

ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dale, WI

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ST PETER'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH

Larsen, WI

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Member Congregations of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

TODAY'S WORSHIP - Lent draws to a close as the people of God gather at the beginning of Holy Week to celebrate the coming of Jesus to Jerusalem to suffer, die, and rise again. The majesty of the King is veiled by his humility and lowliness, but to the eyes of faith he is recognized as the Lord. The cry must go up in joy, praise and prayer: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

ORDER OF WORSHIP: *Parts of The Service of the Word, page 38 in the front of the red hymnals.*

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 24 page 73

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Spoken by Pastor*)



We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

+ GOD'S WORD +

FIRST LESSON: Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,

righteous and victorious,

lowly and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

PSALM OF THE DAY - Psalm 24 page 73

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

- ⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
⁶Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
⁷rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
⁸And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

VERSE OF THE DAY

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (John 12:23 cf. NIV)

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“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.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

THE MESSAGE TODAY: *Based on Matthew 21:1-11*

"Hosanna—we really mean it!"

1. A planned welcome
An urgent mission

After the Sermon "The Apostles' Creed" printed below.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, THE LORDS PRAYER & BLESSING

Confession of Faith Apostles Creed

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

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(St. Paul) Confirmation class will be held by means of a FaceTime video phone link at 4 p.m. on Thursday.

(St. Peter's) St. Peter's church council to do a conference call, if possible, on April 6 at 7:30 pm to determine how to handle the remainder of the Safer at Home regulations.

(St Paul) Your Weekly Offerings - As you prayerfully consider your offering for the week, please note that there are several options at this time:

1. MAIL - your offering envelope directly to the St Paul office, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 188, Dale, WI 54931
2. ON-LINE – visit our website and click on the “Donate Online” link. Follow the prompts.

(St Peter's) Your Weekly Offerings - St. Peter's would prefer that donations be mailed to: St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church % Gary Puls, 7541 Richter Lane, Larsen, WI 54947

(St. Paul/St Peter's) - Our WELS publishing house is making available free Sunday School materials online for families with children. If members know of neighbors with children, please share their email addresses with us so that we can send out the link to them.

(St. Paul/St Peter's) Email addresses - Pastor would also like people to send in their email addresses, if you have not already done so. (If you currently receive emails from us, you are okay). We are happy to mail information to those needing that service, but if there are other ways we can send the information we appreciate your cooperation.

(St. Paul/St Peter's) Holy Week Services – Watch our Facebook page (StPaulDale) at 6PM both Maundy Thursday 4/9 and Good Friday 4/10.

(St. Paul/St Peter's) Holy Communion will not be offered until further notice. If you are entering the hospital, and you would like communion please let Pastor Ibsch know and he will do his best to accommodate you.

God's Word for This Week

Hail the King who humbly comes to save us! For 1700 years the Church has celebrated with hosannas and palm branches this festival that opens Holy Week. Jesus entered Jerusalem to the sounds of praise and adoration of the people there. Laying palm branches and their cloaks in the road, the people honored this prophet from Nazareth as their Savior. Some surely saw their Savior from sin; others likely saw their earthly savior from the Romans and foreign rule. But either way, the songs of exultation rose: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that comes!"

First Lesson – Zechariah 9:9-10

How is Christ "your king"?

Though he was more than qualified, Jesus never claimed an earthly kingdom like we normally think with the word "king." Instead, Jesus' kingdom is not of this world. We often consider him ruling in three kingdoms: the kingdom of power (his power places him above all things in heaven and earth), the kingdom of grace (where he rules in the hearts of his believers), and the kingdom of glory (he rules in heaven and will continue there, into all eternity).

How would this king be different than other earthly kings?

This king is gentle and humble, not the ruthless, power-hungry despot of earthly kingdoms. He also extends peace, contrasting the bloody kingdoms of the worldly empires.

Second Lesson – Philippians 2:5-11

What quality of Christ is stressed as a model for us?

His humility which caused him willingly to lay aside the honor and majesty that were his as God.

Where was Christ's humility most obvious?

In the death he died, a form reserved for the worst of criminals, "death on a tree."

What was the end result of Jesus' humility?

Jesus is our King, but he came humbly to save us. Though true God, he became man. Though all-powerful, he became a servant. Though immortal and eternal, he died. He not only laid aside his glory, but he took our shame upon him. He not only humbled himself, but he died as one who was cursed. Yet in this great humility, he won the peace of forgiveness for us. The King came humbly because he wasn't on the way to a throne in Jerusalem but to a hill called Golgotha, where he would fulfill God's mission and save his people. Therefore, God would give him glory greater than his humiliation—every creature will bow the knee and hail him: Jesus Christ is Lord!

Gospel – Matthew 21:1-11

Of what significance is the fact that Jesus is the Son of David?

The Messiah was foretold to be of David's family (2 Samuel 7:16), and Jesus could trace his line back to King David through both his mother and his earthly father. The Jewish people knew well that the Messiah must have these credentials.