Palmarum – Sunday of the Passion March 28, 2021



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Palmarum - Sunday of the Passion

with the procession of palms

The liturgy for first day of Holy Week has two parts. It begins with a procession with palms as a dramatic prelude to the Lord's Supper; this memorable ceremony gives the nickname "Palm Sunday" to the day. The service itself is a celebration of the Passion of Jesus Christ, a highlight of which is the reading (or singing) of the passion account of St. Matthew. As a prelude to the reading of the passion, the procession with palms provides an appropriate outburst of joy which does not lose sight of the solemn goal of Jesus' triumphal entry. He rides on to die. The somberness of the passion, which is the focus of Holy Week, is thus framed by the joy of the preparatory procession and by the greater joy of Easter which is its purpose and culmination.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- P Hosanna to the Son of David!
 - C Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.
- P O King of Israel,

C Hosanna in the highest!

P The Lord be with you,

C And with thy Spirit.

Let us pray: Bless us this day, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and grant that what Thy people today bodily perform with these + branches of palm for Thy honor may perfected spiritually through their devotion to the victory over the enemy won by Thy Son Jesus Christ, that they may heartily rejoice in it and ardently love every work of mercy; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **C** Amen.

Palms distributed

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter (ESV):

¹ Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, The Lord needs them, and he will send them at once. ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵ Say to the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden. ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Let us pray: Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, as the crowd at the gate of Jerusalem gathered with palms in their hands to greet Thy dearly beloved Son when He came into His holy city, cause us ever to hail Him as the Son of David who comes in the name of the Lord and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life, that when He comes again we may go forth to greet Him with faithful and steadfast hearts; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen*.

The Congregation turns and faces the Cross of Christ, the promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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 Blessèd One. *Refrain*
- 2 The company of angels Is praising You on high, And we with all creation 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 As You received their praises, Accept the prayers we bring, O Source of ev'ry blessing, Our good and gracious King. *Refrain* Text: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, who hast sent Thy Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility: mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience, and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9–12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? In you our fathers trusted;

they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried and were rescued;

in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

Holy Gospel Matthew 26:1—27:66

P The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh chapters.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

1. The Plot Against Jesus and Jesus Anointed at Bethany (26:1-16)



EVANGELIST: When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples,

Jesus: You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.

EVANGELIST: Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said,

Chief Priests: Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.

EVANGELIST: Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying,

Disciples: Why this waste? For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.

EVANGELIST: But Jesus, aware of this, said to them,

Jesus: Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.

EVANGELIST: Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?

EVANGELIST: And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

2. Preparation for the Passover and Institution of the Lord's Supper (26:17-29)



EVANGELIST: Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

Disciples: Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?

EVANGELIST: He said,

Jesus: Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'

EVANGELIST: And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said,

Jesus: Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.

EVANGELIST: And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another,

Disciples: Is it I, Lord?

EVANGELIST: He answered,

Jesus: He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.

EVANGELIST: Judas, who would betray him, answered,

Judas: Is it I, Rabbi?

EVANGELIST: He said to him,

Jesus: You have said so.

EVANGELIST: Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said,

Jesus: Take, eat; this is my body.

EVANGELIST: And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

EVANGELIST: And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

3. Prediction of Peter's Denial (26:30-35)

EVANGELIST: Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

EVANGELIST: Peter answered him.

Peter: Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.

EVANGELIST: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.

EVANGELIST: Peter said to him,

Peter: Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!

EVANGELIST: And all the disciples said the same.

4. Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane (26:36-46)

EVANGELIST: Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: Sit here, while I go over there and pray.

EVANGELIST: And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them,

Jesus: My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.

EVANGELIST: And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying,

Jesus: My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.

EVANGELIST: And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter,



Jesus: So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

EVANGELIST: Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

EVANGELIST: And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.

5. Judas' Betrayal and the Arrest of Jesus (26:47-56)

EVANGELIST: While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.

EVANGELIST: And he came up to Jesus at once and said,

Judas: Greetings, Rabbi!

EVANGELIST: And he kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Friend, do what you came to do.

EVANGELIST: Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?

EVANGELIST: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.

EVANGELIST: Then all the disciples left him and fled.

6. Jesus before Caiaphas (26:57-68)

EVANGELIST: Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

False Witnesses: This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'

EVANGELIST: And the high priest stood up and said,

High Priest: Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?

EVANGELIST: But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him,

High Priest: I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.

EVANGELIST: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

EVANGELIST: Then the high priest tore his robes and said,

High Priest: He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?

EVANGELIST: They answered,

Council: He deserves death.

EVANGELIST: Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, saying,

Council: Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?

7. Peter's Denial (26:69-75)

EVANGELIST: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said,

Servant Girl: You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

EVANGELIST: But he denied it before them all, saying,

Peter: I do not know what you mean.

EVANGELIST: And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Second Servant Girl: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

EVANGELIST: And again he denied it with an oath:

Peter: I do not know the man.

EVANGELIST: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

Bystander: Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.

EVANGELIST: Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear,

Peter: I do not know the man.

EVANGELIST: And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus,

Jesus: Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.

EVANGELIST: And he went out and wept bitterly.

8. The Death of Judas and Jesus before Pilate (27:1-14)

EVANGELIST: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor. Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying,

Judas: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

EVANGELIST: They said,

Chief Priests: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

EVANGELIST: And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

Chief Priests: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.

EVANGELIST: So they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

EVANGELIST: Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked

him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

EVANGELIST: Jesus said,

Jesus: You have said so.

EVANGELIST: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?

EVANGELIST: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

9. Pilate Sentences Jesus (27:15-26)

EVANGELIST: Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them,



Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?

EVANGELIST: For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's Wife: Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.

EVANGELIST: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

EVANGELIST: And they said,

Crowd: Barabbas.

EVANGELIST: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?

EVANGELIST: They all said, Crowd: Let him be crucified!

EVANGELIST: And he said,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

EVANGELIST: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

EVANGELIST: So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the

crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

EVANGELIST: And all the people answered,

Crowd: His blood be on us and on our children!

EVANGELIST: Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

10. [Please Stand] Jesus Mocked and Crucified (27:27-44)

EVANGELIST: Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying,

Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!

EVANGELIST: And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross.

EVANGELIST: And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying,

Bystanders: You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.

EVANGELIST: So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying,

Chief Priests: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'

EVANGELIST: And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

11. The Death of Jesus (27:45-56)

EVANGELIST: Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

EVANGELIST: that is,

Jesus: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

EVANGELIST: And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said,

Bystanders: This man is calling Elijah.

EVANGELIST: And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

Bystanders: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.

EVANGELIST: And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said,

Centurion: Truly this was the Son of God!

EVANGELIST: There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

12. Jesus' Burial and a Guard Posted (27:57-66)

EVANGELIST: When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

Chief Priests: Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first.

EVANGELIST: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can. EVANGELIST: So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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 \pm of the world to come. Amen.

441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry. O Savior meek, pursue Thy road, With palms and scattered garments strowed.
- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die.
 O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin O'er captive death and conquered sin.
- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty! The angel armies of the sky Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes To see the_approaching sacrifice.
- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.
 The Father on His sapphire throne Awaits His own anointed Son.
- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die. Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain, Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

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Sermon

Offertory LSB~192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

[Offering]

Prayer of the Church

Preface LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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 195

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer LSB 196

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 \(\frac{1}{2}\) from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

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 LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 198

© O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution

334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright? Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, Your lamp within my breast To do in spirit lowly All that may please You best.
- 2 Your Zion strews before You Green boughs and fairest palms: And I too will adore You With joyous songs and psalms. My heart shall bloom forever For You with praises new And from Your name shall never Withhold the honor due.
- I lay in fetters, groaning; You came to set me free. I stood, my shame bemoaning; You came to honor me. A glorious crown You give me, A treasure safe on high That will not fail or leave me As earthly riches fly.
- 4 Love caused Your incarnation; Love brought You down to me. Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty. Oh, love beyond all telling, That led You to embrace In love, all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race.
- Sin's debt, that fearful burden, Cannot His love erase; Your guilt the Lord will pardon And cover by His grace. He comes, for you procuring The peace of sin forgiv'n, His children thus securing Eternal life in heav'n.
- He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes, A light of consolations And blessèd hope to those Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come, Send forth Your beams so cheering, And guide us safely home.

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539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer

- 1 Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure, The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure, The armor of His soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky, Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.
- 2 Christ has our host surrounded With clouds of martyrs bright, Who wave their palms in triumph And fire us for the fight. Then Christ the cross ascended To save a world undone And, suff'ring for the sinful, Our full redemption won.
- 3 Down through the realm of darkness He strode in victory, And at the hour appointed He rose triumphantly. And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne Whence He had ne'er departed, His Father's and His own.
- △4 Glory to God the Father, The unbegotten One, All honor be to Jesus, His sole-begotten Son, And to the Holy Spirit— The perfect Trinity.

 Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.

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634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

- 1 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord; It is our comfort in distress, Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.
- 2 He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood; For us He full atonement made, And all our debt He fully paid.
- 3 That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee: In this His holy Supper here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
- 4 His Word proclaims and we believe That in this Supper we receive His very body, as He said, His very blood for sinners shed.
- 5 We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery And trust this word where life begins: "Given and shed for all your sins."

- 6 They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive, Salvation here will never find— May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest; For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive Your Supper and in You find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest.

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430 My Song Is Love Unknown

- 1 My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow; But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know. But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King. Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries! Yet they at these Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.
- 5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away; A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes That He His foes From thence might free.

- 6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

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Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Thanksgiving LSB~200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

- P Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.
- **P** The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB~202

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction LSB~202

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

- A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of sinners bearing And, laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing; Goes patient on, grows weak and faint, To slaughter led without complaint, That spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mockery, and yet replies, "All this I gladly suffer."
- This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of God, our Savior, Whom God the Father chose to send To gain for us His favor. "Go forth, My Son," the Father said, "And free My children from their dread Of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear, But by Your passion they will share The fruit of Your salvation."
- "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I'll bear what You command Me. My will conforms to Your decree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O wondrous Love, what have You done!
 The Father offers up His Son, Desiring our salvation.
 O Love, how strong You are to save!
 You lay the One into the grave Who built the earth's foundation.
- 4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom's pleasure, Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure! When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought, As Your own bride shall we be brought To stand in joy beside You.

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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PALMARUM / PASSION SUNDAY

The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory – "Behold, your King is coming to you . . . humble and mounted on a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9-12; Matthew 21:1-9). Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross (Philippians 2:5-11). His kingly crown will not be made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. For His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed and bear the name "Barabbas," "son of the Father" (Matthew 26 and 27). It is at the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, that we bow in humble faith. With the centurion who declared, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Matthew 27:54), we are also given to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:11).

The devil was tricked by his own wickedness. He inflicted a torment on the Son of God which was changed into a medicine for all the sons of men. He shed innocent Blood, which then became both the price and the drink which restored the world. He suffered upon Himself the impious hands of those who raged against Him, who while intent on their dreadful crime served the plan of the Redeemer. And such was the tenderness of His love, even for those who put Him to death.

- Leo the Great

The Meaning of *Palmarum* / Passion Sunday

The Sixth Sunday in Lent has been known my two names, *Palmarum* (Palm Sunday), and Passion Sunday. The name *Palmarum* comes from the Latin translation of John 12:13, where the people cut (*palmarum*) palm branches to greet Jesus. The name Passion Sunday comes from the Gospel reading from Saint Matthew's Passion from chapters 26-27.