

ORDER OF SERVICE

Palm Sunday | April 2, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. | Kviteseid Lutheran Church

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Hosanna in the highest!
Welcome as we bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRELUDE

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

C **Hosanna in the highest!**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

In this service we go to Bethphage, the place where the ride into Jerusalem on a donkey begins for Jesus. It is here where we discover that Jesus is a humble King who serves as he heads toward the cross.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” (vs. R, 1, 3 & 4) ELW #344

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

C **To see the depths of his love.**

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness!

C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

C **We walk with Jesus as he rides a donkey.**

P He begins in Bethphage and makes his way to Jerusalem.

C **He does it for us and for our salvation.**

P This is how it began . . .

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” (vs. R, 5, R) ELW #344

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Merciful and mighty Father, you know us well. We are quick to speak of faith, but slow to live it out. We shout “hosanna” as Jesus approaches, as did the people of Jerusalem, but we do not want him coming too close to us, not close enough to really see—

C **Our greed and our grasping.**

P Our pride and our pretense.

C **Our envy and our strife.**

P Our hard hearts and lackluster prayers.

C **Our willful disobedience and ongoing sin.**

P Our harsh words and condemning judgments.

C **Our fickle faith. Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane and Golgotha—for you. Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide.

C **I shall follow where you guide.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in hand, gathered to greet your Son when he came into the City of David, grant that we may hail him as our King and walk with him in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Zechariah 9:9-10

PSALM 118:19-21, 26

L ¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

C ²⁰**This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

L ²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

C ²⁶**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

L Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

C **Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.**

L And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

C **Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,**

L So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

C **And every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

HYMN “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty! (vs. 1 & 4) ELW #346
(Alt. tune: ELW #434)

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “My Song Is Love Unknown” (vs. 1-3) ELW #343
(Alt. tune: ELW #640)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Create in Me a Clean Heart” ELW #186

OFFERING PRAYER

P We thank you Father for Jesus Christ,

C Who for our sake became poor, that we might be rich. We thank you that he gave himself up to death so that we might rise to life.

P Accept our gifts of thanksgiving now, O Lord.

C Use both them and us so that they might bring blessings to your name. We ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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.

GOSPEL READINGS: John 12:17-19, 37, 42-47

HYMN "Ah, Holy Jesus" (vs. 1-4) ELW #349

PASSION READING

Moment of Silence

CLOSING HYMN "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" (vs. 2) ELW #802

BENEDICTION

P Passing from joy into sorrow and on to elation,

C we come to Christ this holy week.

P Today is only a part of the story.

C Jesus' triumph leads to his death, his death to his resurrection.

P May the journey of this week lead you into the fullness of Christ's love. Amen.

SENDING LITANY

P We have gathered with the crowds crying Hosanna!
And now we follow the crowd as it leads out to the cross,
and yet even as the world grows dark, we cannot lose hope.

C Because God is with us. God will be with us.
Whatever happens. We are not alone.

P And so we watch the crowd and we follow . . .

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