

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion

March 24, 2024

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

CREATIVE WORSHIP

As We Gather: Calling A Faithful Pastor

O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the Faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peace Handbell Choir

"Palm Sunday Celebration" – arr. by Dan R. Edwards

OPENING HYMN "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" LSB 443

- 1 Hosanna, loud hosanna,
The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple
The lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises,
The simplest and the best.



2 From Olivet they followed
Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving
And chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
Rode on in lowly state
Nor scorned that little children
Should on His bidding wait.

3 “Hosanna in the highest!”
That ancient song we sing;
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heav’n our King.
Oh, may we ever praise Him
With heart and life and voice
And in His blissful presence
Eternally rejoice!

Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–80, alt. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Today is the beginning of Holy Week. During it we shall recall how our Savior gave His life so that our sins may all be forgiven, and heaven opened to us.

C Even during worship, our minds wander to other concerns.

P These concerns are already known to God. Give them into His loving hands for resolution, but turn your hearts and minds to focus on our Lord’s step-by-step determination to free us from every sin. Confident of

the forgiveness He won through His glorious death and resurrection, let us then admit our sinful condition to Him and to one another.

C I confess to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in my thinking, speaking, and acting. I am mired in sin and incapable of saving myself. Heavenly Father, for Jesus’ sake and because of His sacrifice for us fallen creatures, we beg You to forgive, strengthen, and turn us to Your will so that we may follow our Savior in loving service to You and to one another.

P As a called and ordained servant of Christ, who gave Himself over to death that we might have eternal life, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PSALM

118:19–29

P Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

**C This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

P I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**C The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

P This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**C This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P Save us, we pray, O LORD!
O LORD, we pray, give us success!

C Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

P The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

C You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

KYRIE

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation. Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and

to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

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.

L 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE HYMN *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"* LSB 442

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: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

MESSAGE

“Jesus, The Divine Servant”
Philippians 2:5-11

APOSTLES' CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY “Christ, the Life of All the Giving” LSB 420 (v. 1)

1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving

To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy suff'ings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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.**

HYMN “Praise to You and Adoration” LSB 692

1 Praise to You and adoration,
Blessèd Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.

Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.

- 2 Hold me ever in Your keeping;
Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping
Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You,
And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion,
In Your death and resurrection.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993
Text: Public domain

CLOSING PRAYER

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty” LSB 441*

- 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.

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organist