

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Daniel Bohlken, Interim Pastor

Palm Sunday April 10, 2022

OUR WORSHIP

The King We Need Comes to Us

SERVICE THEME It is interesting that John replaces the original "Rejoice greatly" of Zechariah 9:9 with the "Fear not!" of Isaiah 40:9. Why? Because it is our fears that drive us; it is our fears that we need to be freed from: our fear of a meaningless existence and of an insignificant life, our fear of death and living a life that has no worth, our fear of a life without purpose, and, finally, the frightening insecurity that plagues all of us because of our guilt and shame.

+ Preparing Ourselves to Hear God's Word +

INVITATION TO WORSHIP Zechariah 9:9-10

Pastor: Rejoice, greatly, daughter of Zion!

People: Shout aloud, daughter of Jerusalem!

Pastor: See, your King comes to you,

People: righteous and victorious,

Pastor: lowly and riding on a donkey,

People: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Pastor: He will proclaim peace to the nations.

People: His rule will extend from sea to sea.

Pastor: And from the Euphrates River

People: to the ends of the earth.

Pastor: When we were Baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we became citizens of an everlasting kingdom wherein we experience eternal acceptance, along with forever forgiveness as well as limitless love.

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All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen!

INVITATION HYMN LSB 340, vv. 1-3 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing:
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.

A righteous Helper comes to thee,
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings:
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.

How blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy He is,
Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.

CONFESSION

Pastor: Like the Palm Sunday crowd who thronged to greet Jesus, we too look for a King who comes with military might and political power to defeat oppression and heal our hurts in this unjust and inhumane world. But, even if a King fixed crushing poverty and debilitating disease and egregious inequality and death-dealing war, He would not defeat our deepest and most dangerous adversaries, namely our struggles with fear, insecurity, quilt, shame, and death.

Moment of Silence for Self-Reflection

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

Pastor: Jesus says, "I've come to deliver you from something far more enslaving than an oppressive and unjust world. I've come to die in your place – to free you from fear and insecurity and guilt and shame and death."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Gracious Father, we see the Jerusalem crowd greet the long-awaited King. We too need a King in our lives – One who will defeat the destructive forces of fear we face every day. Send Your Holy Spirit that we might experience the power of this King to establish His kingdom in our hearts and lives today and forever. We ask in the name of Jesus, Your Son and our King, the Same who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen!

+ Hearing God's Word +

FIRST READING Isaiah 40:9-11

⁹ You who bring good news to Zion, go on up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the town of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the LORD GOD comes with power, and He rules with a mighty arm. See, His reward is with Him, and His recompense accompanies Him. ¹¹ He tends His flock like a shepherd; He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that are with young.

EPISTLE READING 2 Timothy 1:15-17

¹ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display His immense patience as an example for those who would believe in Him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

PSALM READING Psalm 118:22-26, 29

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; ²³ The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! ²⁶ Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. ²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: These Readings are the Word of our LORD!

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING John 12:12-16

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, recorded in the Gospel of John the evangelist, the twelfth chapter:

People: Glory and blessing and honor be to You, O LORD Jesus!

¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ 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!" ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶ 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our LORD Jesus.

People: Eternal and everlasting praise be to You, O Christ, our King!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "Hosanna!"

SONG OF THE DAY All God's People Sing 121 "Hosanna, Hallelujah"

Chorus

Hosanna, hallelujah! Sing we loud and clear.
Hosanna, hallelujah! Jesus Christ is near.
With ancient psalms and new-grown palms praise Him on His way.
Hosanna, hallelujah! Christ, our Lord, is here.

This day in spring the streets will ring
With voices sweet and lyrical
To greet our Lord, the One adored,
His very life a miracle.
Chorus

King David's Son now rides upon A mule, of beasts the lowliest; Amidst the throng it bears along Of all mankind the holiest.

Chorus

How very odd the Son of God Must do things that would weary us. God will amaze; He works in ways That we all find mysterious. Chorus

Hosanna, hallelujah! Sing we loud and clear.
Hosanna, hallelujah! Jesus Christ is near.
With ancient psalms and new-grown palms praise Him on His way.
Hosanna, hallelujah! Christ, our Lord, is here.

MESSAGE "Your King Has Come"

Introduction

We all need a King in our lives.

[1] We need a King who overcomes our real oppressors.

Jesus came to conquer more than political oppression.

[2] We need a King whose strength is weakness.

"The New Testament explodes with hope and it all centers on the cross."

+ Response to the Word +

OFFERING LSB 732, vv. 1-4 "All Depends on Our Possessing"

All depends on our possessing God's abundant grace and blessing, Though all earthly wealth depart.

They who trust with faith unshaken By their God are not forsaken And will keep a dauntless heart.

He who to this day has fed me And to many joys has led me Is and ever shall be mine.

He who ever gently schools me, He who daily guides and rules me Will remain my help divine.

Many spend their live is fretting Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure That will bring me lasting pleasure
And now is seldom found.

When with sorrow I am stricken, Hope anew my heart will quicken;
All my longing shall be stilled.
To His loving kindness tender Soul and body I surrender,
For on God alone I build.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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!

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You have sent Your Holy Spirit into our hearts and minds through Your Word which we have heard today. May that Spirit assure us today and every day that Jesus and His kingdom has been established in our hearts, freeing us from all fear and giving us confidence and courage to live with hope today and always. We ask in the name of our gracious, suffering, and resurrected King; we ask in Jesus' name.

People: Amen!

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord is blessing you and watching over you;

The Lord is making His face to shine on you

and He is being gracious to you;

The Lord is smiling the biggest smile when He thinks of you

and He is giving you peace.

People: Amen!

SENDING SONG LSB 537 "Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise and adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6 pm Service with Holy Communion

THEME: The Fruit of the Spirit is *Kindness*.

GOOD FRIDAY

6 pm Service with Stripping of the Altar

THEME: The Fruit of the Spirit is *Love*.

EASTER SUNDAY

10:30 am Service with NO Holy Communion;

THEME: The Fruit of the Spirit is *Joy*.

SERVICE: Special Service with Favorite Easter Hymns