

Vasa Lutheran Church

Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Austin Ferguson

April 5, 2020 – The Covid-19 year

BLESSING OF PALMS

P: Let us pray. **We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Bless these branches and allow them to bring to mind the challenges that our Lord faced. 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**



MUSICAL INTERLUDE HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA

CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

I will stand at the lectern

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.**

We have wandered from your resurrection life.

We have strayed from your love for all people.

Turn us back to you, O God.

**Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.

"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.

All your sin is forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

Amen.

GREETING

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

C: Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Hosanna! King of all, you reign over all. Reign in our lives, triumph over evil, and teach us to follow in your footsteps. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 118:25-29

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

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

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

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

Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Matthew 21:1-11 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately. " ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵ "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." ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!" ¹⁰

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

¹¹ The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

MUSICAL INTERLUDE FROM AUSTIN: Focus on Austin or perhaps on a vase filled with palms.

MEDITATION: While Austin is playing the interlude, I will move into the pulpit.

BRIEF INTERLUDE FROM AUSTIN: I want to move back to the lectern for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

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.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE FROM AUSTIN

After the interlude announce that each day during Holy Week there will be a youtube video with a reading through of the Passion Narrative from Mark's gospel. A Maundy Thursday service will be posted on Thursday and a Good Friday service on Friday. And yes, there will be an Easter Sunday service posted on Sunday morning.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy,
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.