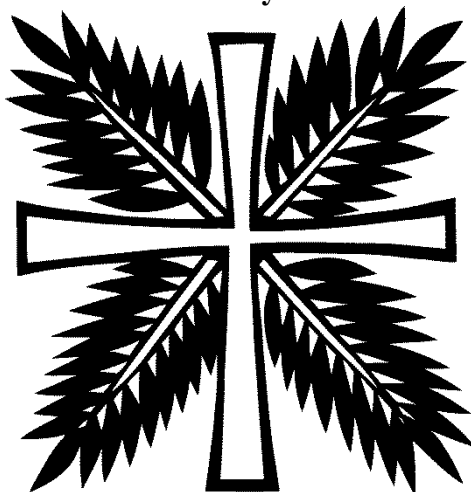


Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin
April 9, 2017 8:15 am and 10:30 am
Palm Sunday Year A



Gathering

We begin worship in the Narthex. All are invited to participate in procession.

Acclamation

The presiding minister begins (repeated three times):

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Processional Gospel:

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 21.1-11

Page 802 in the black pew Bible

Pastor: This is the gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of Palms

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Pastor: 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.**

Procession

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: *Prepare the Royal Highway

#264

- 1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

- Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!
- 2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*
- 3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

All: Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Word

Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a

Page 594 in the black pew Bible

Psalm 31.9-16

⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;

when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;

I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;

they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.

Page 3

* *Symbol indicates a time when the congregation stands*

I have said, “You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand;

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up-on your servant;

save me in your steadfast love.”

Sermon

Hymn: *My Song is Love Unknown (to the tune, Rhosymedre)*

1. My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,
Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
2. He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow:
The world that was his own would not its Savior know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!
Who at my need his life did spend!
3. Sometimes we strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to our king.
Then ‘crucify!’ is all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
And for his death we thirst and cry.
4. We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a way,
A murderer to save, the prince of life to slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes that he his foes from thence might free
That he his foes from thence might free.
5. Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend
I all my days could gladly spend.

***Reading: Philippians 2.5-11**

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

***Prayers**

Pastor: Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

From the Assembly: Redeeming God, your church proclaims your gospel of truth and courage. Gather your children together to share in the promise of Christ.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

From the Assembly: Hosanna, Son of David. Lead your children to care for your good creation and all its inhabitants: lands, waters, plants, and all living creatures.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

From the Assembly: Soften the hearts of political leaders who ignore or deny suffering, struggle, and injustice. Lift up leaders who seek your will for the sake of their people.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

From the Assembly: Bring companionship to those who feel abandoned, comfort to those in pain, hope to those in despair, and healing to all in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

From the Assembly: Walk with this community as we remember your life-giving passion and death. Send us forth burning with desire to share your word with a hurting world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

From the Assembly: We remember those who were imprisoned or martyred for their faith (*especially the theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer*) and give thanks for their bold confession and witness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

Meal

Offering *Proverbs 22:26-27 Do not be a man who strikes hands in pledge or puts up security for debts; if you lack the means to pay, your very bed will be snatched from under you.*

***Offertory: We Give Thee But Thine Own**

#686

***Offering Prayer**

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

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***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God**

page 181

***Lord's Prayer**

page 182

Communion

Hymns During Communion: #336, 481, 485

***Prayer After Communion**

O God, we thank you for gathering and feeding us as a mother hen embraces her young. Release us now to go on our way in these forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing**

The blessing of God Almighty, the wisdom and power of ☩ Christ Jesus, and the light of the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

#346

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Needed to meet budgeted mission - \$7,065.33

Simply Giving for 4/2 – 4/8 - \$4,595.50

Attendance March 26 - 8:15 am - 122

Wednesday, April 5 - 130

Weekly Giving for April 9 – \$5,352.55

Total Given – \$9,948.05

10:30 am – 100 Wednesday, March 29 – 110 and \$283.10