

Salem Lutheran Church

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MARCH 28, 2021 ~ PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

GATHERING. *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

CALL TO WORSHIP *Pave the Way with Branches* ASC 928

Jesus is coming.
Pave the way with branches.
Jesus is coming. Hosanna. *Repeat*
Hosanna, Jesus is coming.
Hosanna to the Prince of peace. *Repeat*

Additional verses

Release for the captives . . .
Hope for the downtrod . . .
Land for the landless . . .
Debts are forgiven . . .

Text: Bret Hesla, b. 1957

Music: Bret Hesla

Tune Name: Pave the Way

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ACCLAMATION

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

THE GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to Mark 11:1-11 is read: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and 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. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those

who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹Then 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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

BLESSING OF 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.**

OPENING HYMN

All Glory Laud And Honor

ELW 344 verses 1 & 5

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*

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

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

Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

Tune Name: Valet will ich dir geben, St. Theodulph

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.*

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Go To Dark Gethsemane

ELW 347 verses 1 & 3

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.

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.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854
Music: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901
Tune Name Gethsemane, Petra
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APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection

All: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loves us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved.

In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

All: Amen

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSING

Jesus, we believe you are present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We love You above all things and we desire to receive You into our souls. Since we cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace You as You are already there, and because of You we are united with You in death and in life. Never permit us to be separated from You. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

SENDING BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you + that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Beneath The Cross Of Jesus

ELW 338 verses 1 & 3

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.
I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

Tune Name: St. Christopher

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

A Special Thank you to Salem’s choir for providing the voices for today’s hymns. And, an extra thank you to Cathy Hoefler and her music and song leadership.

Palm Sunday Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Patrick Hoefler, son of Cathy and Mark Hoefler

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we’re in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God’s gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

Our Daily Bread ~ Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity. ***We look forward to May 10th for the next casserole pickup.***

Easter Lilies ~ Easter is April 4th and the lilies are ordered. Please contact/email Mike Whitacre to sign-up & how you would like the plants designated. In honor of, In memory of, To the glory of God. Each plant is \$8.

ONLINE DONATIONS ARE OPTIONAL ~ If interested, **CLICK ON THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF SALEM'S WEBSITE TO DONATE!** <http://www.salemjarrettsville.org/> Contact Ned Cockey for more information.
Please know you may continue to send your donations as is comfortable for you.

Salem's Lenten Project ~ Throughout the Lenten season, Salem is working through ELCA World Hunger collecting funds to purchase goats at a cost of \$50 each. *Whatever you are able to donate* will go towards the purchase of a portion of a goat. Please watch the Online Worship Announcements from Mark Hoefler!

Holy Week Service Please RSVP with Pastor
Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm
Easter Resurrection Sunday Services – 9:00am & 11:15am

Good Friday Time of Reflection and Meditation 1:00pm – 3:00pm. This is not a worship service rather it is a quiet time with stations to consider the importance of this day. Stations will be set up in the sanctuary and we will maintain social distancing and wearing masks.

Want to spread encouragement? Let's send notes / cards of care to Charlie Phoebus.

Sterling Care Riverside
C/O Charles Phoebus
1123 Belcamp Garth
Room 102
Belcamp, MD 21017

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Family and friends of Matt Sherman, Family and friends of Jim Bair, Mildred Taylor, Family and Friends of Barb Vogel, Carol Porter, Cindy Miller, Charlie Phoebus, Douglas Porter, Austin Phoebus (military), Deana Vanhart, Faith LeBrun, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Mike, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rember, Steve Sussan, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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