

PLACES OF THE PASSION:

PALM SUNDAY: BETHPHAGE



Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.”

Matthew 21: 1-2

Journey with Jesus through the Holy Land, listening to Him teach, witnessing miracles, and discovering how our Savior fulfills the prophecies of the Old Testament.

These meditations for Lent, inspired by theology professor Reed Lessing, follow Christ with an eye toward the places of the Passion where He suffers, dies, and rises again for our salvation.

Every place that Jesus goes along His path hints at His ultimate mission to take your place for redemption so that you might have a place in heaven with Him forever.

"The Lord's Supper: If you are visiting with us here or have not been instructed in the unique Lutheran teaching regarding the Lord's Supper, we kindly ask you to speak to the Pastor before communing. Thank you."

Invocation and Call to Worship

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 Faithful Lord, with me abide.

C I shall follow where you guide!

Opening Hymn "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" LSB 443

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna,
 The little children sang;
 Through pillared court and temple
 The lovely anthem rang.
 To Jesus, who had blessed them,
 Close folded to His breast,
 The children sang their praises,
 The simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed
 Mid an exultant crowd,
 The victor palm branch waving
 And chanting clear and loud.
 The Lord of earth and heaven
 Rode on in lowly state
 Nor scorned that little children
 Should on His bidding wait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!"
 That ancient song we sing;

For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heav'n our King.
Oh, may we ever praise Him
With heart and life and voice
And in His blissful presence
Eternally rejoice!

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 backbiting and badmouthing.**

P Our lame excuses.

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, Gabbatha and Golgotha- for you. That's why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C **I Shall follow where you guide me!**

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

Psalm

Psalm 118:19-29; antiphon: v. 26

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

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

²¹I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.
²²**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**
²³This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
²⁵Save us, we pray, O LORD!
O LORD, we pray, give us success!
²⁶**Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**
²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has made his light to shine upon us.
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the altar!
²⁸**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.**
²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen**
²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9-10

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in
Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did
not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but
made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being
born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human
form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the
point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has
highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is
above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every
knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the
earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

**P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the
twenty-first chapter.**

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to
Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two
disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village in front of

you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵"Say to the daughter of Zion,
Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.

⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Kids Talk (10:30am)

Sermon Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

LSB 837 v. 1-4

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain
- 2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
Refrain
- 3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain
- 4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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

And 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.

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.

Offering

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” LSB 685 v. 2

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

Prayers

P Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, Pilgrims here,
our home above. Full of faith and hope and love, let,
us do the Father's bidding. And so we pray: Lord
Jesus, you are the King of Zechariah's vision, and on
this Palm Sunday, We worship, honor, and bless you,
saying-

C Hosanna in the highest!

P Lord Jesus, no other King would show up to conquer his enemies, humbly riding on a foal of a donkey. No other kind would break the power of death and rob the grave by the brokenness of the cross. No other King could defeat evil and tyranny by shedding his blood. That's why we say-

C Hosanna in the highest!

P Lord Jesus, no other King would come not to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many- a group of rebels and sinners like us. No other King would come so humbly, so lovingly, so kindly. That's why we shout it out-

C Hosanna in the highest!

P Lord Jesus, you are our King, the King of glory, the King and the Lord of Lords. You are our Monarch of mercy, our Governor of grace and our the Prince of Peace. Great is our rejoicing, for you have come to us, Righteous and victorious, loving and sovereign. That's why we celebrate-

C Hosanna in the highest!

P Lord Jesus, by the riches of you grace, continue to free us from sin, Selfishness and worthless idols. By the power of the Gospel, enable us to live with hope and as agents of redemption until the Day you return to finish making all things new.

C Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT †

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the

countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory
of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the
Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the
Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

LSB 442

- ref All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.
- 1 You are the King of Israel
And David’s royal Son,
Now in the Lord’s name coming,
Our King and Blessèd One. Refrain
- 2 The company of angels
Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply. Refrain
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims
With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before You we present. Refrain
- 4 To You before Your passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. Refrain
- 5 As You received their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev’ry blessing,
Our good and gracious King. Refrain

“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born”

LSB 624

- 1 The infant Priest was holy born
For us unholy and forlorn;

From fleshly temple forth came He,
Anointed from eternity.

- 2 This great High Priest in human flesh
Was icon of God's righteousness.
His hallowed touch brought sanctity;
His hand removed impurity.
- 3 The holy Lamb undaunted came
To God's own altar lit with flame;
While weeping angels hid their eyes,
This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4 But death would not the victor be
Of Him who hung upon the tree.
He leads us to the Holy Place
Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
As at the rail on bended knee
Our hungry mouths from Him receive
The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
A priestly food and priestly meat;
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim
Our voices join the endless hymn,
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Nunc Dimittis

P 211

- C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

- 2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,**

Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

- A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benedicamus

P 212

- P Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P Jesus invites us to walk with him to Bethphage and then into Jerusalem, places of great suffering and places of great love! We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb- and resurrection victory!
- C Let us ever walk with Jesus.

Closing Hymn

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

LSB 441

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,
With palms and scattered garments strowed.
- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.
- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
To see the approaching sacrifice.

- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.
The Father on His sapphire throne
Awaits His own anointed Son.
- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

**The Worship Service Sunday Morning
March 28st, 2021**

Preacher	Rev. Joshua Schmidt	
Liturgist	Rev. Michael Redeker	
Elders	Ray Seeley, John O'Conner	8:00am
	Duane Lofton, Billy Diaz	10:30am
Organist	Marilyn Smith	
Acolyte	Cal Diedrich, Elle Diedrich	8:00am
	Jonas Ashcraft	10:30am
Ushers	Ron Sawyer, Allen Weber	8:00am
	Brian O'Connor, John Feliciano	10:30am
Videographer	Jeremy Skoog	8:00am

**These next few months are going to be tough for
everyone.**

But, we will get through it together by the grace of God.

**If you or someone you know is in Spiritual,
Physical, or any other need:**

We are here for you.

Pastor Redeker: (314) 608-5538

Pastor Schmidt: (314) 261-3180

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Announcements
March 28th, 2021

IMPACT CARES-April 3, 2021-8:30-5pm-Rose Park-2910 N. Av.- Share God's love as handy-men or families. Apply online at impactmhcares.com. *Breakfast, Lunch, waters, and a T-Shirt are all provided for you by Impact Cares.* Make sure you mark down that you are with Messiah. Based on attendance of our church/school families, we will receive a generous donation for helping out. *These funds will be used to support our trip to the National Youth Gathering in 2022.*

CONGREGATIONAL CHALLENGE: An anonymous donor would like to issue a challenge to the congregation. They will match up to \$12,700 of above and beyond giving. If you would like to donate to this challenge please mark “**Challenge**” on your check or envelope.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE: Lutheran Church and School of Messiah business cards are available in the Narthex for anyone to use. They have both Church and school information and a QR code that is linked to the church website. They are a great way to let people in our community know about our church and school.

HOLY WEEK SERMON SERIES- Now that we know that we are “broken,” but Christ makes us “OK,” we continue the Journey of Lent ending in Holy Week to discover the “Places of the Passion:”

As we march towards the cross and the empty tomb, we see Jesus travel through the Holy Land, listening to Him teach, witnessing miracles, and discovering how our Savior fulfills the prophecies of the Old Testament. These meditations for Holy Week are inspired by theology professor Reed Lessing, to help us follow Christ with an eye toward the places of the Passion where He suffers, dies, and rises again for our salvation. Every place that Jesus goes along His path hints at His ultimate mission to take your place for redemption so that you might have a place in heaven with Him forever.

Maundy Thursday April 1st at 5:30pm with first communion & 7:00pm: The Upper Room

Good Friday April 2nd 12:30pm & 7:00pm: Golgotha

Easter Sunday April 4th 6:00am & 10:30am: The Garden Tomb

PREGNANCY CENTER/BIRTHRIGHT: A delivery of supplies to both the Pregnancy Center and Birthright was made in February and

March. Both organizations expressed appreciation. Currently the **PREGANCY CENTER** needs: new and gently used 12-month clothes, sleepers, socks, size 5 disposable diapers, and unscented baby wipes. **BIRTHRIGHT** has an opening on their Board of Directors. They thought it would be nice to have someone from Messiah fill this position. Anyone interested in serving on the Board, please let Kasi know and we will get the information to Birthright. The Board meets one Saturday a month for about two hours. The Board is a very relaxed and friendly group. **SALVATION ARMY:** A delivery of five boxes of food was delivered to the Salvation Army in early March.

GIFT PLANNING- Since all gifts are first of all God's gifts, distribution of estate gifts begins with prayer, asking for God's direction for proper understanding of where His gifts are intended to go. Part of that questioning will be consideration of support of ministries that have become woven into your life as you have been blessed through them and as you serve through them. Your Messiah Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can ask you these direct questions, so that you may pray and decide. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS- Zechariah 9:9 - "Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." No king ever rode to war like this. But no king had ever come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is; He does this to bring us from death to life and to make us His own people. And He also does all this to show us an example of self-giving love for us to follow.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS- Thrivent members do not forget to direct your Choice Dollars® to the church general fund or to the school scholarship fund. You have two easy options to direct your Choice Dollars: Online at www.thrivent.com or by calling 800-847-4836

MESSIAH'S RADIO MINISTRY-Sunday mornings at 8:30am -9:00am on 1100AM/KNZZ radio station. If you would like to be a sponsor for this ministry contact the church office, 970-245-2838. This is followed by Lutheran Hour at 9:00am.

Hello! My name is Melissa.

I am a former student and church member of Messiah Lutheran. I wanted to take a few minutes to write about Messiah and express my thanks to the school.

The school of Messiah and their commitment to Christian education is evidenced by their continued success still today. I last attended in 1990, but I've managed to stay connected to the school through my dear friend Rachel Ammon, whose two children attend the school.

Even though some things have changed, what remains ever present is a commitment to create a space to learn about and glorify the Lord.

I have so many good memories from my years at Messiah. I'm so encouraged to know a place so dear to us continues to thrive. I look back with fondness on my time there.

A few of my favorite things from my years at Messiah—bible study, memory, track, music, and choir; all are still part of the curriculum today. A special thanks to former Principal Corky Miller, who I hear recently retired—congratulations sir!

If you're alumni, I encourage you to reach out to the school. Messiah would love to hear from you!

In Christ,
Melissa Meritt

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” —Proverbs 22:6

Calendar for the Week

Sunday	8:00am Divine Service/Communion/Facebook Live 9:30am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/Facebook Live 10:30am Divine Service/Communion
Monday	9:15am Office Staff Meeting 3:15pm School Faculty Meeting
Tuesday	9:00am Quilt Ladies/Fellowship Hall 5:30pm Senior High
Wednesday	8:00am Weekly Bulletin Announcement deadline 8:30am School Chapel 11:00am Wednesday Bible Class/Isaiah/Zoom
Thursday	6:30pm Online Bible Study
Friday	----- Pastor Redeker's Day Off ----- Pastor Schmidt's Day Off
Saturday	
Sunday	8:00am Divine Service/Communion/Facebook Live 9:30am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/Facebook Live 10:30am Divine Service/Communion

Please remember to let the office know of any changes of individuals that you have placed on the Prayer List