

# First English Lutheran Church

1311 E. 18<sup>th</sup> St.

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 and 10:45 a.m. non-communion Service

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor  
Bonnie Kabrick, DCE  
Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

Palm Sunday  
March 28, 2021  
Phone: 262-5598

## AS WE GATHER

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem signals the beginning of our observance of Holy Week. The joyful shouts of "Hosanna!" that greeted Jesus as He entered the Holy City soon gave way to a different chant by the people: "Crucify Him; crucify Him!" In today's service, we will observe the stark contrast between these two realities. Our hosannas will ring loud and clear. Very quickly, however, our rejoicing will be silenced as we step back and ponder the great sacrifice that Jesus made on our behalf. The reading of the entire passion account will prepare us for the coming week as we follow our Savior through His suffering and death and finally raise our voices again in praise for His glorious resurrection.

## PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

### PROCESSIONAL PRAYER *(from the back of the sanctuary)*

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 hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*(Please face the processional cross and lift or wave your palm branches during the hymn)*

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN – LSB #442 "All Glory Laud"

#### WELCOME

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

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: And with your spirit.**

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

**C: Hosanna to the Son of David.**

P: Let us go forth in peace

**C: in the name of the Lord.**

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

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** – "Hosanna Hallelujah" Joey Ruden-Tuba, Abbey and Olivia Ruden Soloists

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

*(A time of silence is observed for personal reflection.)*

P: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We bear the original sin that Adam passed on to all humanity.

**C: forgive us, Lord.**

P: We were conceived and born in sin.

**C: forgive us, Lord.**

P: For our sinful and unclean thoughts, words, and deeds,

**C: forgive us, Lord.**

P: For all that we ought to have done and all that we have left undone,

**C: forgive us, Lord.**

P: When we have failed to love You with our whole hearts, and when we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves,

**C: forgive us, Lord.**

P: We justly deserve punishment from You, now and forever,

**C: but we implore You to be merciful to us, for the sake of Jesus, Your Son our Lord. Amen**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for You and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

## HOLY GOSPEL – John 12:12-19 <sup>ESV</sup>

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So 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!" <sup>14</sup>And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, <sup>15</sup>"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" <sup>16</sup>His 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. <sup>17</sup>The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. <sup>18</sup>The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. <sup>19</sup>So 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.**

**HYMN** – LSB #441 vs. 1-3 “Ride On, Ride On”

**OLD TESTAMENT** – Zechariah 9:9, 11-12 <sup>ESV</sup>

Rejoice 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. <sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup> Return 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**

**HYMN** – LSB #441 vs. 4-5 “Ride On, Ride On”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*The service continues with the Service of the Passion.*

*[There is now a dramatic change in the service. A solemn tone begins, and our praises turn to the cross as we hear the people call for Jesus to be crucified.]*

**EPISTLE** – Philippians 2:5-11 <sup>ESV</sup>

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**HYMN** – LSB #436 “Go to Dark Gethsemane”

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

## **SERVICE OF THE PASSION HISTORY**

### **CALVARY {GOLGOTHA, SKULL PLACE}**

P: The soldiers took off the purple robe and put His own clothes on Him. So they took Jesus and led Him out to crucify Him. He was carrying His own cross.

**Men: As they were going out, they found a man from Cyrene by the name of Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus. He was on his way from the country, and as he**

**was about to pass by, they took hold of him, laid the cross on him, and forced him to carry it behind Jesus.**

*Women: A large crowd followed Him. The women in the crowd were beating their breasts and weeping over Him. Jesus turned to them and said,*

P: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not continue to cry over Me; rather, cry over yourselves and your children, because the time is coming when people will say: 'Blessed are the women who could not have children, the wombs that did not bear, and the breasts that did not nurse.' Then people will say to the mountains: 'Fall on us!' and to the hills: 'Cover us!' For if this is done to the green tree, what will be done to a dry one?"

**C: Two others, who were criminals, were also taken away to be executed with Him.**

P: They took Jesus to what was called Place of the Scull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. They tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh and gall.

**C: But, when He tasted it, He refused to drink it.**

**Men: They crucified Him there.**

*Women: At that time they crucified two robbers with Him, one at His right and the other at His left and Jesus in the middle.*

**C: It was nine in the morning when they crucified Him.**

## **Jesus' First Statement From the Cross**

P: Then Jesus said,

**C: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."**

P: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier, throwing dice for them to see what each one should get, and the tunic was left over.

**C: The tunic was without a seam, woven in one piece from top to bottom.**

P: They said to one another,

**C: "Let's not tear it, but let's throw dice and see who gets it."**

P: In this way what Scripture said was fulfilled:

**C: "They divided My clothes among them, and for My garment they threw dice."**

P: So that is what the soldiers did. Then they sat down there and kept watch over Him. Pilate also wrote a notice, the accusation that had been written against Him they placed above His head on the cross. It read:

**C: "This is Jesus From Nazareth—The King of the Jews."**

P: Many Jews read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. Therefore the ruling priests of the Jews told Pilate,

**C: "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but: 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews.'"**"

P: Pilate answered,

**C: "What I have written I have written."**

P: The people who stood there watching. Those who passed by ridiculed Him, shaking their heads and saying,

**C: "Ha! You who are going to tear down the Temple and build it in three days—save Yourself. If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."**

P: In the same way the ruling priests together with the scribes and elders were sneering and made fun of Him among themselves and said,

**C: "He saved others. He cannot save Himself. He should save Himself if He is the Christ whom God has chosen. If He is Israel's King, He should come down from the cross now, and we will believe Him. He has put His trust in God. Let God rescue Him now if He so wishes, for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'"**

P: The soldiers made fun of Him when they went up to Him and offered Him sour wine. They said,

**C: "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself."**

### **Jesus' SECOND Statement From the Cross**

P: In the same way the robbers who were crucified with Him also were insulting Him. One of the criminals who were hanging there was mocking Him:

**C: "Aren't You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"**

P: But the other, warning him, asked,

**C: "Aren't you afraid of God? You are condemned just as He is. Our punishment is just, for we are getting what we deserve for what we've done, but this One has done nothing wrong."**

P: Then he said to Jesus,

**C: "Remember me when You come into Your Kingdom."**

P: Jesus said to him,

**C: "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise."**

### **Jesus' Third Statement From the Cross**

P: Now, His mother and His mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary from Magdala were standing near the cross of Jesus. Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing near. He said to His mother,

**C: "Woman, there is your son!"**

P: Then He said to the disciple,

**C: "There is your mother!"**

P: From that time on this disciple took her into his own home.

## **Remaining Statements From the Cross About Three in the Afternoon**

P: It was about noon when darkness came over the whole land, lasting until three in the afternoon, because the sun stopped shining. About three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" Which means,

**C: "My God, My God, why did you Forsake Me?"**

P: When they heard Him say that, some of those standing nearby said,

**C: "Listen! He is calling Elijah."**

P: After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to have the words of Scripture come true, Jesus said,

**C: "I am thirsty."**

P: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. Immediately one of the men ran, took a sponge, soaked it in sour wine, put it on a hyssop stem, held it to His mouth, and offered Him a drink. The others said,

**C: "Let's see if Elijah comes to save Him."**

P: When Jesus had taken the wine, He said,

**C: "It is finished!"**

P: And Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

**C: "Father! Into Your hands I entrust My spirit."**

P: After He said this, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

### **Events surrounding Jesus' death**

P: Just then the inner curtain in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

**C: The earth shook and the rocks were split.**

**Men: The tombs were opened, and the bodies of many believers were brought back to life.**

*Women: They came out of the tombs after He had risen and went into the Holy City where they appeared to many people.*

P: When the captain who stood facing Jesus saw how He gave up His spirit, he praised God. He said,

**C: "Certainly, this Man was righteous!"**

P: Now when the captain and those watching Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the other things happening, they were terrified. They said,

**C: "Certainly this was the Son of God!"**

P: All His friends, including many women, stood at a distance and watched. Among them were Mary from Magdala and Mary the mother of James the Younger and of Joseph, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee's sons.

**C: They had followed Jesus from Galilee and had come up to Jerusalem with Him.**

P: Since it was the day of preparation and the Jews did not want the bodies to stay on the crosses on the Sabbath, because that Sabbath was an important day, they asked Pilate to have the legs of the men broken and the bodies taken away.

**C: So the soldiers come and broke the legs of the first man.**

**Men: And then of the other who had been crucified with Him.**

P: But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was dead already, they did not break His legs,

*Women: But one of the soldiers stuck a spear into His side, and immediately blood and water came out.*

P: He who saw it has testified about it, and his testimony is true, and he knows he is telling the truth so that you also will believe. In this way what the Scripture said was fulfilled:

**C: "None of His bones shall be broken."**

P: And another Scripture passage says:

**C: "They will look at Him whom they pierced."**

## PRAYERS

### LORD'S PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

**HYMN** – LSB #454 vs. 1-3 "Sing, My Tongue"

## Announcements / Prelude

✠ ✠ VISITORS AND MEMBERS ✠ ✠

Sometime during the service we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God, and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

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