

THIS IS THE DAY

AS WE GATHER

Today is a very special day. This is true not only because it is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week; today is a very special day because the Word of God is proclaimed in our hearing. In this present hour, in this very house of the Lord, His Word delivers to us the saving work of Jesus. Far from being a detached dispatch from a distant deity, this Word of God is living and active, inspired by the life-giving Spirit who, this very day, brings us to the King who humbled Himself by becoming “obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Philippians 2:8). As we gather again in the presence of our crucified and risen King, may we join with the ancients and say, “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).

PROCESSION OF PALMS — the service begins in the narthex

GREETING

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

C Amen.

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 12:12–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵“Fear not, daughter of Zion;
 behold, your king is coming,
 sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord.

OPENING HYMN “HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA”

#443



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed Mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
 3 “Ho - san - na in the high - est!” That an - cient song we sing;



Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang.
 The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing And chant - ing clear and loud.
 For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav'n our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
 The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
 Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice



The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
 Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.
 And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joyce!

Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–80, alt.

Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

Text and tune: Public domain

When all have arrived at their places, the procession concludes with the following:

BENEDICTUS

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Based on Philippians 2:5–11; Psalm 118:23

- P** Lord Jesus, on this day when we remember Your entry into Jerusalem as King and Savior, we walk with You to Your cross, where Your righteousness is given to all who believe. Search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We take a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

- P** With humble hearts, let us pray together.
- C** **Lord Jesus, the Father’s only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**
- P** You reign over all things and yet humbled Yourself for our salvation.
- C** **We confess that our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is the reason why You entered into this world.**
- P** It is why You passed through the gates of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and why You laid down Your life upon Calvary’s cross on Good Friday—
- C** **to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.**
- P** With hearts that are humble and lives that are grateful, help us to receive Your grace and bow before You in worship,
- C** **confessing that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, shows His mercy to us in the sending of His only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords. The One who entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday was handed over to death upon the cross so that we may be reconciled to the Father and granted His remission, full and free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Because of our King’s mercy, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.
- C** **“This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.”**

WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26

- P** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
- C** **We bless you from the house of the LORD.**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates!
- C** **And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

P Who is this King of glory?
C **The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

P Lift up your heads, O gates!
C **And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

P Who is this King of glory?
C **The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!**

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
C **We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

KYRIE

LSB 204

C **Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross.
C **Rejoicing in Your mercy to us this day, enable us to follow our Savior, walking with Him to His cross and sharing with Him in His resurrection.**

P We pray this in the name of our humble King, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 50:4–9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;

I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a 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 is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 118:19–29

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

C **This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

P I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

C **The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

P This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

C **This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

C **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!**

P We bless you from the house of the LORD.

C **The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us.**

L Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

C **You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.**

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY “ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR”

#442

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 Is 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 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion 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.
O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

CREED

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 118:23

P Because of the Spirit's intercession, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.
C "This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."

P Confident in our Father's mercy, let us come before Him in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, trusting that our prayers will be answered according to His good and gracious will.

Gracious Father, we join with the masses of people, past and present, who enter Your gates with thanksgiving and courts with praise as we begin Holy Week. With humility and faith, we walk with our Savior as He journeys to the cross for our salvation. And so we pray:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Giver of every blessing, You alone are the One who exchanges the rags of our sin for the robe of Your righteousness. Because of the innocent blood of Christ, offered for us on Calvary's tree, we are granted Your cleansing and pardon. By Your grace alone, we, through faith, receive the benefits of Jesus' death and resurrection. As we look to our Savior during this week of His passion:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Your Son is the reason we rejoice this day as we come into Your merciful presence to receive You as You humble Yourself for us, serving us by Your Word and Spirit. With hearts ready to receive and mouths ready to share with others the confession of Your saving name, grant that Jesus be glorified

throughout His Church on earth, here among us in this congregation and wherever His Gospel is proclaimed. We ask You, Father:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Sovereign Lord, all nations will bow down to You on the day of Your glorious return. Until that day of resurrection, we know that You reign over all things in heaven and on earth. Guide the nations of the world to walk in peace and to know the benefits that come from Your hand alone. Bless our local community, our state, and our nation, raising up godly leaders among us and guiding those who lay down their lives for the benefit of their neighbors. As we confess our Savior and King before the world He died to save:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Restorer of the broken and Physician of both soul and body, look with mercy upon those who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, recovering, or awaiting medical procedures. This day we name before You [*names*], that they may experience Your merciful presence, healing, and comfort in their lives. Commending them and ourselves to Your care, we pray:

C help us to trust in Jesus, who died and rose again so we may receive Your righteousness.

P We ask for this grace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You, O Father, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Because of the Father's faithfulness, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.

C "This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud
and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have shown us Your mercy once again this day and have given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ, the humble King who journeys to the cross for our salvation and who calls us to lives that walk with Him by faith. Send Your Holy Spirit to us now that our hearts may be prepared to receive Your good gifts and joyfully remember our Redeemer who comes to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and in the words He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

Psalm 118:23

P Because of our Savior’s grace, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.

C “This is the LORD’S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.”

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

DISTRIBUTION HYMN “A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH”

#438

1 A Lamb goes un-com-plain-ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
3 “Yes, Fa-ther, yes, most will-ing-ly I'll
4 Lord, when Your glo-ry I shall see And

guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al

sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When

pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall

out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in

stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall

yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553
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 Tune: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, who in love and mercy sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. Strengthen us in the certainty of our Savior's saving work that we may rejoice this day and every day because of the faithful love You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26; Psalm 118:23

P Because of Jesus' blessing, the gates of righteousness are opened to us.

C "This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

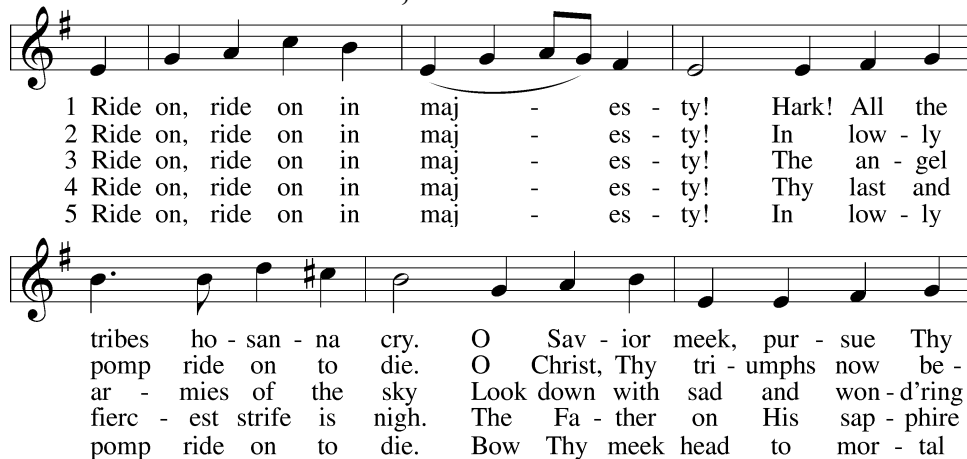
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "RIDE ON, RIDE ON IN MAJESTY"

#967



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! Thy last and
5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur - sue Thy
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, Thy tri - umphs now be -
ar - mies of the sky. Look down with sad and won - d'ring
fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on His sap - phire
pomp ride on to die. Bow Thy meek head to mor - tal



road, With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
throne A - waits His own a - noint - ed Son.
pain, Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

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

Tune: Graham E. George, 1912–93

Text: Public domain

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