



Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

9:00 am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study
10:30 am Worship

St. Paul Lutheran Church • 106 Maple St. • Reading, OH 45215
513-821-0987 • mail@stpaulreading.org

Palm Sunday

Prelude

“Into Your Hands” (Psalm 31)

Tony Alonso

Gathering

Please stand as you are able.

Invitation

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

C: Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing of Palms

The people hold their palm branches aloft for the blessing.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn #108 (green hymnal)

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

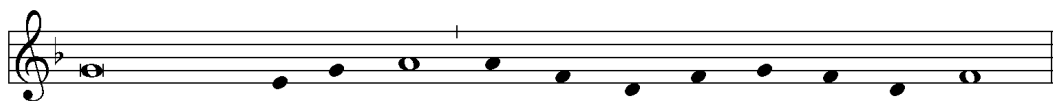
Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

LBW Setting 1



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

Prayer of the Day



P: Let us pray.

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.

C: **Amen.**

The Word

Blessing of the Lector

P: Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart. Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Let us pray.

Bless Carroll, O God of mercy, and bless us as we listen to the words of the scriptures. May they touch our hearts and lead us to return to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

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

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

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

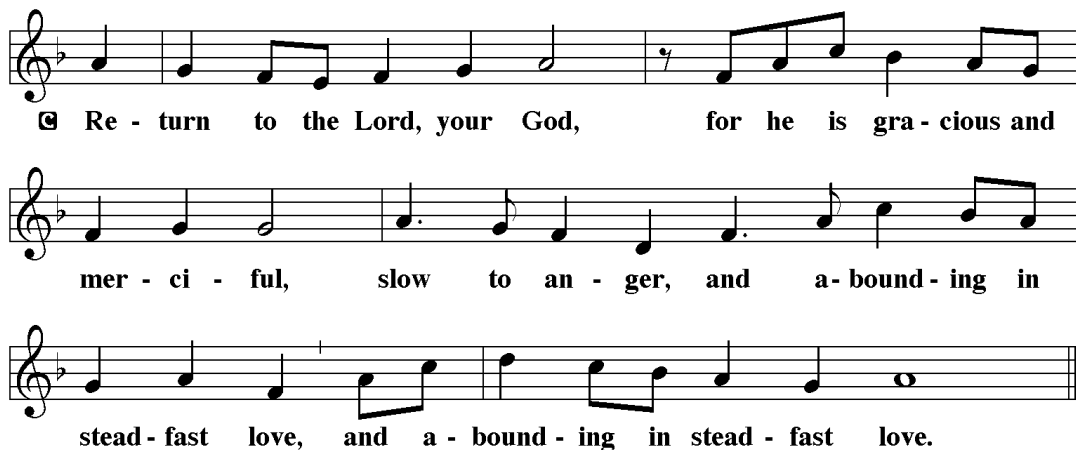
The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Verse

LBW Setting 1



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

LBW Setting 1

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter.



Glo - ry 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. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.

⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
“Hosanna!

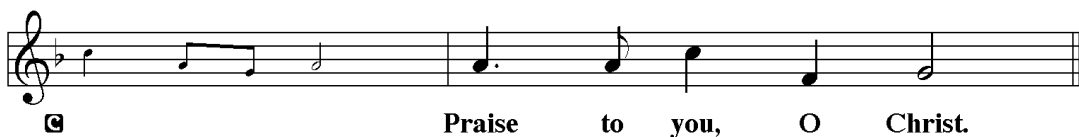
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Silence for reflection and meditation

Hymn of the Day #94 (green hymnal)

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Please stand as you are able.

Affirmation of Baptism: Welcoming a New Member

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for this sister, who the Holy Spirit has called and gathered, one with us in the body of Christ, that we might be sent into the world together. Today she is making public affirmation of her baptism and joining our life and ministry in Christ at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

✠Natalie Burroughs ✠

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished her in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

Address and Questions

P: Our sister in Christ: you have made public profession of your faith. In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in your baptism among God's people in this place?

New Member: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for this sister in her life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in this sister the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit

of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

Welcome

A: Let us welcome this sister in Christ to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Special Music

“Welcome to the Family of Love”

Handt Hanson

Prayers of Intercession

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

After the final petition:

A: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace.

Invitation to Offering

A: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus: empty yourself by giving your offering so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend in heaven and on earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (*Philippians 2:7, 10-11*).

Offering

LBW



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -

it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take

not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the

joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.


C: Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dialogue

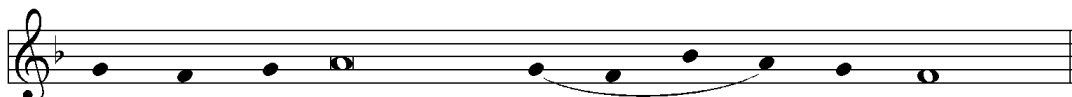
LBW Setting 1



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.



♩ Lift up your hearts. ♪ We lift them to the Lord.



♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



♪ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And

so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

LBW Setting 1



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty of the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is yours, al -
 might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

The Lord's Prayer

P: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Please be seated.

Agnus Dei

LBW Setting 1

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

P: The Body of Christ, broken for you.

The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

Those who wish to commune at the altar rail may either bring forward their individual Communion kit, or receive the wafer and wine/grape juice by intinction (dipping) from the Communion Ministers, when they are directed forward by the usher. Those who wish to commune in their seat with their individual Communion kit may remain seated.

Communion Hymn #92 (green hymnal)

“Were You There”

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle

LBW Setting 1



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo- ple Is - ra - el.



Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev - er. A - men

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Silence for reflection.

Sending

Announcements for God's Mission in the World

Please stand as you are able.

Blessing

LBW Setting 1



Almighty God, Father, † Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever.

A - men

Closing Hymn

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The an - gel
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and
5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs
ar - mies of the sky Look down with sad and
fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on his
pomp ride on to die. Bow your meek head to



sue your road, With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
won - d'ring eyes To see th'ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
sap - phire throne A - waits his own a - noint - ed Son.
mor - tal pain, Then take, O Christ, your power and reign.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Emily Beckering, Pastor

Kris Keith, Music Director

Kate Wollenburg, Organist

Addy Kruse, Assistant Hymn Leader

Carolyn Koehl, French horn

Noah Moorhouse, Assisting Minister

Carroll Mayhugh, Reader

Announcements

Saturday, April 13 is the **WELCA spring gathering** at St. Paul's! Women and men are invited to the Chalk Talk presentation at 11:30 am. It will be a very special devotion with art and meditation about new life in Christ! If you are interested in helping to serve or set up for the brunch, please contact Pastor Emily Beckering.

Copyright Notices

Into Your Hands: Text © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Music by Tony Alonso © 2012 World Library Publications.

My Song Is Love Unknown: Setting © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

Were You There: Arr. by C. Winfred Douglas © 1961 Church Publishing, Inc.

Our Life Together

To reach Pastor directly, please call the pastoral line at 513-760-5884.

If you have requests for the Prayer Chain, or to remove a person from the list, please contact the office at 513-821-0987 or mail@stpaulreading.org.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 24: Palm Sunday & New Member Reception

9 am Sunday School / Adult Bible
Study
10:30 am Worship Service
After worship: Reception

Wednesday, March 27

2:30 pm Bible study

Thursday, March 28

7 pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29

7 pm Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31: Easter Day

9 am Easter Continental Breakfast
10 am Worship Service
After worship: Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday, April 3

2:30 pm Bible study