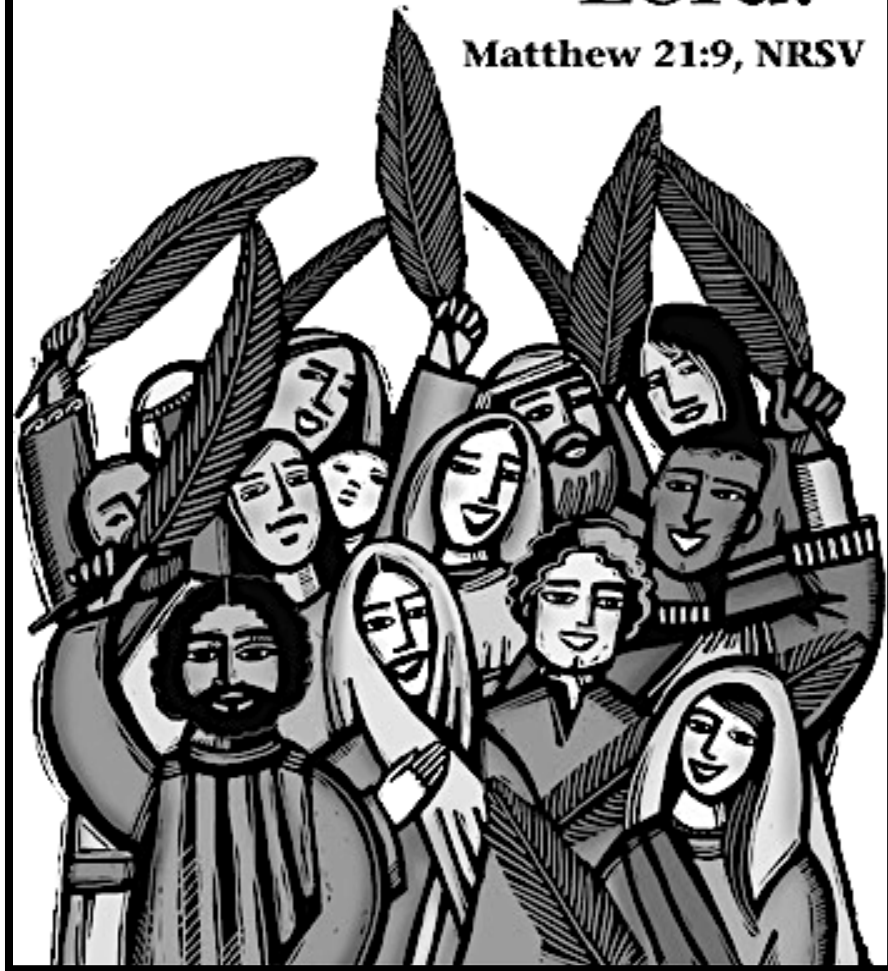


PALM SUNDAY

April 2nd, 2023

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

Matthew 21:9, NRSV



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1
Church: 905-685-8294
www.christlutheransc.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon
Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor: Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com
Parish Assistant: Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
Business Manager: Karen McCumber business.manager@christlutheransc.ca
Secretary: Pat Kimpel secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Facebook: Lisa Gall www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
Bulletin by email: Judy Mason chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKTi9c_OIBbMqGwLw

Prayer: Almighty and everlasting God the Father, who sent Your Son to take our nature upon Him and to suffer death on the cross that all mankind should follow the example of the great humility, mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of our Saviour Jesus Christ in His patience and also have our portion in His resurrection; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer for Turkey and Syria:

Almighty God, merciful Father, Your thoughts are not our thoughts, and Your ways are not our ways. In Your infinite wisdom which is beyond our understanding, You have permitted this disastrous earthquake to befall the people in Turkey and Syria. Direct all efforts to attend to the injured. Console the bereaved. Protect the helpless, deliver all who are still in danger, and give courage and steadfastness to the relief and aid workers. Bring hope and healing to the suffering that they may find relief and restoration. Open our hearts that we would provide necessary aid to those who are afflicted and distressed by this disaster. All this we ask through the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You, one God, now and forever.

Prayer for Ukraine:

Please continue to remember in prayer our brothers and sisters of the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Ukraine (SELCU).

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Heb. 7: 23-27 Wednesday: John 13: 31-35 Friday: John 11: 47-55
Tuesday: John 7: 1-12 Thursday: Heb. 10: 1-10 Saturday: Exod. 32: 30-34

Musician: The Band
Reader: Gloria Meyer
Greeters: Don & Lois Fretz

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Today, 9:00 a.m.: Sunday School
9:10—9:40: Confirmation Class today
Monday, 7:30 p.m.: Choir Practice
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.: Precious Moments
7:30 p.m.: Worship Meeting
8:00 p.m.: Zoom Youth Meeting
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.: SOUL
7:00 p.m.: **MAUNDY THURSDAY Communion Service**
Friday, 10:00 a.m.: **Good Friday Worship "Stations of the Cross"**
7:00 p.m.: **Good Friday "TENEBRAE" Service**
Next Sunday, 10:00 a.m.: **EASTER Festival Worship followed by Easter Pancake Breakfast**

BAPTISM: We are pleased to welcome into God's family by Holy Baptism today, **CLARISSA DA CRUZ MACHADO**, daughter of Eduardo de Farias Machado & Daniela Soares da Cruz. Godparents are Ginette and Lance Anderson. God's rich blessings to them all.



April 2023 Worship Schedule

April 2 - Palm Sunday - [worship & praise team with the choir]

April 9 - Festive Creative Easter Communion

April 16 - 2nd Easter Gospel Melodies Service of the Word

April 23 - 3rd Easter Communion LSB Setting One

April 30 - 4th Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday Morning Praise

PRECIOUS MOMENTS: If you or someone you know would benefit from friendly conversation, a time for kids to play & sing; hear a Bible story and make a craft - please join us Tuesdays in the nursery area from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Coffee and tea are always on



Annual Easter Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 9th at 11 a.m.

(Immediately following Easter service)

Includes: pancakes, sausages, hot-cross buns, coffee and orange juice.

a free-will offering will be collected

It is custom for the men of the congregation to do the cooking and serving, we are once again asking the gentlemen to sign up on forms in bulletin (*also on table in narthex*) for the time most convenient and place it in the offering basket *or place in the envelope on the back bulletin board.*

YOUTH & CONFIRMAND EVENTS:

Saturday, April 15, 1:45 pm: Gravity Rock Climbing. Sign up with Louise to ensure your spot! We will meet there (399 Vansickle Rd Unit 3). Cost is \$21. Everyone under eighteen years old must have a facility waiver signed by their parents ahead of time.

(<https://app.rockgympro.com/waiver/esign/gravityclimbinghamilton/38b3a821-1992-44d0-a025-9d963f89f103>).

Saturday, April 29, 6:45 p.m.: meet at the church to prep for our Games Night at Luther Manor (7 pm). Let Louise know if you can make cookies, muffins or squares for this event.

As always friends are welcome to join us! More information on these April events will be emailed or speak with Louise (905-329-8579)

MARY MARTHA: *The following is our Mary Martha Schedule for our Winter/Spring program:*

- April 18: Speaker-Jude Mersereau
- May 16: Bible Study--Pastor Todd (tentative)
- June 10: Potluck

Please feel free to attend any, or all, of our Tuesday night events!
(If you have any questions, call Lorraine at 905 964 5837)

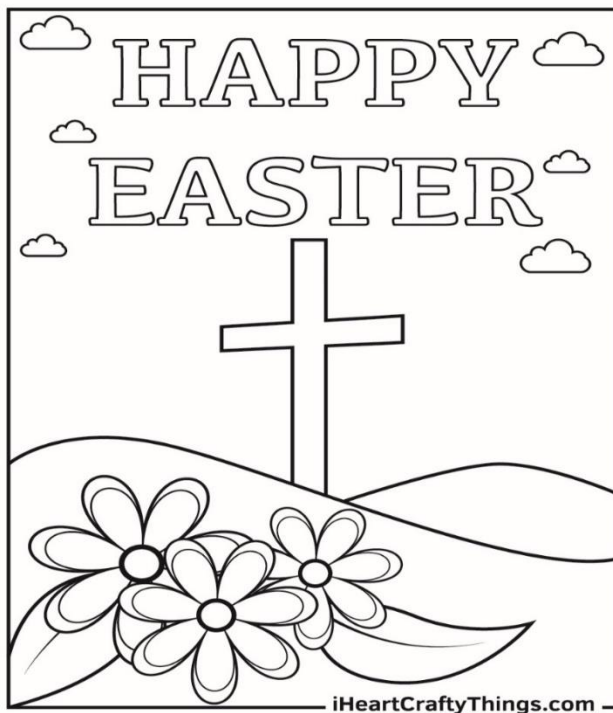
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Mark your calendars for **In-person VBS**, planned for **Monday, July 17 - Friday, July 21**. The program will run in the morning with an afternoon extended care for Grade 1-6. More information to follow.

<u>Last Sunday Attendance:</u>		<u>March 26th, 2023</u>		<u>Attn: 10 a.m. –103</u>	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or – (--)</u>
Current:	297,841.00	5,840.02	2,976.00	52,851.27	(21,608.98)
LCC Missions	17,000.00	333.33	1,185.00	4,272.50	22.50
Property Improvement:			119.00	1,526.50	

MEMORIAL DONATIONS have been given in memory of John Mewhinney to Christ Lutheran Church by Bill & Debbie Dolha.

GREETERS: A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board and we would ask that anyone who is interested in assisting for the coming year to please sign up. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know everyone in the congregation.

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED JOINING THE CHOIR? Do you like to sing? We could always use more voices and would give you a hearty welcome. We will continue practices each Monday evening from 7:30 – 9 pm approximately taking us into Holy Week in April. Speak to Carole if you might be interested.



Easter Colouring Contest

Colouring Sheets will be made available in the Narthex starting

SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH.

All entries will be put on display.

The following categories:

- ❖ **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- ❖ **CONFIRMAND AND YOUTH**
- ❖ **SOUL**
- ❖ **CONGREGATION**

Top winner from each category will receive a gift card.

Winners will be announced at the Easter Breakfast



Where: Peace Lutheran Church, 60 Young St., Tillsonburg, ON

When: May 6th, 2023 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Cost: Registration including morning coffee and lunch - **\$40.00**

Need assistance with registration:

Call: Janice Buchner at 519-866-3754; OR Diana Grant at 905-431-9826

**They may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.
Isaiah 61:3**

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE OF THE WORD

April 2, 2023 + 10 AM

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION HYMN: *“All Glory, Laud & Honour”*

Tune: LSB 442

As the choir walks in all worshippers are invited to wave their palm branches as we sing.

**All glory, laud, and honour to You, Redeemer, King
To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the king of Israel and David’s royal Son,
Now in the Lord’s name coming, our King and Blessed One.**

**All glory, laud, and honour to You, Redeemer, King
To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went,
Our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present.**

**All glory, laud, and honour to You, Redeemer, King
To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
To You, before Your Passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**

**All glory, laud, and honour to You, Redeemer, King
To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

PALM SUNDAY RESPONSES:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit,
+ be with you all.

And also with you.

Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

The Lamb Who was killed is worthy to receive

power and wealth, wisdom and strength, honour, glory and praise!

PSALM 118: *[various verses]*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

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

Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

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

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

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

With branches in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

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

We pray: Most Merciful God, our Heavenly Father, as the crowd at the gate of Jerusalem gathered with palms in their hands to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He entered into His Holy City, help us ever to praise Him as the Son of David Who comes in the name of the Lord and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life, that when He comes again we may go forth to meet Him with faithful and steadfast hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

RESPONSE SONG:

"What Wondrous Love Is This?"

www. Hymnary.org

1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;

What won - drous love is this, O my soul?
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;

What won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,

To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my soul;
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;

To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.

Words: *Spiritual Hymns from Lynchburg (Vs. 1-2)*; Music: *Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835*; www.hymnary.org

THE SCRIPTURES

The Old Testament: *Zechariah 9:9-10*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem, and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations, his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

HYMN:

"Are You Washed?"

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/BH2008/page/324>

1. Have you been to Je - sus for the cleans-ing power? Are you washed in the
 2. Are you walk - ing dai - ly by the Sav-ior's side? Are you washed in the



blood of the Lamb? Are you ful - ly trust-ing in His grace this hour? Are you
 blood of the Lamb? Do you re-streach mo-ment in the Cru - ci - fied? Are you



washed in the blood of the Lamb?

washed in the blood of the Lamb? Are you washed in the blood,



In the soul-cleans-ing blood of the Lamb?

Are your gar-ments



spot-less? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman
 MUSIC: Elisha A. Hoffman

WASHED IN THE BLOOD
 11.9.11.9.with Chorus

The Epistle: *Philippians 2:5-11*

[St. Paul writes:] Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Blessed Is The King Hosanna!"

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The Holy Gospel: *St. Matthew 21:1-11*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

As Jesus and his disciples approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord over them has need, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

BAPTISMAL SONG: "See This Wonder" *Choir & Congregation*

(The song will be played first as an instrumental with keyboard, violin and trumpet) (Verse 1 will be sung with choir and violin)

**See this wonder in the making: God himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping, His to be, awake or sleeping.**

(Verse 2 will be sung with choir and trumpet)

**Miracle each time it happens, as the door to heaven opens
And the Father beams, "Beloved, Heir of gifts a king would covet!"**

(Verse 3 will be sung by choir alone acappella)

**Far more tender than a mother, Far more caring than a father,
God, into Your arms we place her, With Your love and peace embrace her.**

(Verse 4 will be sung with choir, congregation, keyboard, trumpet and violin)

**Here we bring a child of nature; Home we take a newborn creature,
Now God's precious son or daughter, born again by Word and water.**

Text: Jaroslav Vajda Music: Swedish Folk Tune – Copyright 1984 Jaroslav J. Vajda Concordia Publishing House Music: Public Domain; Hymnal Supplement 1998 Hymn # 842 LSB HymnLicense # 000010240

BAPTISM OF CLARISSA DA CRUZ MACHADO

Parents: Eduardo de Farias Machado & Daniela Soares da Cruz

Godparents: Ginette and Lance Anderson

SCRIPTURAL COMMAND:

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to keep everything I have entrusted to you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

ADDRESS:

Scripture teaches that we are born sinful and unclean, but that our heavenly Father washes us clean in the waters of baptism. We are re-born as His children as the Holy Spirit renews us and gives us eternal life. Through baptism He graciously forgives us our sins and unites us with our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we share in His death and resurrection.

PRESENTATION:

Who brings this child for holy baptism? *We do.*

How is this child named? *(Name is spoken)*

ADMONITION:

Since you as parents and sponsors have brought (Name) to be baptized, you are responsible for his/her upbringing in the Lutheran Church. Remember him/her in your prayers. Bring him/her to the services in God's House and teach him/her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. Remind him/her of her baptism, set him/her a good example, and provide for his/her instruction in the faith that he/she may join you and all believers around the Lord's Table to feast on Jesus' Body and Blood.

Do you intend to joyfully do this? Yes, I/we do.

MARKING OF THE CROSS:

(Name), receive the sign of the holy cross †, upon your forehead and upon your heart, to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION:

Jesus our Lord says: Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth; unless you receive the Kingdom of God like a little child you shall never enter it.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Let us ask the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ on (Name) and pray together the prayer He has taught us:

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.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF THE FAITH:

I ask you now to publicly speak your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

Yes, I do renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord?

Yes, I believe 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.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, 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.

BAPTISM:

(Name), I baptize you in the name of the Father † and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit †. Amen.

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has given you the new birth by water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His Spirit, so that you receive eternal life. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF CANDLE:

Receive this burning light. Live always by the Light of Christ and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom,

which has no end. Let your light so shine before others, that they see your good works and glorify Your Father Who is in Heaven.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we join with (Name’s) parents in thanking you for giving them this child and for adopting him/her as Your own child in holy baptism. Strengthen him/her faith by Your Holy Spirit, so that his/her sinful self may die each day and he/she may rise to new life with Christ forever. As You have written his/her name in the book of life and have made him/her a member of the body of Your Son, guide him/her, so that, with all Your saints, he/she may one day abide in Your Heavenly Home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF BAPTIZED:

Through Baptism, God has added this new brother/sister a member of the Priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and show forth His creative and redeeming Word to all the world:

We welcome you into the Lord’s family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same Heavenly Father, and workers with us in His Kingdom.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

GOSPEL SONG:

“Hosanna [Praise Is Rising]”



1. Praise — is ris — ing, eyes — are turn — ing — to You; .
 2. Hear — the sound — of hearts — re — turn — ing — to You; .



— We turn to You; — Hope — is
 — We turn to You; — In — Your



stir — ing hearts — are yearn — ing — for You; —
 King — dom bro — ken lives — are — made new, —



We long for You; — 'Cause when we see —
 You make us new; —

PRE-CHORUS



— You, we find strength — to face the day; — In Your pres —



— ence all our fears — are — washed a - way, washed a - way. — Ho -

CHORUS

25 G^{sus} G Em^7 C^2

 -san - na, ho - san - na, — You are the God .

29 G^5 D^{sus} Em^7 C^2

 — who - saves us, wor - thy of all — our prais - es; — Ho -

33 G^{sus} G Em^7 C^2

 -san - na, ho - san - na, — come have Your way .

37 G^5 D^{sus} Em^7 C^2

 — a - mong us; We wel - come You here, — Lord Je - sus. —


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MESSAGE


THE OFFERINGS *are gathered.*

OFFERING SONG:

“My Worth Is Not In What I Own”



1. My worth is not in what I own; not
 (2. My) worth is not in skill or name; in
 (3. As) sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,
 (4. I) will not boast in wealth or might. or



in the strength of flesh and bone. But in the cost - ly wounds of love at the
 win or lose, in pride or shame. But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the
 youth and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e - ter - nal calls to us at the
 hu - man wis - dom's fleet - ing light. But I will boast in know - ing Christ at the



cross.
cross.
cross.
cross.

2. My I re-joice in my Re -
4. I



-deem - er. Great -est treas - ure, well-spring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no



oth - er; my soul is sat - is - fied in Him a - lone.

CCLI

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PRAYERS

Let us pray to God our Father, and place in his hands the suffering of the world.

We pray for the church, that we may humbly bear our crosses and follow Jesus as our King and Lord.

Hear us, O God; **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for pastors entrusted with your holy word, like the priests and scribes. May they preserve the truth of your word, teach and live according to it. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who have sinned, like Peter. Teach us to be sorry for our sins, and forgive us all that we do wrong. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for prisoners and criminals like Barrabas. May they find true freedom by changing the way they live through trust in You. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all in government, like Pilate and Herod. May our leaders and all in authority around the world use their power properly, and serve truth and justice.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who are dying, like the thieves crucified with Jesus. May they die with Jesus by their side, and be received into your kingdom.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for parents like Mary who have lost a child. May they live through such suffering in hope, knowing the comfort of your love. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

We pray for peace in areas where there is unrest and conflict. Protect our brothers and sisters in Christ in these places. May their neighbours see the Son of God in them.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

And we pray for those with spiritual or physical needs who are known to us personally, especially *[names added]*...and whom we now name silently in our hearts... *[brief silence]*; Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Father, may the suffering and death of Jesus lighten the burdens of all who suffer. Lead us in the way of the cross, that as we suffer with Jesus, so we may rise to life in his glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR HOLY WEEK:

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, and to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise Him with our lips, but may follow Him in the way of the cross that trusts that You will live through us, our Saviour, King and Lord. Amen.

PSALM 118 *Departing Responses*

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light.

Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

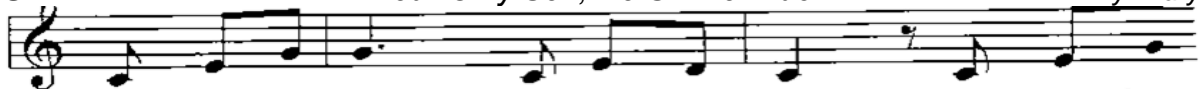
BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

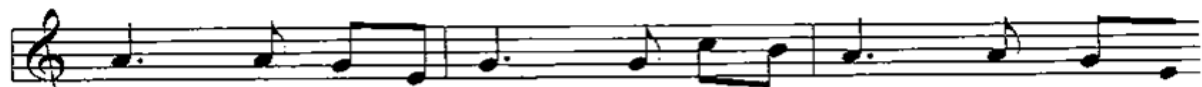
SENDING HYMN:

"Your Only Son, No Sin To Hide"

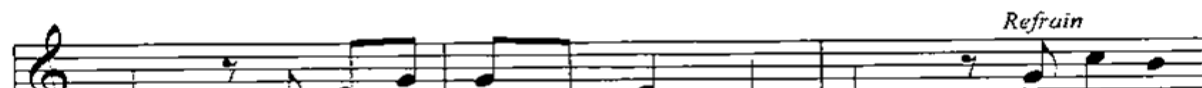
www.hymnary.org




1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have




sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



Refrain
sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me



in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Twila Paris © 1985 Straightway Music

REV. TODD HOEFFS

Palm Sunday

Scripture:

“Take It To The Limit...One More Time!”

April 2, 2023

A closed mind is a dying mind. 1920s author Edna Ferber coined that phrase. She wrote the novel turned musical, SHOW BOAT. One's expression of opinions should never exceed their knowledge of it. Various viewpoints, seeing other perspectives never harm anyone. A vase of flowers looks wonderful from every angle. This only widens our human understanding of other humans.

An open mind receives what Jesus loves bringing us. His kindness and mercy only helps. All that Jesus is fills our hearts and minds. Apostle Paul writes in his letter to the churches, Have **this** kind of mind that **is** Christ Jesus. Think like Jesus.

Embrace His attitude toward God and humanity. The Mind of Christ -- *focuses on rescuing people, rescuing the entire universe, from everything that harms us.*

A mind fixated on doing what we cannot do for ourselves. A mind that serves and loves others, even those who betray and fail and leave.

A mind praying *Yet not what I will, but what you will,* even knowing that will demand great sacrifice.

A mind filled with calm confidence because He is on the HOLY TRINITY

That all of this work, all of the Scriptures,

The great plan since Adam and Eve, WILL BE COMPLETE, fulfilled, and that it is good. A mind knowing lies and mockery and abuse and not lashing back, but trusting that blessed are all when persecuted (Matthew 5).

A mind choosing to lay down your life for others instead of trying to save it.

A mind fully trusting in the Heavenly Father.

Have this mind among yourselves . . . this mind of Christ Jesus. A humble mind.

Jesus begins this saving work humbly. Entering into terrible conflict -- not just between Him and the religious establishment, but Heaven and Hell,

Light and darkness. Good and evil. The almighty God in the Flesh comes humble.

He relies on others to arrange the plans...Gospel writer Matthew chooses his words carefully. English texts say the Lord has need of a donkey.

It's literally, THE LORD OF IT HAS NEED." A clear mark of humility.

The Lord and creator of this donkey has need. A brand new, unriden donkey.

Not broken in or used to humans, but remains a peaceful animal for Jesus.

The Donkey is at peace with the Prince of peace taming him – as He tames us to take His Body into our worlds. Riding a donkey in a public procession like this sends a signal that you're coming without fighting or battle in mind.

Healers and helpers came with donkeys, well known beasts of burden.

Roman rulers process on great warhorses, commanding power and strength.

They even had remounts— their spare horse in case the main mount goes lame— up at the back of the column in the care of their slave.

Jesus needs to ride not 1 but 2 animals to fulfill God's plan.

But He keeps it in His care, a not so magnificent look having an un-mounted horse tethered behind you. Jesus is the only worker, the soldier and the slave. This is His Mind. A perfect work horse if you will. He's not coming to overthrow Rome and restore the political sovereignty of Israel. He's not coming to establish an earthly kingdom, at least not in the way many people think or dream. Jesus is coming to rule through the ultimate humility of the cross. Jesus will rule as a convicted criminal. Jesus will rule with suffering as His reputation. This willingness to be vulnerable and open creates peace between a holy God and a sinful humanity. He will be enthroned in the hearts and minds of those who believe in him For all who adore Him Who is enthroned on a cross. The Lord of this world has a need to tame our selfish sinful desires. He's erasing our inclination for getting God off our back so we can do as we please. The Saviour comes to save you now, as the word HOSANNA means. You are reconciled back you to God's presence. The mind of Jesus — a serving, loving, helping mind. He is fixated on forgiving you, Because we have a different mind. A mind too quick to criticize others, Maybe even those who are doing good and the good you and I should be doing. A mind that betrays, maybe even our Lord, by what we do or fail to do, speak or fail to speak. A mind that makes pledges and promises we do not keep. A mind that runs away in fear, A mind with a million voices in it we pander to but can't or won't hear the ONE good voice of hope and transformation. And that's why. We don't want to change. We don't want transformation. Maybe just some new paint and a quick fix and away we go. Our human minds enjoy false realities. Denial is deadly. We take better care of our fragile egos that those in need, even those we love. And yet, even if we're unaware, when we are in the worst condition, our mind IS changed. We are new. We are open. We are loved and loving. We can't take credit for it. It's Jesus' doing. Only Holy Spirit can bring us into Jesus' mind. That in Christ Jesus, we are being put back into our right minds, Our minds begin to think and see and look and know as Jesus does. See things as Jesus sees things. View life from many perspectives because kindness builds bridges to the hurting. Think less of ourselves and more of others, more of God. With Jesus' mind, we have Jesus' heart, Body and Blood. Jesus keeps the promise made to you in Holy Baptism that you are his and you have everything you need for a life of faith and a life of confidence in what you face. Jesus comes and is enthroned on your mouth in the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion. Humbly you receive, happy you depart. So we enter this Holy Week. Where we focus on the journey of suffering, From Gethsemane to Golgotha to the Garden Grave, Where our minds not only open but remain open. In fact our entire lives are open to receive more grace. Open to welcome everyone in the open welcome of Christ. You have His Mind. You have it all. Amen.

Vacation Bible School
CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION FORM
Monday, July 17th to Friday July 21st, 2023



Child's Name _____ Grade in Sept. _____
_____ Grade in Sept. _____
_____ Grade in Sept. _____
_____ Grade in Sept. _____

Allergies & Other concerns: _____

Parents Names: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone//Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Home Church: _____

A Friend your child might like to be with: _____

*I give permission for Christ Lutheran Church to use pictures of my child(ren) for church slideshows, newsletters, website and crafts **except in the areas listed on the line following:***

(Please check box if your child will attend afternoon programme)
Extended Program Available for students Grades 1-6.
For more information contact Louise at:
parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca

VOLUNTEER YOUR TALENTS

*God blesses each of us with talents to use for His service.
Please prayerfully consider how you might use
those talents for this year's
Vacation Bible School program.*



**Monday, July 17th to Friday, July 21st, 2023
9 a.m. – 12 noon**

Name: _____

Phone/Cell: _____

I am interested in using my talents to help prior to VBS:

_____ Decorating/Creating sets _____ Craft Preps

I am interested in using my talents as a Station Leader:

_____ Video & Memory Verse _____ Kitchen

_____ Recreation _____ Crafts

I am interested in using my talents to help during VBS:

_____ Crew Leader _____ Kitchen helper

_____ Crafts/Helper _____ Recreation helper

_____ Photographer (slide shows) _____ Music (actions & singing)

_____ Registration _____ Closing Service/BBQ

**God bless you for volunteering your valuable
time and talents!!**
