

Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

Welcome to Palm Sunday worship at Cross of Glory! We are so grateful and excited for the opportunity to gather together again in-person after having been physically apart for over a year. Because the pandemic is not yet behind us and some members still have underlying health conditions and concerns, there are some temporary changes in our liturgy, as well as a variety of new protocols in our in-person worship service. These changes are intended for the sake of the shared health of our community, particularly the most vulnerable among us. As we learn and adapt to this next chapter of our life together, we're grateful for your understanding, grace, and care. For more information about church life under Level 3 of our Covid Response Plan, please refer to the congregational letter sent out on March 17 (also available on our website), and don't hesitate to reach out to the Covid-19 Task Force with any questions or concerns. Even with the new protocols, we give God thanks for the opportunity to gather for worship in new ways, and we trust in the Spirit to guide us!

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP: A RITUAL OF REENTRY

Leader: Today we commemorate and celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.

All: Today we commemorate and celebrate our entrance into our church building.

L: As Jesus entered Jerusalem, he passed the Mount of Olives, a cemetery where members of his community were buried.

A: As we enter our sanctuary, we remember all those in our own community who have died during the pandemic, and all that has been buried during this time apart.

L: People gathered to glimpse Jesus--young and old, rich and poor, weary and ready.

A: We gather to glimpse Jesus--young and old, rich and poor, weary and ready.

L: Jesus' friends accompanied him on the road.

A: We give thanks for our friends today--those gathered in-person, and those joining us remotely.

L: The crowds waved their palms and shouted "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

A: We wave our palms and shout "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

L: Look around! Jesus is here. So come, let us worship.

A: Look around! Jesus is here. Hosanna in the highest!

OPENING HYMN & PROCESSIONAL OF PALMS All Glory, Laud and Honor

Out of care for those worshipping with us who may be at higher-risk, there is no congregational singing at this time. We invite you to listen to the gift of music shared by our worship leaders, to follow along with the lyrics, to wave your palms, and to join us in singing, not with your voice but with your heads and your hearts!

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

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

1 You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. **Refrain**

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

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us take a moment of silence to confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another...

Merciful God, **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 and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray together...

Jesus our Lord, **as we journey together this Holy Week, give us faith to follow in your footsteps. Give us courage to walk as you walked. Give us company for the journey. And enliven us with your presence each step of the way. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
'His steadfast love endures forever.'

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.
21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
23 This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC The Gentle Healer Worship Team

Please join us in singing along not with your voice but with your head and your heart!

The Gentle Healer came into our town today.
He touched blind eyes and the darkness left to stay.
But more than the blindness, He took their sins away.
The Gentle Healer came into our town today.

The Gentle Healer came into our town today.
He spoke one word, that was all He had to say.
And the One who had died just rose up straight away.
The Gentle Healer came into our town today.

Oh He seems like just an ordinary man,
With dirty feet and rough, but gentle hands.
But the words He says are hard to understand.
And yet He seems like just an ordinary man.

The Gentle Healer, He left our town today.
I just looked around and found He'd gone away.
Some folks from town who followed Him, they say
The Gentle Healer is the Truth, the Life, the Way.
The Gentle Healer is the Truth, the Life, the Way.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 11:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he 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!

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Ali Tranvik

HYMN OF THE DAY Be Thou My Vision

Please join us in singing along not with your voice but with your head and your heart!

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| <p>1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.</p> | <p>2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward,
O Pow'r of my pow'r.</p> |
| <p>4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.</p> | |

CONFESSION OF FAITH 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.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Looking around to the joys and concerns of your people, let us pray for the church, world, and all those in need...

Gracious God, in Jesus you came among us not as a sovereign king but as a poor man riding a humble donkey. Lead us in your subversive ways of humility, truth, and love, looking not ahead to where we are going, but around to those alongside us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Jesus' procession confronted the powers of this world. Guide us in our shared political life, that we might have the courage to confront practices that exploit the lowly, and work to shape communities guided by justice and peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In creation, life springs from death. As the ground thaws and weather warms, redeem all your creation awaiting resurrection and new growth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As we remember your death this week, we ask that you abide with those who are suffering or facing death. We pray especially for the loved ones of those who died in recent shootings in Atlanta and in Boulder, and for all the members of our CoG community in special need of your loving care: Gil Hartlage, Mavis Wold, Vicky Jacobson, Jeannie Kuzmich, Brenda Edstrom, Bill Bailey, Theo Smith, and other loved ones in our community: Trevor, Kevin, Eva, Allison, and Rick. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust all our prayers, spoken and silent, to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *O God, 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.

CLOSING HYMN **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

Please join us in singing along not with your voice but with your head and your heart!

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, walk with Jesus. **Thanks be to God!**

Thanks for waiting in your seats until an usher comes to dismiss you!

POSTLUDE

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Lead Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik

Pianist, vocalist, worship team director: Mark Trease

Vocalist, choir director: Keith Williams

Lector & worship team vocalist: Kim Jacobson

Technical directors: Ryan Bailey, Mike Edstrom, and Erik Haugland

Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

OFFERING

Thanks for supporting God's work here at Cross of Glory! During Level 3 of our Covid-19 Response Plan, we will not be passing around offering plates in an effort to minimize contact. Instead, offering plates are located on the table in the narthex, where you can place your offering upon entering or exiting the sanctuary. Alternatively, online gifts can be made through our secure giving page accessed through the "Give" button at www.crossofglory.us . Thank you for your generosity!

Congregational Support as of 2/28/2021

Annual Budget: \$230,000.00

Year to Date Budgeted: \$38,666.70

Year to Date Received: \$50,977.98

Difference: \$12,311.28

2021 Holy Week Schedule

- **Palm Sunday, March 28** - In-person worship and living-streaming to Zoom offered at 9:30 am. Recorded service will be posted online to follow.
- **Maundy Thursday, April 1** - Virtual worship on Zoom at 7 pm with Rev. Cheryl Mathison. Recorded service will be posted online to follow.
- **Good Friday, April 2** - Virtual worship on Zoom at 7 pm led by Wildfire churches. Recorded service will be posted online to follow.
- **Easter Sunday, April 4** - In-person and live-streaming to Zoom offered at 8:30am & 10:30 am. Both services will feature a guest organist. Recorded services will be posted online to follow.

*As long as local Covid-19 case rates continue to decrease as vaccinations increase, we will continue to operate under Level 3, offering an in-person worship option, along with continued virtual options, on future Sundays at 9:30 am.

Community Announcements:

- If you're worshipping in-person, please join us for a brief time of fellowship following today's service outdoors in the parking lot. In the case of bad weather, the Fellowship Hall will remain available for masked and distanced fellowship.
- If you're worshipping with us on Zoom, you are welcome to stick around for Virtual Coffee Hour. This time will not be structured as it has been in recent months. There will be no small groups assigned. Simply stay for fellowship and conversation for as long as you'd like!
- Please reach out to Pastor Ali with any other announcements or pastoral care concerns by email (atranvik@crossofglory.us) or phone (763-533-8602).

Please Note:

With our newly added in-person service option, all bulletin information will be on the screen for the time being. If you prefer to have a written bulletin, please bring the bulletin you have received in the mail with you. We will have a few large print bulletins available for those who need them.

In the coming weeks bulletins will be mailed/emailed on Wednesdays, along with the sermon from the previous Sunday. With the in-person worship option now available, if you feel you no longer need to receive the bulletin by mail/email, please contact Sue in the church office, 763-533-8602, svukelich@crossofglory.us to take you off the weekly mailing list for bulletins. Thank you!