

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Palm Sunday - March 24, 2024  
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**Guided to the Cross – Guided to Humility**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer Concerns**

**Blessing of the Palms**

L: O Lord, God Almighty, bless these palm branches and the people who carry them, as they praise you and glorify your name. In this Holy Week, as we trace the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem, and the events leading to the cross and an empty tomb, remind us through these holy acts, you have opened the door for us to everlasting life.

**C: Amen.**

**Call to Worship**

A: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory?

**C: The Lord, strong and mighty.**

A: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory?

**C: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

A: Behold, your king is coming to you; demonstrating righteous living and bringing us salvation, he comes humbly, mounted on a donkey.

**C: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Processional Hymn - All Glory, Laud and Honor- ELW # 344**

## Invocation

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

**C: Amen.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

L: Almighty God,

**All: we are called to humble ourselves and to serve one another in love, but instead, we become puffed up with pride.**

**We look on others as less important than ourselves.**

**We do not humble ourselves before your Word,  
and we do not walk in the way of love.**

**Have mercy on us and forgive us. Amen.**

L: God has mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus humbled himself, on the cross, suffering in our place the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins. For his sake God forgives us. We are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C: Behold our King has come, righteous and humble, bringing salvation to us. Amen.**

## Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also, with you.**

## Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise - Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross  
ELW #335 vs 2 & 4**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A: Lord Jesus, you are the King of glory, yet you entered Jerusalem in humble majesty, to bring us salvation. During this Holy Week, as we follow your final path to the cross, lead us in humility and meekness. Help us to put the needs of others ahead of our own and to walk in love, forgiving one another as we have been forgiven.

**C: Jesus, humble King, we hail you as our Lord and Savior. You are the King of glory. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

**THE WORD**

**First Reading - Isaiah 50:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>The 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. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I 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. <sup>7</sup>The 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; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 118:1,2;19-29

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”**

<sup>19</sup>Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>**This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**

<sup>21</sup>I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup>**The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

<sup>23</sup>This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup>**This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

<sup>25</sup>Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

<sup>26</sup>**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

<sup>28</sup>**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.**

<sup>29</sup>**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

## Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and 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.**

## Holy Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

\*The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Message

<https://youtu.be/oGXZaRm0o9Y?si=RL-95SykpikDJX-q>

### HYMN OF THE DAY My Song is Love Unknown ELW #343 Vs 1, 2, 4 & 6

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation and a world in need.

*brief silence*

A: Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, conservationists, and gardeners. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds and native plants. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Establish peace and justice among nations, especially in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, and Haiti. Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of mercy, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, or convalescing (especially). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Blessed One, our times are in your hands. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Hymn – O Sacred Head, Now Wounded ELW #351 vss. 1-3**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

A: Merciful God, received the gifts we bring,

**C: ourselves, our time and our possessions.**

A: Through this meal unite us as your body;

**C: shining with the light of your justice and mercy;**

A: for the sake of him who gave himself for us.

**C: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth, as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C: Amen.**

### **\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

**C: You sustained us through our Lenten journey:**

A: continue to strengthen us to hunger for justice,

**C: to make peace, be generous and sing with grateful hearts**

A: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



## **\*BENEDICTION**

L: May God, who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,  
and claimed us as children of the light,  
strengthen us on our journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

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

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN – Beneath the Cross of Jesus - ELW #338**

### **Dismissal**

A: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**