

**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

11:00 AM  
MARCH 29,  
2026

*Palm  
&  
Passion  
Sunday*

**Jeffery Gramza**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Tim Jordan**  
*Intern Pastor*

**Jonathan  
Lonsway**  
*Dir. of Music*

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Today we stand at the meeting of triumph and sorrow. With palms in our hands we join the crowd that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem, crying Hosanna! to the humble King who comes in peace. Yet even as we sing, the road turns toward the cross. The cheers fade, the story deepens, and the one we praise will be betrayed and lifted up in love for the world. We do not watch this story from a distance; we walk it with Jesus, bringing our joy, our grief, our faith, and our need for mercy. So let us enter this holy day with open hearts, following Christ through the shadow of the cross, trusting that his love will lead us into life.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!  
Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!  
Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!  
Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!  
**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

## BLESSING OF PALMS

*The people raise their palm branches.*

We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence



## CONCLUDING PRAYERS

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

O Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:

**Save us, and help us, we humbly pray, O Lord.**

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you set your Passion, Cross and death between your judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give the living mercy and grace, the dead pardon and rest, and your holy Church peace and unity, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns world without end.

**Amen.**

May the glorious Passion of our lord Jesus Christ bring us to the joys of Paradise.

**Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

Service adapted from "A Service of Passion Readings and Music" compiled by Robert Lehman  
Prayers in this order of service are drawn from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer 1979 and the Passion Prayers of The Rev. Eric Milner-White  
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through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace,

**In the name of the Lord.**

## PROCESSIONAL SONG

*Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

*Verse 1*

Praise is rising

Eyes are turning to You

We turn to You

Hope is stirring

Hearts are yearning for You

We long for You

*Pre-Chorus*

'Cause when we see You

We find strength to face the day

In Your presence

All our fears are washed away

Washed away

*Chorus*

Hosanna hosanna

You are the God who saves us

Worthy of all our praises

Hosanna hosanna

Come have Your way among us

We welcome You here Lord Jesus

(REPEAT)

*Ending*

Hosanna hosanna

Hosanna hosanna

Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche

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*Pastor:*

The palms will wither. The shouts will fade. But the love of Christ will not.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON



## A SERVICE OF PASSION READINGS AND MUSIC

### OPENING DEVOTIONS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, Lamb of God, Lord of Lords, call us, who are called to be saints, along the way of your cross: draw us, who would draw nearer to our King, to the foot of your cross: cleanse us, who are not worthy to approach, with the pardon of your cross: instruct us, the ignorant and blind, in the school of your cross: arm us, for the battles of holiness, by the might of your cross: bring us, in the fellowship of your sufferings to the victory of your cross: and seal us in the kingdom of your glory among the servants of your cross, O crucified Lord; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns one God almighty, eternal, world without end.

**Amen.**

### MEDITATION I

<sup>13</sup> See, my servant shall prosper;

he shall be exalted and lifted up  
and shall be very high.

<sup>14</sup> Just as there were many who were astonished at him

—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of mortals—

<sup>15</sup> so he shall startle many nations;

kings shall shut their mouths because of him,  
for that which had not been told them they shall see,  
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

<sup>1</sup> Who has believed what we have heard?

## COMMUNION PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Communion will be distributed by coming forward and receiving the bread and wine. The center cups (white) are non-alcoholic grape juice. Upon receiving, please put empty cups in baskets provided. If you prefer gluten free, please ask Pastor who is distributing. Please proceed up the center aisle returning to your seat via the side aisles.*

### COMMUNION SONG

*Jesus, Messiah*

*Verse 1*

He became sin who knew no sin  
That we might become His righteousness  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross  
Love so amazing love so amazing

*Chorus*

Jesus Messiah Name above all names  
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel  
The Rescue for sinners  
The Ransom from heaven  
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

*Verse 2*

His body the bread His blood the wine  
Broken and poured out all for love  
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn  
Love so amazing love so amazing

*Chorus*

*Bridge*

All our hope is in You  
All our hope is in You  
All the glory to You God  
The Light of the world

*Chorus*

*Ending*

Jesus Messiah  
Lord of all  
The Lord of all  
The Lord of all

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## HOLY COMMUNION

*We do not come to this table as spectators of the cross,  
but as those for whom it was carried.*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### SHARING THE PEACE

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY SONG

#### *The Wonderful Cross*

##### *Verse 1*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride

##### *Verse 2*

See from His head His hands His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown

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##### *Chorus*

O the wonderful cross  
O the wonderful cross  
Bids me come and die and find  
That I may truly live  
O the wonderful cross  
O the wonderful cross  
All who gather here by grace  
Draw near and bless Your name

##### *Verse 3*

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were an offering far too small  
Love so amazing so divine  
Demands my soul my life my all

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
<sup>2</sup> For he grew up before him like a young plant  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.  
<sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by others;  
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity,  
and as one from whom others hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him of no account.  
<sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases,  
yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.  
<sup>5</sup> But he was wounded for our transgressions,  
crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,  
and by his bruises we are healed.  
<sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have all turned to our own way,  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.  
(Isaiah 52:13-53:6)

### SONG

#### *You Are My King (Amazing Love)*

##### *Verse*

I'm forgiven  
Because You were forsaken  
I'm accepted  
You were condemned  
I'm alive and well  
Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died  
And rose again

##### *Chorus*

Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You  
(In all I do I honor You)

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Surely he has borne our griefs:  
**And carried our sorrows.**

Let us pray:

O Lord God, who has brought all the great promises of the Gospel to us through the sorrows and death of your dear Son Jesus Christ: Grant us, when you ask it, to suffer in so good a manner and for so good a cause as may be worthy of union with his most holy sufferings; that we may tread with the King the way to the kingdom; where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit ever one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

## MEDITATION II

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>8</sup> By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.

<sup>9</sup> They made his grave with the wicked  
and his tomb with the rich,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with affliction.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

<sup>11</sup> Out of his anguish he shall see;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus

every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*(Philippians 2:5-11)*

*Silence is kept*

Christ did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped;

**But emptied himself, being born in the likeness of mortals.**

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the most High God, who emptied yourself and gives your whole life to us, even unto death, the death of the cross; grant us to receive so immeasurable a gift with penitence, with gratefulness, and with joy, so that we hold nothing of ourselves from others and from you, who lives and reigns in the glory of the eternal Trinity, God forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## SONG

### *Beneath the Cross*

#### *Verse 1*

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I find a place to stand  
And wonder at such mercy  
That calls me as I am  
For hands that should discard me  
Hold wounds which tell me come  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
My unworthy soul is won

#### *Verse 3*

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
The path before the crown  
We follow in His footsteps  
Where promised hope is found  
How great the joy before us  
To be His perfect bride  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
We will gladly live our lives

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For as in Adam all die:

**Even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

Let us pray.

O Christ, Redeemer and Lord, who by death bequeathed to us so great a legacy as to inherit life: So charge our mortality with your immortal Spirit, that led by grace in the way we lose not glory in the end; where with the Father and the same Spirit you live and reign, God forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## MEDITATION VII

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out himself to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors,  
yet he bore the sin of many  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

(Isaiah 53:7-12)

## SONG

### *All For Love (Gethsemane)*

#### *Verse 1*

The weight of the promise held in Your heart  
My sinful condition kept us apart  
In the Garden of Gethsemane where mercy met Your Majesty

#### *Verse 2*

The call of redemption Father to Son  
With tears of deep sorrow Your will be done  
In the Garden of Gethsemane where mercy met Your  
Majesty

#### *Chorus*

All for love all for love  
Perfect Saviour in holy surrender  
All for love all for love  
As darkness descended You never relented

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The Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all:  
**For the transgression of my people was he stricken.**

Let us pray.  
O Christ, the King of kings, whose sinless and venerable head we crowned with thorns: Grant us with you to seek no diadem than that which crowns victory over sin; who lives and reigns in the glory of the eternal Trinity, God, world without end. **Amen.**

### MEDITATION III

<sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup> (Jesus) said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. <sup>34</sup> The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” <sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, “The light is in you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. <sup>36</sup> While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”  
*(John 12:31-36a)*

### SONG *In Christ Alone*

*Verse 1*  
In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Be imitators of God, and walk in love:  
**As Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.**

Let us pray.  
Blessed Lord, who in your forgiving love prayed for those who nailed you to the cross, and has taught us to forgive one another as we have been forgiven; take from us all bitterness and resentment towards our fellows, and give us the spirit of mutual forgiveness and brotherly love; that in perfect charity we may be partakers of your everlasting kingdom; for your mercy's sake.  
**Amen.**

### MEDITATION VI

<sup>33</sup> When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup> [[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup> Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”  
*(Luke 23:33-43)*

against him.”<sup>7</sup> The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

<sup>8</sup> Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. <sup>9</sup> He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> Pilate therefore said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?” <sup>11</sup> Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”

*(John 18:33-19:11)*

## SONG

### *How Deep the Father's Love For Us*

#### *Verse 1*

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

#### *Verse 2*

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

Stuart Townend

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#### *Verse 2*

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

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And I, if I be lifted up:

**Will draw all things unto myself.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

## MEDITATION IV

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> “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.”

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> 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!”

(*Matthew 21:1-9*)

## SONG

*Be Unto Your Name*

### *Verse 2*

We are the broken You are the healer  
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save  
You are the love song we'll sing forever  
Bowling before You blessing Your name

### *Chorus*

Holy holy Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain  
Highest praises honor and glory  
Be unto Your name  
Be unto Your name

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,

and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## MEDITATION V

*Congregation: When the crowd speaks, we speak.*

<sup>33</sup> Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup> Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him. <sup>39</sup> But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” <sup>40</sup> They shouted in reply, “**Not this man but Barabbas!**” Now Barabbas was a rebel.

<sup>1</sup> Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup> And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup> They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup> Pilate went out again and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” <sup>5</sup> So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” <sup>6</sup> When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “**Crucify him! Crucify him!**” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case

