

Our mission is to

**Glorify God** 

as we

#### Gather

around the Gospel to help people

Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

# March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday & Confirmation



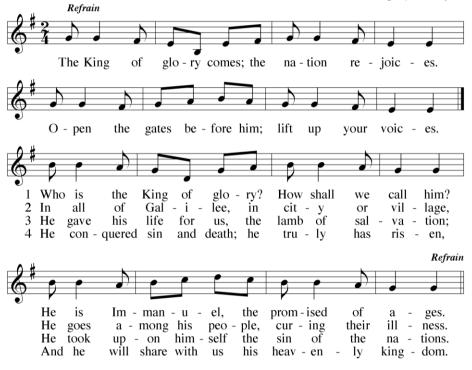
Rethinking Real Strength

Most religions believe in a powerful God. It is assumed that God will use that strength for the benefit of his followers. That is a reasonable assumption, but it begs the question. What is real strength? It is easy to assume that real strength means exerting your will over another by using any means necessary, including force. But this week we see Jesus Christ demonstrate a different kind of strength.

We have come to Holy Week. It begins with Jesus humbly riding a donkey colt straight into the hands of his enemies. As the week progresses, it will appear that Christ's adversaries are the ones in a position of power and Jesus is in a position of weakness. Yet what Christ does this holy week—setting his divine strength aside, being passive in the face of death—would change the world. To do what Christ did for us and our salvation took real strength.

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

## **Opening Hymn**



Text: Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, alt. © 1966, 1985 Willard F. Jabusch (admin. OCP Publications).

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Tune: PROMISED ONE (12 12 with Refrain) Israeli melody, 20th century.

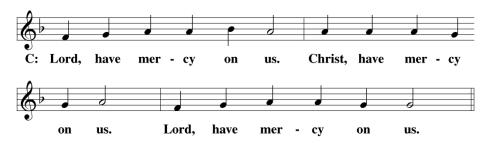
#### Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

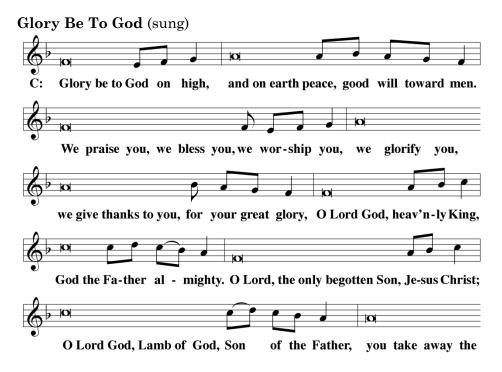


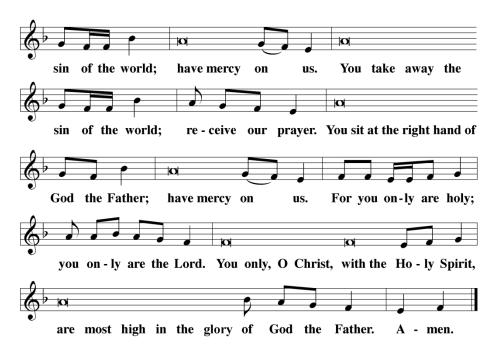
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### C: Amen

#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





# Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm 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.

Be Seated

4k-4<sup>th</sup> Grade (8 am)

Hosanna In the Highest

Blessed is He, blessed is He, Jesus Christ, our King. Blessed is He, blessed is He, lift your voice and sing!

(Refrain) Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is He, blessed is He, welcome Him with song. Blessed is He, blessed is He, wave the festive palms! *Refrain* 

By Ruth Elaine Schram Copyright 2013 Hal Leonard Corp.

## THE WORD

# First Lesson Zechariah 9:9-12

The prophet Zechariah foretold a king who is both infinitely strong and perfectly humble. He would enter Jerusalem riding on the colt of a donkey.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice 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.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

- <sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.
- <sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you. (NIV)

# Psalm of the Day Psalm 24 CW





The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it,\* the world, and all who live in it;

for he founded it upon the seas\* and established it upon the waters.

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?\*
Who may stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a <u>pure</u> heart,\* he will receive blessing from God his <u>Savior</u>.

## Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you <u>ancient doors</u>,\* that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of <u>glory</u>?\*
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you <u>ancient doors</u>,\* that the King of glory <u>may</u> come in.

Who is he, this King of <u>glory</u>?\*

The LORD Almighty—he is the King of <u>glory</u>.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son\* and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,\* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### Refrain

Second Lesson Hebrews 12:1-3

Jesus demonstrated strength by enduring the cross. He did so for the joy set before him: redeeming us from our sin.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. (NIV)

# Verse of the Day

M: The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (John 12:23 cf. NIV)

Stand

Gospel Mark 11:1-10

The almighty Son of God demonstrates real strength by humbly riding into Jerusalem knowing he will soon be put to death.

<sup>1</sup>As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>3</sup> If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly."

<sup>4</sup> They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, <sup>5</sup> some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" <sup>6</sup> They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. <sup>7</sup> When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" [Psalm 118:25,26]

10 "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

#### Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

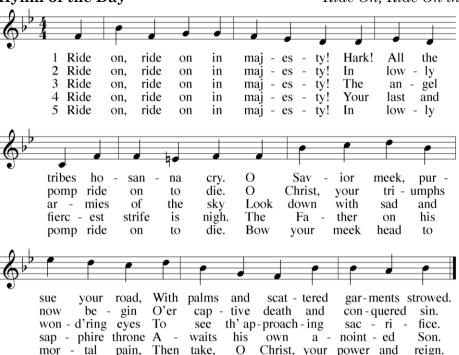
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated



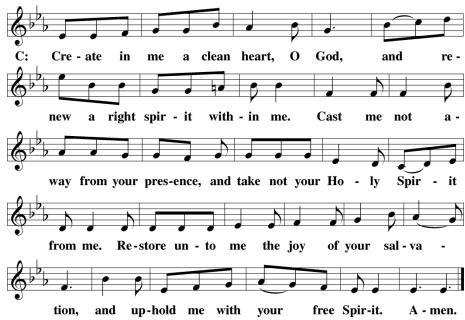
Ride On, Ride On in Majesty CW 133



Sermon Hebrews 12:1-3

Stand

#### Create in Me



Be Seated

Offering

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Stand

(10:30 worship continues with The Rite of Confirmation on page 10)

# 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 11 with The Sacrament)

## 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.

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.

#### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

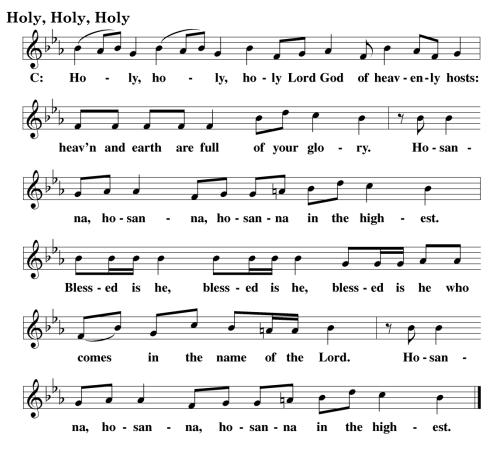
C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

# **Proper Preface**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



#### **Words of Institution**

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen





Be Seated

## **Distribution**

5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (10:30 am)

Teach Me Your Ways

Teach me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your paths. Knit my heart to You that I may fear Your name, I will thank You, O God.

Fill me, O Lord, with Your wisdom, Show me the light of Your truth. Day by day my faith grows stronger in Your word; Guide me in ev'rything I do.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your paths. Knit my heart to You that I may fear Your name, I will thank You, O God.

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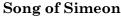


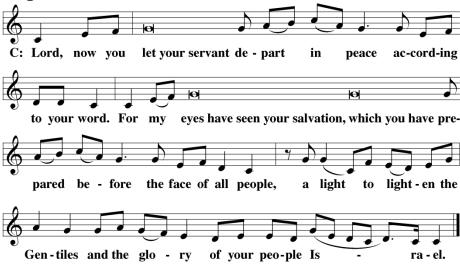
6 Christians, this Lord Jesus
Shall return again
In his Father's glory,
With his angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon his brow,
And our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817-77, abr., alt.

Tune: KING'S WESTON (65 65 D) Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### Stand





M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### Benediction

M: 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

## Hymn

## Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken CW 465:1-3



Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, abr., alt.

Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87.

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#### Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.

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