6th Sunday in Lent-Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

The Season The Church's Lenten worship is muted and quiet. For centuries, the Church has omitted her most jubilant songs of praise during this season of repentance. We will omit the use of "Alleluia" and the Song of Praise to reflect the somber nature of the season. Note, however, that the Sundays are designated as Sunday in Lent, not Sundays of Lent. The Sundays themselves are not considered part of the forty days, but are islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. They are *Islands in the Son!*

The Sunday Hail the King who humbly comes to save us! For 1700 years the Church has celebrated with Hosannas and palm branches this festival that opens Holy Week. The time for Christ's glory had come (Verse of the Day). He would not, however, gain glory in the manner of other kings. Rather, he would humble himself in great acts of love for us, and then the Father would exalt him to the highest place, because he had fulfilled God's mission to save mankind. *Islands in the Son: Our Island King!*

M: The grace of our Lord [+] Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Dear friends in Christ, for five weeks of Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. Today we come together to begin the solemn celebration of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city, to complete his work as our Messiah: to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us remember with devotion his entry that culminated at the empty tomb and follow him with a lively faith. United with him by baptism, we share in his resurrection and new life. Let us pray.

God our Father, we remember how Jesus, before his Passion, entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as king by those who shouted "Hosanna" and spread their clothing and palm branches in his path. Accept our words of praise and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King who came to save, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen



focus of our worship.



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 762–821; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN (76 76 D) Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

M: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest!

M: Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-10

Zechariah tells Jerusalem to rejoice when the messianic King comes to her, because he will have with him the righteousness she needs and the salvation she craves. This King would surpass the glory and power of all Israel's kings before him. King David's rule extended to the River Euphrates at its farthest—but this King's rule would extend from the Euphrates to the very ends of the earth, from sea to sea. His worldwide kingdom would mean the end of war and the advent of peace. All this he would do not with an army, but with his person—not with violence, but with gentleness. Rejoice, daughter of Zion! Your King comes to you. Hail him!

⁹Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

- See, your king comes to you,
 - righteous and victorious,
- lowly and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

 $^{10}\,\mathrm{I}$ will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

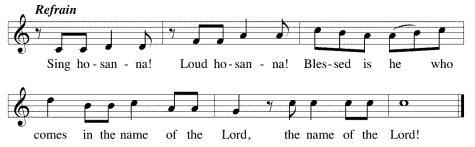
He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24





The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it, the world, and all who <u>live</u> in it; for he founded it up<u>on</u> the seas and established it upon the <u>wa</u>ters.

Who may ascend the hill <u>of</u> the LORD? Who may stand in his <u>ho</u>ly place? He who has clean hands and a <u>pure</u> heart, he will receive blessing from God his <u>Sav</u>ior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you <u>an</u>cient doors, that the King of glory <u>may</u> come in. Who is this King of <u>glo</u>ry? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in <u>bat</u>tle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you <u>an</u>cient doors, that the King of glory <u>may</u> come in. Who is he, this King of <u>glo</u>ry? The LORD Almighty—he is the King of <u>glo</u>ry.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning, is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus is our King, but he came humbly to save us. Though true God, he became man. Though all powerful, he became a servant. Though immortal and eternal, he died. He not only laid aside his glory, but he took our shame upon him. He not only humbled himself, but he died as one who was cursed. Yet in this great humility, he won the peace of forgiveness for us. The King came humbly because he wasn't on the way to a throne in Jerusalem, but to a hill called Golgotha where he would fulfill God's mission and save his people. Therefore, God would give him glory greater than his humiliation—every creature will bow the knee and hail him: Jesus Christ is Lord!

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death-

even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

- ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
- in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

Sing Hosanna! 4K-Grade 4 (8:00) Grade 5-7 (10:30)

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

The great King comes to his city and to his temple! He could have come with all the power and glory of the Son of God. He could have ridden a thunderstorm as his chariot with legions of angels striding beside him and creation itself singing forth the praise of its Maker. But look how he comes: Not on the storm, but on a donkey; not accompanied by heavenly warriors, but by fishermen with a spotty record of faith; not to the sound of creation singing, but to the shouts of fickle pilgrims who cheered him on Sunday but would desert him by Friday. Why did he come so humbly? Because he came not to rule us, but to save us. He came, not to command us, but to invite us. He came not to demand anything from us, but to give everything for us. He comes in the name of the Lord to save us. Hail him!

21 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ "Say to Daughter Zion,

'See, your king comes to you,

gentle and riding on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

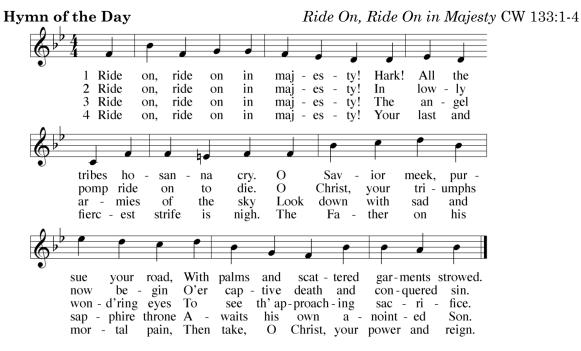
"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"
¹¹ The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LM) *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Sermon

Have The Mindset Of Christ

Philippians 2:5-11

Offering

10:30 worship continues with The Rite of Confirmation

Stand

Prayer of the Church

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.

8:00 a.m. worship continues on page 8 with the prayer before the blessing

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a public profession of the Christian faith, following a period of instruction, by one who has been baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity. It is a rite by which a person is recognized as one who is properly prepared to receive Holy Communion.

Grades 5-7

Those being confirmed shall stand.

Confirmation Vows

Prayer

- **M**: Since it is God alone who enables us both to will and to do his good pleasure, it is right for us, dear friends in Christ, to call on him for these confirmands, that he would graciously complete the good work which he has begun in them. Let us therefore stand and pray.
- M: Gracious Father, you have adopted these brothers and sisters in baptism and anointed them with your Holy Spirit. Renew and strengthen them by that same Spirit so that they may continue to grow in faith and boldly confess you before others. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Move them to faithfully hear your holy Word and joyfully receive your Sacrament that they may again and again be assured of your gracious love and forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Give them the sincere desire to die each day to sin and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Clothe them with the kindness, humility, and patience of Christ and grant that they may live at peace with all the members of Christ's body. Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Protect them from the powers of evil and give them the weapons to fight against the devil. Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Keep them faithful and holy, so that they may inherit eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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.

Confirmation Blessings

M: Your church now invites you to partake of the Sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's table a precious privilege given you by God through his church; receive this sacrament thankfully and often. The almighty and most merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless and keep you.

8:00 a.m. worship continues here

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

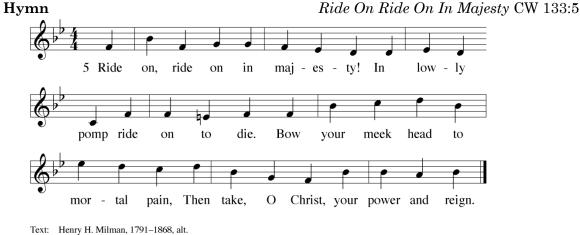
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated



Tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LM) Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

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