



Palm Sunday / The Sunday of the Passion

Sunday, April 5, 2020

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCLAMATION (*Repeated three times*)

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! **Hosanna in the highest!**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:

MATTHEW 21:1-11

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 21st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵“Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, **“This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”**

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

BLESSING OF PALMS (*Participants are encouraged to gather their own palms from their homes, or print out the palm leaves included in the attachment*).

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**

Let us go forth in peace! **In the name of Christ. Amen**

PROCESSION WITH PALMS (*Participants are encouraged to wave their palms during the hymn*).

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

SEE END OF BULLETIN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Everlasting God,

in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD ~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING (For your own reading)

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:9-16 (Read in unison)

⁹**Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.**

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹**I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.**

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³**For 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.**

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, “You are my God.**

¹⁵**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”**

SECOND READING (For your own 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Amen

GOSPEL: *(Please see attachment)*

MATTHEW 26:1-27:66

Pastor Jenn will narrate the Passion story according to Matthew. You are invited to read aloud the sections that are bolded (Pastor will read them, as well, in case you choose to just listen). If you prefer to read the shorter version of Matthew’s Passion story on your own, it is marked in the attachment for your convenience. As the gospel is quite long, you may remain seated for the reading.

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

THE APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESSION & THE PEACE *(Not included in worship due to length of service. They have been posted separately if you'd like to add them here, or read them another time).*

The Pastor and the Assembly greet each other in the peace of Christ.

OFFERING

This is normally the place in the service where we would collect the offering. We do understand that this pandemic is making many people uneasy, and that finances are a concern for some among us. We do ask that you please remember that our expenses continue, as well, even while we are practicing social distancing; that we still have bills to pay and the day to day costs of running a church to cover. We humbly and prayerfully ask that – if at all possible – you continue to be faithful to your financial commitment to Grace.

THE 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

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world, your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things. Guide the leaders of this and every nation with your wisdom; comfort those in distress; and grant us courage and hope to face the days and weeks ahead; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen** (ELW pp. 76, 84)

SENDING ~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ☩ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

SEE END OF BULLETIN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news!
We will! Thanks be to God!

MINISTERS: All the people of God

PASTOR: Rev. Jennifer M. Kopacz ~ pastorjenn@rocketmail.com

PASTOR’S CELL PHONE: 850-800-7197

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 850-877-5423

CHURCH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Lisa D. Rubin ~ graceluthch@earthlink.net

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Anthony Warrington ~ windkeys@gmail.com

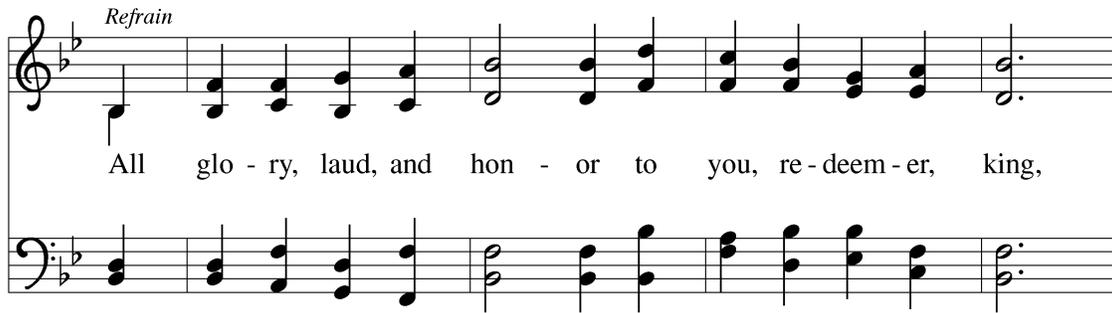
CHANCEL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Leslie Heffner – heffnerl@gmail.com

If you want to make a cross with a palm frond / palm leaf, here is a link to help you:
<https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-fold-a-palm-cross-in-10-easy-steps/>

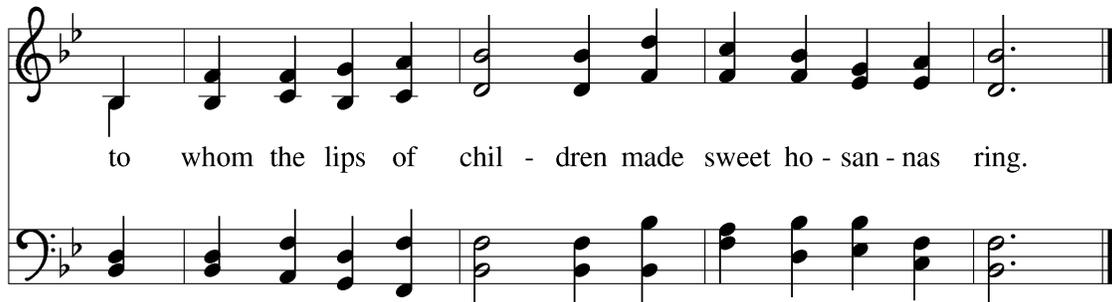
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All Glory, Laud, and Honor

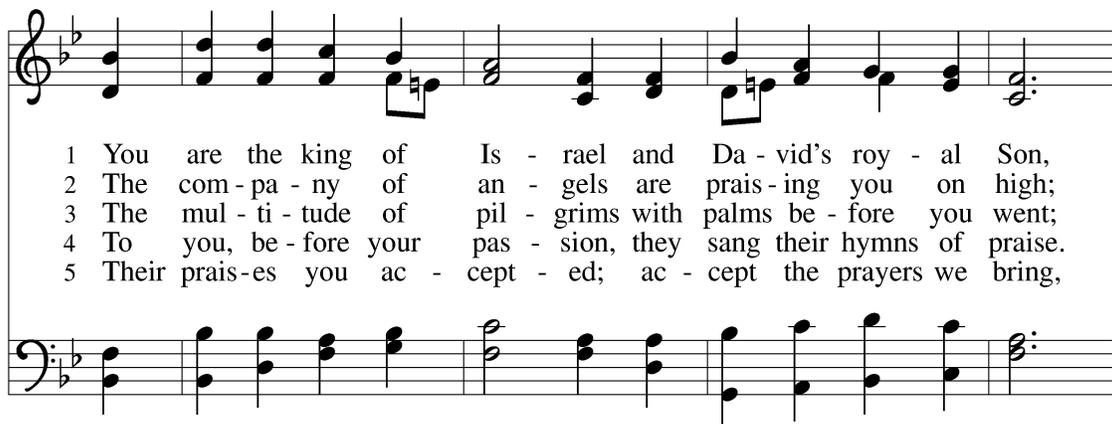
Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

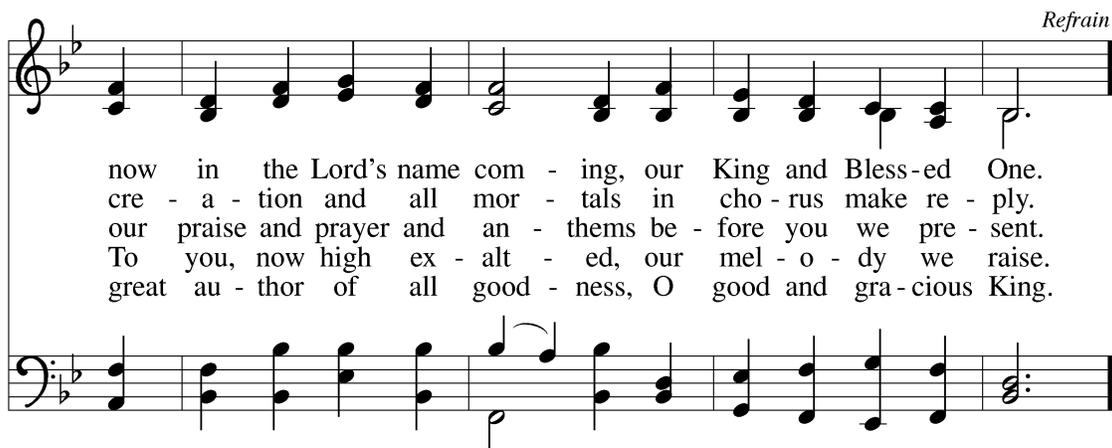


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

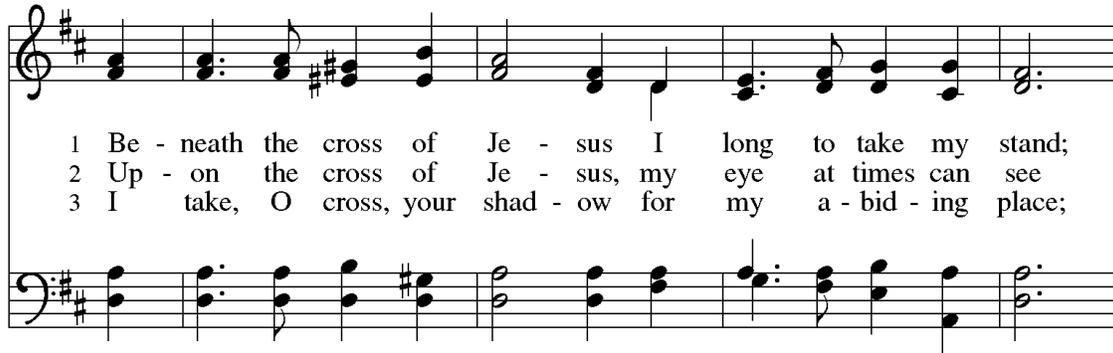
Refrain



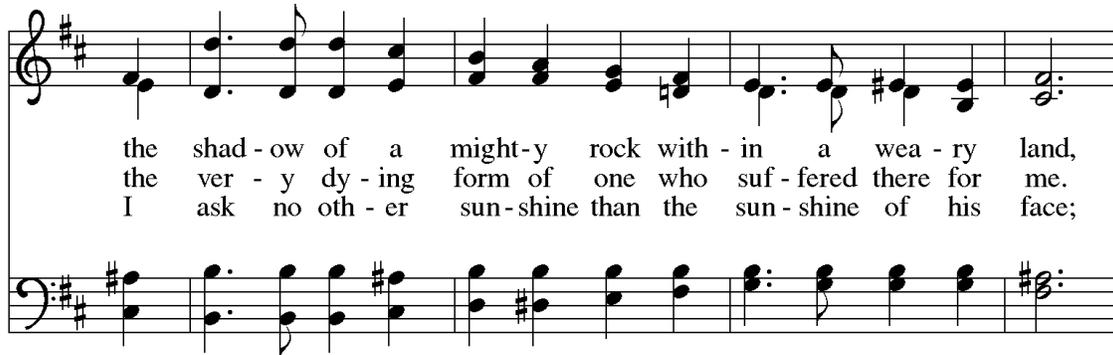
now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



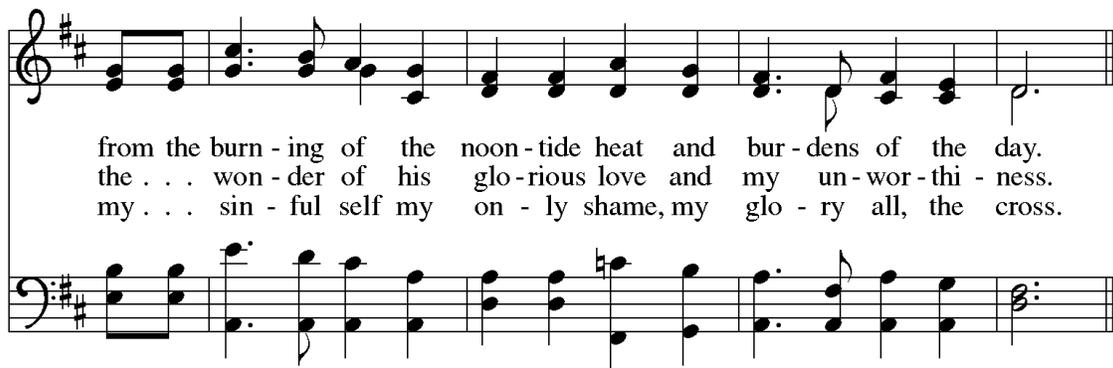
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869
Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927