Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry April 13, 2025 – Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday



Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144 info@clcathens.org • www.clchathens.org

Introduction to the day

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

WELCOME

ACCLAMATION

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.

²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "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. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As 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, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He 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

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. Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. Amen.



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

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.**

Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

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 wakenswakens 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. ^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

THE PALMS

CLC CHOIR

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. Word of God, word of life.

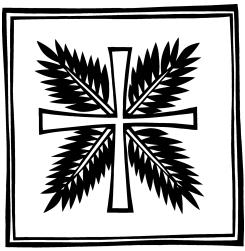
Thanks be to God.

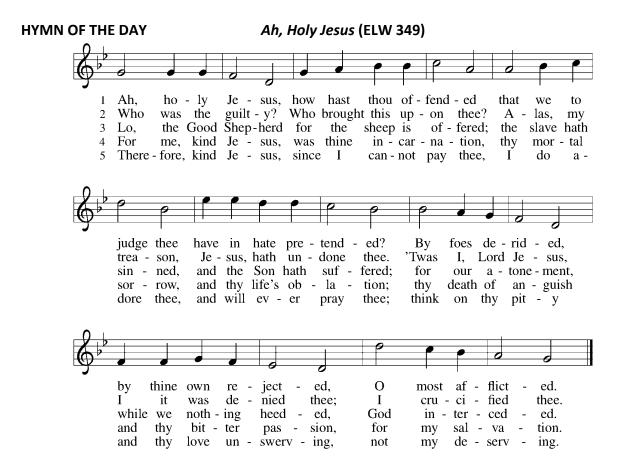
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. **Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above ev'ry name.** *(Phil. 2:8-9)*

GOSPEL: Luke 22:14-23:56

Today's Gospel is presented for your contemplation as we enter Holy Week by Chad Kopenski, Bob Cochran, and Steve Chikosky.





Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As Christ entered Jerusalem, he was greeted as King and Messiah, In this season of learning to turn over our lives to God, who is generous in mercy, we pray with both humility and confidence.

For all those who preach the Gospel, may they be instruments of God's grace and beacons of his love. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who govern will dedicate themselves to justice, peace, and the generous defense of the poor. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For world peace and the end of all of the wars (which are getting too many to count lately) Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those without a home, the hungry, the individuals and families in need, that their need be met. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That nature's gifts will remind us that God desires to renew the face of the earth and that he needs all of us to help. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our hearts will be moved to seek forgiveness and to offer mercy to those who most need to know they are loved. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord**, hear our prayer.

For healing of all those who are sick in body, mind or spirit. For those who grieve, those are are caregivers, those under stress, and those who are lonely. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died. May they celebrate everlasting life in Christ Jesus. Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For any others who need our prayers, who names we share aloud or in the silence of our hearts..... Let us pray to the Lord **Lord, hear our prayer.**

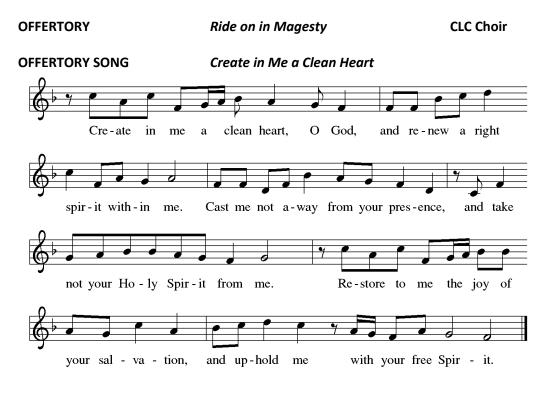
Merciful God, we speak to you who knows our hearts, guide us in the ways of your Son, Jesus, through whom we offer these prayers. **AMEN.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING - THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at <u>https://www.clcathens.org/give</u> There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

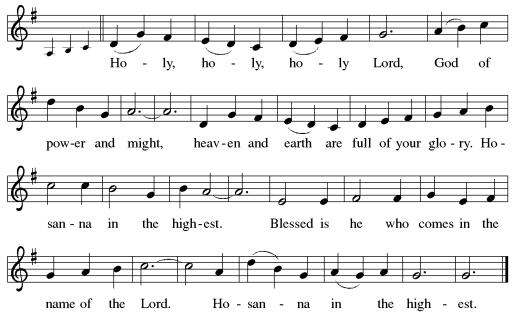
DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [Amen.] Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [Amen.] Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [Amen.]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (ELW 345)



Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt. Music: JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Organist: George Weckman; Choir Director: Christian Yoder; Choir Accompanist: Donnalee Yoder; Pianist: Patricia Cambridge; Asst/Lector: Wanda Weinberg; Livestream: Marilyn Shealy; Greeter: Jeanne Haseley, Ushers: Dan Snoddy, Tammy Thompson; Time with Children: Elyce Friedman; Acolyte: Elizabeth; Tray Server: John Molinaro