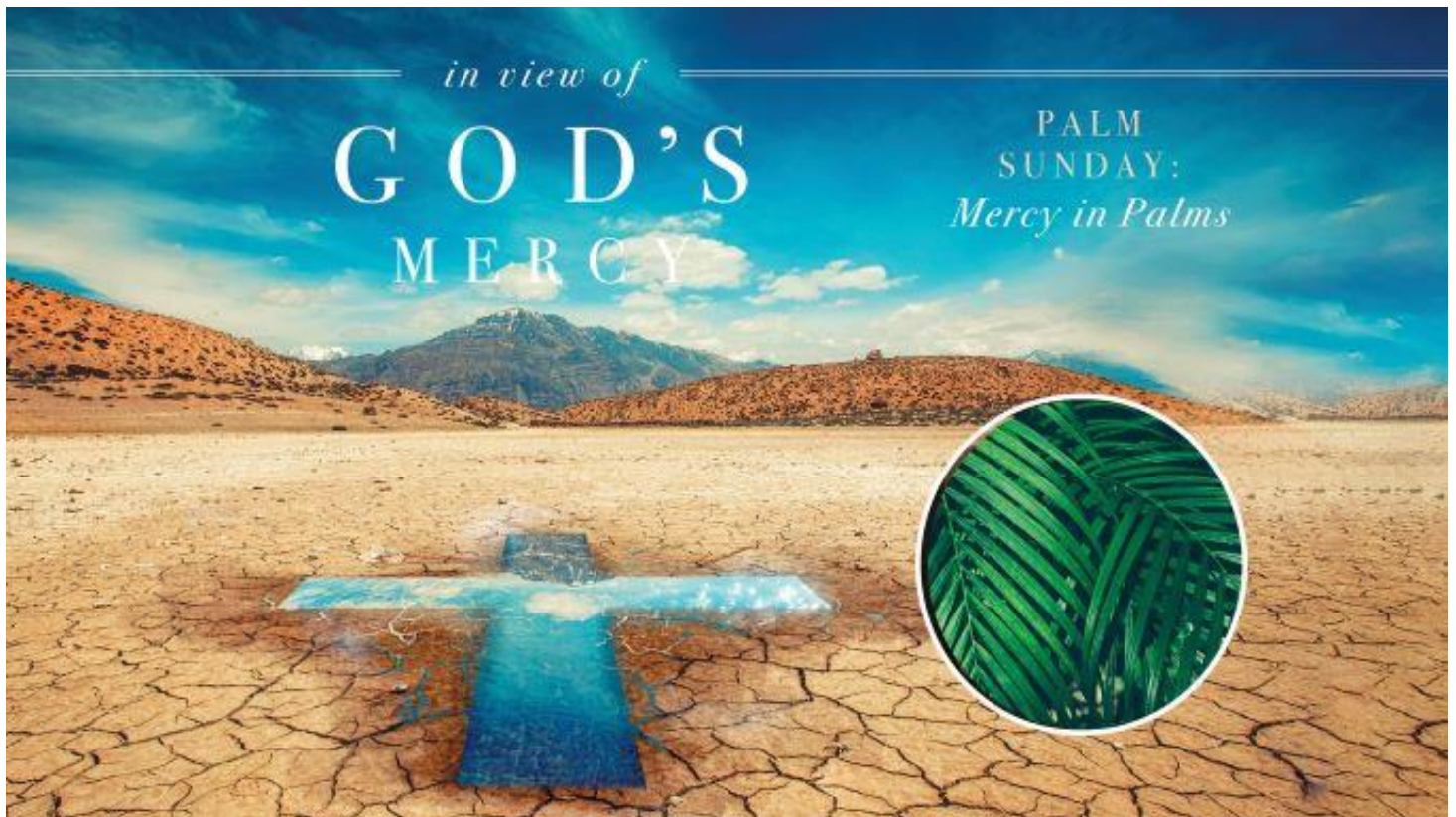


*Palm Sunday*  
*April 2, 2023*



***Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)***  
*"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith,  
while serving others"*

***We Gather For Worship***

**9:00 a.m. Worship**

***Bold type indicates Congregational responses***

*\* Congregation please stand as you are able*

***Prelude***

***Announcements***

***Ringling of the Bell***

***\*Invocation and Call to Worship***

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

**Amen.**

With palm branches in hand, we greet the One who comes to save us from our sin.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

With raised voices, we glorify the Messiah who comes humbly riding on a donkey.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

With jubilant song, we worship the King who comes to rule in righteousness and peace.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

With penitent hearts, we repent before the Lord who is holy and just.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

With soaring spirits, we rejoice in the God of our salvation.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king comes to you sitting on a donkey's colt.

**Amen.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**\*Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11 Jesus Enters Jerusalem**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

**\*Blessing of Palms**

P: 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, garments 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.**

*\*Processional Hymn: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"*

1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - - na, the lit - tle child - ren sang;  
2. From O - li - vet they fol - - lowed mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,  
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - - est!" that an - cient song we sing,

Through pil - lared court and tem - - ple the love - ly an - them rang.  
The vic - tor palm branch wa - - ving, and chant - ing clear and loud.  
For Christ is our Re - dee - - mer, the Lord of heav'n our King.

To Je - sus, Who had blessed them close fold - ed to His breast,  
The Lord of men and an - - gels rode on in low - ly state,  
O may we ev - er praise Him with heart and life and voice,

The child - ren sang their prais - - es, the simp - lest and the best.  
Nor scorned that lit - tle child - - ren should on His bid - ding wait.  
And in His bliss - ful pre - - sence e - - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

***\*Prayer of the Day***

L: Let us pray.

**Gracious Lord, as we enter this Holy Week, we do so in view of your mercy. As the people of Jerusalem greeted Jesus with palm branches in hand, so we now acknowledge him to be our King. We thank you for sending Jesus to be our Savior who gave his life so that we might live eternally. In view of your mercy, form us by your Spirit to take up our cross and follow Jesus in humility and love. We pray these things in the holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Choir Anthem: Shouts of Hosanna***..... John Purifoy

***First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12***

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. I 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. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17***

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is gra-cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**\*Gospel: John 12:12-19**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 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!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" 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. 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. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children's Sermon** ..... Pastor Becky Sells

**Sermon** ..... Pastor Becky Sells

**Hymn "Prepare the Royal Highway"** ..... ELW 264

### ***\*The Creed***

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

### ***\*The Prayers***

L: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty and merciful God, we approach your throne of grace today as your loyal subjects.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to humility, even as you came humbly riding on a donkey, so guide us to walk humbly before you and one another.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to worship, even as the children sang hosannas to you, so fill us with your Spirit to worship you in spirit and in truth.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to fidelity. Even as you set your face for Jerusalem and the cross, so give us faith to take up our cross and follow you.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to sacrifice. Even as you offered your life as the ultimate sacrifice for sin, so give us courage to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to you.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In view of your mercy, move us by your Spirit to submit to your rule and live under your reign.

**Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!**

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

**Amen.**


*Please be seated.*

## Offering

L: We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or may be given electronically at [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org). Children may come forward to put their offering in the noise jar.

## Offertory Music



The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' in a square box. The music is a simple, melodic line with some rests and ties. The lyrics are: "Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come."

**C** Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,  
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.




### **\*Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**


### **\*The Great Thanksgiving**



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

### **\*Words of Institution**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Holy, Holy**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Communion Invitation**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. All are welcome.

### **Lamb of God**

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff has a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;". The second staff has a 7/8 time signature and contains the lyrics: "have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.". The third staff has a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;". The fourth staff has a 7/8 time signature and contains the lyrics: "have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.". The fifth staff has a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.".

**Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;**

**have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.**

**Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;**

**have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.**

**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## **Communion**

### **\*Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

**Amen.**

### **\*Benediction**

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:** “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” ..... ELW 345

### **\*Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Ringing of the Bell**

## **Postlude**

### **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

*Words: Jeanette Threlfall, 1873, alt.*

*Music: ‘Ellacombe’ from Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, Wurttemberg, 1784.*

*Setting: Presbyterian Hymnal, 1911.*

*Copyright: public domain. This score is a part of the Open Hymnal Project, 2006 Revision.*

### **Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

*Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980*

*Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927*

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