**palm sunday- april 10, 2022**

**zion, philipsburg**

**GATHERING**

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

**announcments**

Welcome to worship on this Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022. We continue to have a mixed bag of early spring weather. Soon we will be grumbling that it is too hot!

Today begins our Holy Week services, all are invited to worship during this holiest of times, the services are listed in the bulletin.

I have a special request this morning. As many of you know Barbara Becker has a special birthday tomorrow, she is turning 70. I thought we could sing Happy Birthday to her, and I would share it with her tomorrow when I go for a visit.

Any other announcements?

**ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 256)**

*The presiding minister begins (repeated one or more times):*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**PROCESSIONAL** **GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

28After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
 29When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 30saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” 32So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. 33As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” 34They said, “The Lord needs it.” 35Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 37As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, 38saying,
 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
 Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”
39Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” 40He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**BLESSING OF PALMS (ELW p. 256)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

**PROCESSION*****All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (ELW 344)**

Refrain
All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

1 You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. Refrain

2 The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply. Refrain

3 The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. Refrain

4 To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. Refrain

5 Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. Refrain

**CONCLUSION**

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

**Hosanna in the highest**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 257)**

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: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

A reading from Isaiah.

 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. 9aIt is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:****Philippians 2:5-11**

A reading from Philippians.

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.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY*Prepare the Royal Highway* (ELW 264)**

1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain
Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!

2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain

3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: Refrain

4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: Refrain

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, called to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Make us unflinching servants of the gospel. Deliver us from hardship as we confront the forces of injustice and practice radical compassion. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the earth and all its inhabitants, created in love: Train us to recognize your divine goodness in the world around us. Rouse in us a reverence for creation, that we take greater care of its resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those in positions of authority called to lead with integrity and compassion: Supply them with courage and vulnerability when challenged with new ideas. Deliver them from fear that limits imagination and impedes justice. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For those who suffer, waiting expectantly for mercy and consolation: Accompany those who feel abandoned or betrayed, defend those who are wrongly accused, and embrace those who are incarcerated or detained. Heal those who are ill especially Sarah, Tilly, Ruth, Ted, Summer, Chris, Marsha, Anne, Elaine, Glenda, Phyllis, our members in Long Term Care; Esther, Barbara, Robert and Evelyn, all long-term care homes in outbreak and facing staff shortages, and those we name either out loud or in the silence in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For Christians around the world, preparing this week to journey with Jesus to the cross: Reveal to us once again the earthshaking power of humble service, unmerited forgiveness, and sacrificial love. Lead us all from death to life. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We remember those who have died, who were commended into your hands. Remember us when you come into your kingdom, and prepare a place for each of us with you in paradise. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Take and use what we offer here, come among us,

And show us the way, in the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ☩ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (ELW 338)**

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

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