

Sunday Service

Life Together - Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday



Grace Lutheran Church

555 SW Cashmere Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986-2034

Office: 772-871-6599
Gracelutheranpsl@gmail.com

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

Pastor Cris Escher

Email: cris@gracelutheranpsl.com
Phone: (770) 328-5078

Welcome...

We are so happy that you are sharing our worship with us from your homes today.

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com Please check Grace Lutheran's website daily!

HOLY COMMUNION

In this time of Governor DeSantis' "stay at home" order, we will refrain from gathering at Grace, even for individual or family communion. We grieve for many things during this time, including now, the opportunity for the Lord's Supper.

Life Together - Christian Community for Tough Times

Peter is writing to Christians facing tough times. He is writing to encourage them in the faith, not to just act any ol' way in this life when things get difficult but to act like Jesus, who, when faced with suffering, still shows love and restores our life together.

TODAY: Palm Sunday

Jesus and his followers have made the long uphill trek to Jerusalem, and they begin to feel victorious. After all, they had just climbed a mountain, and they are with the one who will continue to climb all the way to the top of Rome itself. But is that what Jesus does, climb mountains to the top? Or is he calling us to follow him to the trenches of God's work, the cross?

---- THE OPENING HYMN

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (LW 102 Vs. 1-5)

(REFRAIN)

**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 Blessed One. (REFRAIN)**
- 2. The company of angels are praising You on high;
Creation and all mortals 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. Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring
Great author of all goodness, oh good and gracious King. (REFRAIN)**

--RESPONSE OF THE DAY

Taken From Psalm 32

*Pastor: Blessed are those
whose sins are forgiven.*

**PEOPLE: WHEN I REFUSED TO ADMIT MY
WRONGS, I WAS MISERABLE**

*Pastor: When I finally saw my own lies,
I did not try to hide
my evil deeds from You.*

**PEOPLE: I SAID, "I WILL CONFESS MY
TRANSGRESSIONS TO THE LORD."**

*Pastor: To all those who honor the Lord,
offer a prayer during your time of
struggle.*

**PEOPLE: LORD, KEEP US FROM A TIME OF
TROUBLE.**

*Pastor: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O
righteous.*

**PEOPLE: SHOUT FOR JOY, ALL WHOSE
HEARTS ARE HONEST AND TRUE.**

----THE HYMN OF PRAISE

"Beautiful Savior" (LW 507 Vs. 1-2)

*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.*

--- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God's forgiveness)

Pastor:  *O Almighty God,*

**PEOPLE: MERCIFUL FATHER,
I CONFESS THAT I HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU. I HAVE DONE THAT WHICH YOU FORBID,
I HAVE DONE WHAT IS RIGHT IN MY OWN EYES.
IN THE WEARINESS OF A BUSY LIFE I HAVE YIELDED TO TEMPTATION.
I HAVE TRUSTED MYSELF MORE THAN I HAVE TRUSTED YOU.
I HAVE FOLLOWED MY OWN PATHS RATHER THAN YOURS. FORGIVE ME, I PRAY.
BY YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, LEAD ME AND GUIDE ME SO THAT I MAY TRULY BE YOUR SERVANT IN
YOUR GREAT REDEMPTIVE WORK ON EARTH;
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, OUR LORD. AMEN**

Pastor:  *The story of Jesus is about life and forgiveness.*

*You are God's beloved; you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope of new life. God
loves you, and God is the restorer of hope. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and
of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN*

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you sent your Son, our Saviour, to take our nature on himself and to suffer and die on the cross. Lead us to follow the example of his great humility, and bring us to share in his resurrection. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

THE FIRST LESSON Zechariah 9:9-13

Zechariah tells of a day when an ideal King will enter Jerusalem to the uproarious shouts and jubilant celebration of the people. Unlike other kings, this King enters humbly, riding on a donkey, a beast of burden, not on a warhorse. He comes to establish real justice.

Rejoice 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.

I 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.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

For I have bent Judah as my bow;

I have made Ephraim its arrow.

I will stir up your sons, O Zion,

against your sons, O Greece,

and wield you like a warrior's sword..

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 3:8-12

Peter calls all believers to humility, submission, and service: everyone to God, citizens to rulers, slaves to masters, wives to husbands, and younger to elders.

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For

“Whoever desires to love life

and see good days,

let him keep his tongue from evil

and his lips from speaking deceit;

let him turn away from evil and do good;

let him seek peace and pursue it.

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

“RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD” - sing (LW pg. 165)

Re-turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger,

and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

Jesus rides a donkey instead of being carried into town on the backs of servants. After all, donkeys are a poor man's mount, and even in this triumphal entry, Jesus makes it clear He does not intend to conquer and rule in a worldly way.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And

some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

--- HYMN OF THE DAY

"It Is Well With My Soul" (Vs. 1 - 4)

**1. When peace, like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul." (REFRAIN)**

REFRAIN

**IT IS WELL, WITH MY SOUL,
IT IS WELL, IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL.**

The Apostles Creed
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.

2. Though Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (REFRAIN)
3. He lives - O, the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (REFRAIN)
4. And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight.
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so it is well with my soul. (REFRAIN)

--- THE SERMON

Palm Sunday

--THE OFFERTORY (LW Pg. 168)

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest
from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.*

--- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after each petition)

Pastor:.. Lord, in your mercy,
PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

--- THE LORD'S PRAYER

----- THE BLESSING

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heav'n
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heav'n
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

*Pastor: May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord look upon you with grace and redemption.
May the Lord always walk before you and give you peace.*

PEOPLE: AMEN

----THE CLOSING HYMN

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” (LW 106 Vs. 1-3)

- 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 men and angels 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!**

----- SENDING

*Pastor: Have peace knowing we are all with you.
Serve others knowing God walks before you.*

--- ADDITIONAL HYMNS

Come thou Fount

- 1. Come, thou fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; may I still Thy goodness prove.**
- 2. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wan-d’ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.**
- 3. Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;**

**Clothed then in the blood-washed linen how I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, take my ran-som'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry me to realms of endless day.**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

- 1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.**

CHORUS

**GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS!
MORNING BY MORNING NEW MERCIES I SEE;
ALL I HAVE NEEDED THY HAND HATH PROVIDED
GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS, LORD, UNTO ME!**

- 2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (CHORUS)**
- 3. Pardon for sin, and a peace that endureth;
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow;
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. (CHORUS)**

"How Great Thou Art" (LW 519 Vs. 1-4)

- 1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

REFRAIN

**THEN SINGS MY SOUL, MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE,
HOW GREAT THOU ART! HOW GREAT THOU ART!
THEN SINGS MY SOUL, MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE,
HOW GREAT THOU ART! HOW GREAT THOU ART!**

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; (REFRAIN)
3. But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; (REFRAIN)
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim; "My God, how great Thou art!" (REFRAIN)

---- **THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

Today - Sunday **April 5, 2020**

Worship Service (video service)

9:00 AM

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

This Week

April 6 - April 11, 2020

Maundy Thursday (video service)

Thursday 5:00 PM

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

Good Friday (video service)

Friday 5:00 PM

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

For complete calendar information, go to www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Jay and Dayre Horton 4/11/1970 (50 Years!)

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Bob Zanzig - 4/10

PLEASE CALL PEOPLE I realize, I take for granted that people just come to the church on a regular basis. So that we all don't descend into madness, let's call and talk to each other regularly. Phone directories are available at the church for your convenience.

GIVING changing over to a social distance model of ministry has been quite challenging. We have had to purchase new equipment and spend lots of time getting ready. Remember, during this time, the church's expenses will not go down even though we are not meeting in person. During the next month, we want to provide "Grace and Peace in this Chaotic and Lonely Time."

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES ("YouTube and Facebook Streamed")

Maundy Thursday, 4/9 - 6 PM, Good Friday, 4/10 - Noon, Easter Sunday, 4/12 - 9 AM

Questions to ponder this week

1. When you had a big accomplishment (such as a graduation or promotion), how did you celebrate it?
2. Read Mark 11:1-11. How do the disciples and Jesus' followers celebrate as Jesus comes into Jerusalem at the time of the Passover? Who do they think Jesus is?
3. Read John 12:12-26. In John 12:24, what do you think Jesus means about a grain of wheat falling, dying, and then bearing fruit?
4. What does John 12:24 have to do with Jesus' death and resurrection? What does this have to do with our life as we follow Jesus?