



Sunday, April 13, 2025
Palm Sunday

Service Theme

Jesus Doesn't Seize Power, He Surrenders It.

As we begin Holy Week, we see Jesus bury humanity's endless attempts at seizing power. In our world, power dynamics are almost always in play. Those who don't have power want it, often more than anything else. Those who have power are willing to do anything to keep it. In contrast, Jesus—who possesses all power as the Son of God—willingly surrendered his power and placed himself in the hands of his enemies. Why? What he wanted more than anything else was not power, but you. So, Jesus begins this Holy Week riding into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he was riding to the cross. He would surrender himself to the punishment that our sins deserved, so that through Spirit-wrought faith we might seize the glory and heaven that only he deserves.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: On the first Palm Sunday, people lined the streets as Jesus rode into the city. Anthems filled the air as men, women, and children raised their palm branches as a sign of victory and peace. Today we worship that same Jesus who rode into Jerusalem on his way to win salvation for the world.

Men: **Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

Women: **Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

All Sing: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna CW 413 st. 1

**Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang;
thro' 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.**

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Men: **For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Women: Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

All Sing: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna CW 413 st. 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.**

Pastor: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd did not want the people to praise Jesus. They said to him: "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" But Jesus replied: "I tell you the truth, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out!"

**All: How can we be still? How can we remain silent?
Let the earth sing and the heavens rejoice!
Let all that has breath praise the Lord!
Blessed is the King who comes in the Name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!
Amen.**

All Sing: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna CW 413 st. 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 royal presence
eternally rejoice.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess that we have no right to worship you, for we are sinful people. But we also know and trust that Jesus lived and died for us, to make us righteous and holy in your sight. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with confidence; the One who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1–4

Isaiah foretold the coming Servant of the Lord whose humility would be the source of the world's hope and whose willingness to surrender would bring forth justice.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight.
I am placing my Spirit on him.
He will announce a just verdict for the nations.

²He will not cry out.
He will not raise his voice.
He will not make his voice heard in the street.

³A bent reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out.
He will faithfully bring forth a just verdict.

⁴He will not burn out, and he will not be broken,
until he establishes justice on the earth.
The coastlands will wait for his law.

24A Welcome the King of Glory

Psalm 24A

Refrain



Tone



The earth is the LORD's, and every- / thing in it,
the world, and all who / live in it;
for he founded it / on the seas
and established it on the / waters.

Who may ascend the mountain / of the LORD?
Who may stand in his / holy place?
The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart,
they will receive blessing from God their / Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient doors,
that the King of glory / may come in.
Who is this King of / glory?
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in / battle.

Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors,
that the King of glory / may come in.
Who is he, this King of / glory?
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of / glory.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Epistle

Philippians 2:5–11

Jesus is true God, yet he did not use his divine power to forcefully seize what he wanted. Instead, he surrendered to death on a cross, so that he might win our salvation.

⁵Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. ⁶Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, ⁷but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Proper

Luke 19:38

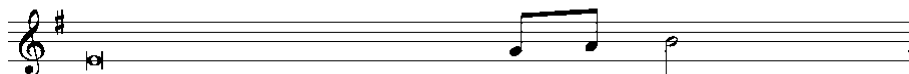


Refrain



Glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, Son of the liv - ing God.

Tone



"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"



"Peace in heaven and glory in the high - est!"

Gospel

Luke 19:28–40

On Palm Sunday Jesus rode into Jerusalem to cheers and praise, knowing that shortly after he would surrender himself to his enemies and be put to death.

²⁸After Jesus had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹As he came near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ahead, ³⁰saying, “Go to the village ahead of you. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹And if anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you will say this: ‘The Lord needs it.’”

³²Those who were sent ahead went and found things just as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

³⁴They said, “The Lord needs it.”

³⁵Then they brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their robes on the colt and set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he went along, people spread their robes on the road. ³⁷As he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God joyfully, with a loud voice, for all the miracles they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

³⁹Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

⁴⁰He replied, “I tell you, if these people would be silent, the stones would cry out.”

415 Exult Today, Jerusalem

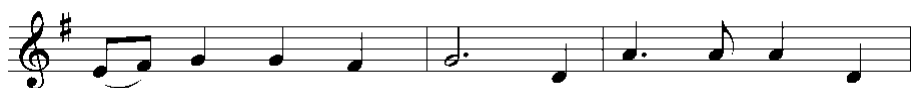
CW 415



1 Ex - ult to - day, Je - ru - sa - lem! God comes to
2 With joy, the cit - y res - o - nates! O Zi - on's
3 The Christ! A Proph - et great - er than that giv - er
4 Christ's glo - ry is not seen by those of - fend - ed
5 So wave your palms and fill the air with shouts of



set you free! This roy - al Son of Beth - le - hem ful -
daugh - ter, sing! Lift up your heads, you might - y gates, and
of the law; a Priest, not born from Le - vi's clan, but
by the cross, for world - ly wis - dom nev - er knows how
joy this day; the King of glo - ry comes to bear your



fills all proph - e - cy. This great - er Jo - nah
greet your com - ing King! He rides no horse with
born with - out sin's flaw; a King, one like that
gain could come from loss; yet, this the glo - ry
sin and death a - way! Ho - san - na, Lord! Your



of re - nown God's love and pow'r dis - plays; he comes to
pranc - ing strides, as kings be - fore him came, but on a
priest - ly king, Mel - chiz - e - dek of old, for Christ, as
of the Christ: to claim our cross as throne—his per - fect
peo - ple save! O come, Em - man - u - el, and by your



tear God's tem - ple down and raise it in three days!
don - key hum - bly rides, his of - fice to pro - claim:
thorn - crowned King will bring God's right - eous - ness fore - told.
life he sac - ri - ficed that we might be his own!
cross and shat - tered grave, tear down the gates of hell!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

Tune: Scott M. Hyslop, b. 1961

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SERMON TEXT & THEME

Psalm 24 ... **Behold Your**

1) God, 2) Saviour, 3) and King

¹The earth is the LORD's

and everything that fills it,

the world and all who live in it,

²because he founded it on the seas,

and he established it on the rivers.

³Who may go up to the mountain of the LORD?

Who may stand in his holy place?

⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

whose soul is not set on what is false,

who does not swear deceitfully.

⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD

and righteousness from the God who saves him.

⁶Such are the people of Jacob who look for the LORD,

who seek your face.

Interlude

⁷Lift up your heads, you gates.

Lift yourselves up, you ancient doors,

and the King of Glory will come in.

⁸Who is this King of Glory?

The LORD strong and mighty,

the LORD mighty in battle.

⁹Lift up your heads, you gates.

Lift up, you ancient doors,

and the King of Glory will come in.

¹⁰Who is he, this King of Glory?

The LORD of Armies—he is the King of Glory.

Interlude

953 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

CW 953



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your
 4 You are King of glo - ry, Christ, Son of
 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly



all, we bow be - fore you. All on
 choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u -
 sa - cred name they hal - low; proph - ets
 God, yet born of Mar - y, for us
 Spir - it, three we name you, though in



earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -
 bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing
 swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed
 sin - ners sac - ri - ficed, on the cross our
 es - sence on - ly one, un - di - vid - ed



bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -
 cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac -
 mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to set of
 sins did car - ry; first to break the bars of
 God we claim you, and, a - dor - ing, bend the



main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 sun through the Church the song goes on.
 death, you have o - pened heav'n to faith.
 knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.

Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

OFFERATORY PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord Jesus, you are the King of heaven and earth. We join the first Palm Sunday worshipers in praising and glorifying you for coming to this earth to be our Savior. Though you are one with God the Father and Lord of all, you humbled yourself and became one with us. Thanks be to you for living a life of perfect conformity to God's holy law in our place.

Praise be to you for being obedient to death, even death on a cross, to redeem us from sin.

Cause our voices to blend with those who sang your praises as you rode into Jerusalem. Move us to confess you before others as our Lord. Help us proclaim the message of peace and forgiveness to people of all nations. Use us to assure all people that your blood has cleansed them from sin and set them free from slavery to sin, death, and the devil.

Move us to dedicate all we are and have to your glory.

Lord Jesus, you are King over all the earth. Bless the nations of this world with wise rulers and good government. Let peace prevail. Grant success to the businesses and industries of our land to serve for the common good. Cause all employers to be honest and fair-minded and all employees to be diligent and faithful. Look with favor on our nation's schools. Be with those who teach and those who learn.

Comfort the sick and the afflicted with the assurance of your care and protection. Strengthen the faith of the dying.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Dear Savior, as we walk with you this week toward Calvary, keep us focused on your purpose for coming into this world and on our calling to spread this wonderful message of salvation.

Hear us for your mercy's sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PALM SUNDAY

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

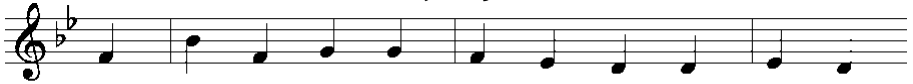
BLESSING

The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

411 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

CW 411



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! All the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The an - gel
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and
5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs
ar - mies of the sky look down with sad and
fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on his
pomp ride on to die. Bow your meek head to



sue your road, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
won - d'ring eyes to see th'ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
sap - phire throne a - waits his own a - noint - ed Son.
mor - tal pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign.

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

April 20 – Peter // April 27 – Barnabas

Easter Altar Flowers

For anyone wishing to help beautify the Altar for Easter, please drop off the plant(s) of your choice (lilies, daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, etc.) to the church by 10:30 am on Saturday, April 19th. You are welcome to take your plants home after the Easter Worship service or, if you wish, you may leave them at church to continue to beautify the altar for upcoming worship services.

Holy Week Schedule at Divine Word

April 17

7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

April 18

10:30 AM – Good Friday Service (no Communion)

April 20

8:00 AM – Easter Sunrise Service with Holy Communion

9:00 AM – Easter Breakfast

10:30 AM – Easter Late Service (no Communion)

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (13) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
- Tu (15) 7:00 pm Elders Meeting
- Th (17) 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday (Communion)**
- Fr (18) 10:30 am Good Friday Worship**
- Su (20) 8:00 am Easter Sunrise (Communion)**
9:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:30 am Easter Worship
3:00 pm Easter in Poltimore (Communion)
- Tu (22) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
7:00 pm Council Meeting
- We (23) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Th (24) 6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
- Fr (25) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Sa (26) 11:00 pm Communicating Christ (Youth)
- Su (27) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour



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