children and adults, and for those joining our congregation:

Almighty Father, Your Word will not return to You empty but will accomplish Your purpose. Hear us on behalf of those who have heard Your Word, who are being baptized into Christ and joining the fellowship of our congregation, that they may keep the faith with holy and joyful hearts trusting in Christ as their Savior; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the government, for all in authority over us, and for our own lives as citizens and neighbors:

O mighty Lord, You have established the kingdom of the left and hold accountable all those who govern in this and every place. Guide our president; the members of Congress; the governor of this state; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they would serve nobly and wisely, pursuing the path of justice and protecting those least able to protect themselves; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for an end to violence and terror, for those imprisoned, for the troubled in mind, and for those who suffer any afflictions of the body:

Merciful Lord, Your grace is sufficient for all our needs, and You have promised to be the strength of the weary, the hope of those who fear, the healing of the ill, the fullness of those disabled, and the peace of all who are distressed. Hear us on behalf all whom we name in our hearts, that they may be well supplied by Your grace in their time of trouble; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those not yet of the Kingdom, that God would make us bold to speak the faith to them and that hearing, they might believe:

Everlasting Father, it is Your will that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of Your Son by faith. Give to Your Word success and deliver from error all those who live in darkness, that they may walk in the light of the Lord Jesus; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the earth to be fruitful, and for our good use of all the fruits of the earth:

Blessed Lord, You give food to the hungry and provide for all our needs in this mortal life. Grant to us a grateful heart and knowledge to use wisely and well all that You have entrusted to our care; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our unity of doctrine and faith, and for our communion this day upon Christ's body and blood:

Holy Lord, as once Your Son was welcomed with palms and hosannas, help us to welcome Him who comes to us this day in the blessed Sacrament of His body and blood. Guard us against false teaching and help us to discern truth from error, that none may be led astray or lost from the fellowship of Your Son; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord, Jesus, remember us when You come into Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father which 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.

BENEDICTION (Aaronic)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. Amen

DISMISSAL

P Go in Peace; Trust your King! (Thanks be to God!)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The Sacrament of Holy Baptism from Luther's Small Catechism: from Paul Timothy McCain, ed., *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2005).

PRAYER LIST

David Hutchison (Brother of Hutch Hutchison) ill with fever, not sure of cause.

The family of Phyllis Miscovich (sister of Janet Winans) who passed into eternity Thursday morning.

Jeanne K Cochran (friend of Sarah Shaver) who seeks employment.

Linda (Ron Reimert's mother) continues to improve as she awaits results of medical testing.

Lisa and John Nazzarro (friends of Susan Hutchison) received much needed assistance from the VA for John's medical needs.

Mariah (friend of Pastor Jack) suffering from COVID-19

Jackie Elston (friend of several Redeemer members, especially Don and Angie King) was diagnosed with COVID-19, but she is feeling better and recovering at home.

Liz Albitz, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Brodie, Nancy & Tim Calnon, Catherine, Father Chapin, Linda Cooper, Will Davis, Jamie Dickenson, Robbie Dickenson, Doris Gerke, Paula Hammond, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Aaron Harris, Jackie Hartley, Jo Hartley, Johnny, Josephine Care Community in Stanwood, WA, Selena Heise, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Tom Janicki, Linda, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Marie Marcum, Deby, Jeanneane Maxon, Sandy McKinney, Phyllis Miscovich, Bob Mitchell, Lori Nettles, Lisa & John, Noah, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Huntington, Kirsti Patzman, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Thresa Robinson, Donna Ruffatto, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Betsy Shaak, Richard Selmon, Carmella Shaver, St. John's Lutheran Church, Megan Swartz, Taegan Witcher

All diagnosed with Covid-19;

All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers;

All diagnosed with any form of cancer;

All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease.

For our congregation - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.