

***Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Arvada, Colorado***

Palm Sunday Family Devotion in Absence

***Palm Sunday - April 5, 2020
Lutheran Service Book (LSB)***

OPENING HYMN *LSB 441 "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

INTROIT *Psalm 22:1, 7-8, 11, 19, 21*

But you, O LORD, do not be far off!

O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

Save me from the mouth of the lion!

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

All who see me mock me;

they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

"He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;

let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

Be not far from me, for trouble is near,

and there is none to help.

But you, O LORD, do not be far off!

O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

Save me from the mouth of the lion!

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

OLD TESTAMENT *Zechariah 9:9-12*

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule

shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. (ESV)

GRADUAL *Psalm 73:1, 23b-24*

You hold my right hand.

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

Truly God is good to Israel,

to those who are pure in heart.

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:5-11*

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (ESV)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 12:12-19*

¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ 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!” ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵ “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!” ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.” (ESV)

SERMON HYMN *LSB 442 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”*

SERMON

Zechariah had prophesied in the Old Testament that the promised Messiah, the Christ, would come. Furthermore, he proclaimed the Messiah as the promised King of Israel who would not ride in on a battle horse to conquer his enemies, but rather as a humble king riding on a donkey’s colt. So, when the crowds heard that Jesus was coming into Jerusalem and that he was riding on a donkey’s colt, they recognized him as the long-anticipated Messiah and hailed him as their king. They took palm branches and went out to welcome him, crying out, singing out from Psalm 118, “Hosanna!” Save us now! “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!” The prophecy was fulfilled. The Messiah, the Christ, had come.

But just a few days later, one of Jesus’ closest friends and companions would plot with the religious leaders to betray him. They would arrest him and put him on trial. They would beat him

and manipulate the crowds to turn against him. The crowds who, just a few days before on Palm Sunday, would cry out once more – not in praise – but “crucify him, crucify him!” He would be crucified, die, and be buried; but that would not be the end of him, as we shall hear next Sunday. This holy week is the most intense week in Jesus’ life. For that reason, we commemorate and participate together with him through the Scripture readings appointed for this holy week in the suffering, death, and burial of Christ Jesus. Through the power of our Holy Baptism, we die with and in Christ to our sins, are buried with him and his Sabbath rest in the tomb, and we rise with him unto eternal life and a new way of life.

It is fitting that the words of Psalm 118 that the crowds sang out on that first Palm Sunday have made their way into the Communion liturgy. Like them, we hail Christ as our king, the King of the New Israel, the Church. We cry out “Hosanna!” Save us now! Save us from our sins. “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” And he does. He saves us by feeding us his true Body and his true Blood, given and poured out on the cross for the forgiveness of all of our sins. Each Sunday as we sing the Sanctus to the Holy Father, Holy Son, and Holy Spirit we are celebrating Palm Sunday all over again, together with the angels and the archangels and with all the company of heaven. Amen!

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER HYMN *LSB 343 “Prepare the Royal Highway”*

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

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 inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *LSB 444 “No Tramp of Soldiers’ Marching Feet”*

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:12-25;
John 20:1-18.

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