

Historic Lessons for Palm ✠ **Sunday** (6th Sunday in Lent)

Old Testament



Zechariah 9:8-12 NIV But I will defend My house against marauding forces. Never again will an oppressor overrun My people, for now I am keeping watch. 9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His Rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you, because of the Blood of My covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

Epistle

Philippians 2:5-11 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a Servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a Man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death - even death on a Cross! 9 Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the Name that is above every Name, 10 that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to Me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: 5 "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your King comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" 11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the Prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS
Palm Sunday (6th Sunday in Lent) ✠ *Our King Enters!*
Hosanna! Sunday, March 20th, 2016 ✠ 9:30 am



*Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Matthew 21:1-11
Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey to the waving of palm branches and the
placement of cloaks before him.*

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

* A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 * Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

March 20, 2016 ✨ (Lent-6) Palm Sunday-Jesus' Entry

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking **Holy Communion.** Thank you for your understanding. Lord's blessings.

ORDER OF WORSHIP On insert sheets or in red (TLH) Hymnal at **p.15**.

Service		
Opening Hymn	160 (5v)	All Glory, Laud and Honor
Gloria Hymn	161 (3v)	<i>Sing v.1 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna...</i>
Hymn of the Day	162 (5v)	Ride On, Ride On in Majesty
Offertory Verse	161 (3v)	<i>Sing v.3 Hosanna in the highest...</i>
Distribution Hymn	315 (15)	I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table
Closing Hymn	361 (5v)	O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after Palm Sunday = *Holy Week*

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
 Jere. 7:1-15 Isaiah 50:4-11 Jer 11:18-23 Zech 3:1-10 Lam. 2:8-15 Isa. 52:13-15
 John 18:1-18 John 18:19-40 John 19:1-12 Jo. 19:13-24 Jo. 19:25-37 Jo. 19:38-42

PROPERs for PALMARUM = PALM SUNDAY MARCH 20TH

INTROIT Be not far from me, O Lord! My Strength, hasten to help me! Save me from the lion's mouth, and deliver me from the horns of the unicorns. My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me? ...from Psalm 22

COLLECT Almighty and Everlasting God, You have sent Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take upon Him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of His great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience, and also, by Your grace alone, be made partakers of His Resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives... **C: ♪ A- -men.**

GRADUAL C: You have held me by my right hand. You shall guide me with Your counsel and afterward receive me to glory. Truly, God is good to Israel, even to those who are of a clean heart. ...from Psalm 73

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on outside back page of the bulletin)

O.T. **Zechariah 9:8-12** The prophet Zechariah's prophecy of Palm Sunday.
 Epi. **Philippians 2:5-11** Be imitators of Christ on Palm Sunday and always.
 Gos. **Matthew 21:1-11** Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem Palm Sunday.

GLORIA (& OFFERTORY) VERSE Hosanna, Loud Hosanna #161, v.1

1. *Hosanna-, loud hosanna-, - The lit-tle children sang; Through pillared- court and Tem-ple - The love-ly anthem rang. To- Jesus, Who had blessed- them, - Close- folded to His breast, The children- sang their prais-es, - The sim-plest and the best. A-men.*

OFFERTORY VERSE Hosanna, Loud Hosanna #161, v. 3

3. *"Hosanna- in the high-est!" - That an-cient song we sing, For Christ is- our Redee-mer, - The Lord- of Heav'n our King. Oh,- may we ever praise- Him - With- heart and life and voice AND IN HIS- BLISSFUL PRES-ENCE - ETERNAL-LY REJOICE. A-MEN.*

PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation Pray for...

Jeanette Ammann (Donna's daughter) Health. Pray for healing and peace
Sue (friend of Joe & BevF) Pray for health. Sue received tough health news
Alex Gourley (Ilene) Alex had aneurysm surgery last week. He's back home
Elma & Jim Hendricks Health - Elma & Jim *still* recovering from illnesses
Linda Kryszak Pray for her health. Linda hopefully recovering from surgery
Dee Kurczewski (David) Dee's ongoing health. Dee at home. David helps
Mary, Pam & Karen Friends & family of DonnaM, all battling health issues
Janice Thomas Had CT scan and blood transfusion. Pray strength for Janice
James Vanesky & Delores Health. Jim's neckbrace off. Delores had surgery

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Elma & Jim Hendricks	Bev Foster & Joe Thacker
Treaters	Judy & Marlow Palmquist	8:15 am - Easter Breakfast!
(Head) Usher	John Weber	John Weber

Statistics	Sunday + Wed.	Year to date / Avg.
Sunday Attendance/Lord's Supper	43 + 24 / - -	40 / 32
Bible Class Attend / Sunday School	17 / -	14 / 0
Sunday Offering + Midweek Lent \$	\$ + \$	YTD Total \$

Calendar of Events		
Sunday, 3/20	8:30 am	Bible Study Lord's Prayer - 5th Petition
Palm Sunday	9:30 am	Worship (WITH Communion)
<i>(6th Sunday in Lent)</i>	10:45 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk
Thursday, 3/24	7:00 pm	OSL Maundy Thursday Worship w/L.S.
Friday, 3/25	7:00 pm	OSL Good Friday <i>Tennebrae</i> Worship
Sunday, 3/27	8:15 am	Easter Breakfast at church
Easter Sunday	9:30 am	Easter Festival Worship (No L.S.)
<i>(6th Sunday in Lent)</i>	11:00 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee... <i>Blessed Easter!</i>

Our Savior Elders: **Tom Temple 213-4622; Jim Vanesky 644-7807; John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 815-8892.** Please contact with concerns.

✨ **Sign-Up sheet for the Easter Sunday Breakfast is still posted in fellowship hall.**
 Maundy Thursday 3/24 *Maundy Thursday (p.15, L.S.) TLH# 145 304 163 313*
 Good Friday 3/25 *Good Friday (Special) TLH# 172 324 151 143 159 179*
 Easter Sunday 3/28 *Easter (p.5 No L.S.) TLH# 200.1-4 199 189 200 205 200*

PALM SUN(L.6) Matthew 21:12-17 "WHAT ARE KIDS SAYING?" 03.20.16 OSL

INTRODUCTION A pastor, who has a large family, likes to tell the story of one hectic Sunday morning. His son couldn't find his belt. He and his wife looked for it, but they couldn't find it either. The pastor was getting more and more frustrated as the clock kept running and he was going to be late for church. Then his son, who was seven or eight, asked a simple question, "Dad, have you prayed about it?" That question knocked the wind right out of the pastor's sails. Who had spent the last seven or eight years teaching his son to pray when he was in need? And who remembered to apply that lesson in a moment of frustration? During the season of Lent this year, in our midweek services, we've been considering the ironies of the passion. Irony is an outcome that's the opposite of what you might expect. You wouldn't expect a child to take a minister to school on such a basic matter of faith. But that's what the Scriptures say about children and their faith. Today is **Palm Sunday**. We sang, "**Hosanna, Loud Hosanna.**" This morning, we want to consider the incident that inspired that stirring hymn. We want to see the **Irony** in the question Jesus' enemies asked: (THEME) **Do you hear what these children are saying?** (READ TEXT **Matthew 21:12-17**)

I. God doesn't tell us what He thinks about every incident that is recorded in the Bible. He often lets us wrestle with the details. But here He does fill in the blanks. **Matthew** writes, "*But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things [Jesus] did . . .*" **What does wonderful mean? "Really good!" right?** That's true. However, the Greek word (**θαυμασια**) **Matthew** uses here means more than that. It means something that **causes people to wonder - to be amazed**. Jesus did things on this day that caused **people's mouths to hang open in surprise**, things that caused people to praise God for his unexpected blessings.

(But,) **What things were so wonderful?** The great "**Triumphal Entry**" into Jerusalem certainly caused people to sit up and wonder. But this incident happened **after that**. So on the next day of Holy Week, Jesus went to the temple. And, What did he find there? **Money changers and merchants**. Remember, this was the week of Passover. God's Law required every Jewish male to come to Jerusalem to celebrate this festival. Jews came from all over the Roman world. God allowed people who came from far away to purchase their lambs for the Passover meal at the temple. However, the merchants overcharged for the lambs. It was kind of like buying a hot dog at a football game. It costs a whole lot more there than it does at the grocery store.

The priests and merchants were cheating the people. And the priests were getting a cut. So **Jesus drove out the money changers** and merchants, and He called them thieves. That was the **first amazing thing** He did that day.

The **second amazing thing** was different, but really it was the same. **Matthew** writes, "*The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them.*" Now, **Jesus had been healing people for three years**. But **now He did it one last time**, before His ministry ended. And children were shouting a response of faith, "**Hosanna to the Son of David!**" Obviously, they had marched the day before with the crowds that waved their palm branches

and spread their cloaks and welcomed Jesus. They were still singing the praises that had excited them so much the day before. All three of these wonderful things meant the same thing: **Jesus IS the Messiah, the Christ**. All these amazing things Jesus did said, "*See! The One you've been waiting for is here!*"

The children understood that! *Hosanna* means "to save." It was the traditional welcome cry for the promised Savior. The Son of David was the title of the King who was coming to set God's people free. That's what these children shouted to Jesus, but they didn't say those things on their own. The Holy Spirit was working that day to bring forth the fruits of faith. That's not ironic. We expect God to work through his Word to change hearts and open mouths. The irony lay on the other side. **Matthew** writes, "*But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, 'Hosanna to the Son of David,' they were indignant.*"

The priests and the teachers of the law were the experts. They spent their days reading the Bible. However, when these things happened just like God promised they would in the Old Testament - when the Savior came - **they didn't recognize Him. They were angry that other people were claiming He was the Messiah.**

Children knew their Savior while the theologians didn't. And folks, **it's no different today**. The pointy-headed intellectuals of our society smirk at "foolish" people like us who need to believe in a "**Disneyland in the sky.**" People who don't believe in Jesus think we're just stupid. That's sad, because God lays it all out before them in his Word, but all over the world, people refuse to see it. Why?

They don't see it because **they don't WANT to believe it**. People today will believe almost anything. In a past life, you were Napoleon or Joan of Ark or some other famous person. God talking to us through our feelings? Why not? (But,) God coming down to earth to **pay for our sins with His own Blood so that we won't go to hell - well, NOT THAT!** Why not? Because that would mean God is a judge. That would mean there is an absolute standard of right and wrong that every person on earth must submit to or suffer the consequences. People in our society do not buy that. They think right and wrong really mean what's best for them in any given situation. Eternal standards, absolute rules - people today just won't swallow that because it would finally mean that some people are, in fact, wrong. It would mean that people are guilty and that they deserve to suffer in hell forever.

You know what? **Simple Christians the world over see Jesus with the faith of a child**. They recognize the Savior Who came to give us peace. They know the only answer for the guilt we feel over our sin and for the hurt and sadness that sin causes in our lives is Jesus. Yes, that does mean that there is absolute right and wrong. Sin is rebellion against God. The simple, humble Christian has no problem saying, "I have rebelled against God over and over again in my life." However, Jesus rode into Jerusalem to be our Savior. **Palm Sunday is the beginning of the end of Jesus' life**. Five days after the

crowds of people welcomed Him, some of those same people, perhaps, were chanting, **“Crucify him! Crucify him!”** How’s that for irony?

Jesus rode into Jerusalem, and on the next day, he **healed the sick, cleansed his Father’s house**, and inspired the children to sing their song of praise so that Christians would **see their Savior** and trust that he has taken their place. He has paid for our sins. God has forgiven us. God has given us eternal life. **Do YOU hear what these children are saying? Understand these wonderful things!**

II. “Do you hear what these children are saying?” That’s what the Jewish leaders said when confronted with what Jesus had done. These men were horrified that **Jewish children would call Jesus the Messiah**. But once again, they failed to understand God’s plan. Jesus replied, *“Yes, ... have you never read, ‘From the lips of **children and infants** You, Lord, have called forth Your praise?’”* Jesus not only heard what they were saying, but He approved of it. This was exactly what God wanted to happen.

Jesus quoted **Psalm 8:2**. That Psalm is all about how God the Son would leave his throne of glory and live here as a humble carpenter’s son. In that psalm, God taught His people that He treasured the praise of children because it comes from faith. Most Jewish people in Jesus’ day recognized that **Psalm 8 is a prophecy about the coming Savior**. So when Jesus quoted it, He left His enemies sputtering. But He had given them something important to think about. Earlier in His ministry, Jesus had taught them that only those who have the faith of a child would see the Kingdom of Heaven. Now He reminded them that it is the faith of a child that brings forth the praise God is looking for.

God ordains praise from children’s lips. What does that mean?

Going back to that pastor and his son and the prayer for the belt, it’s God Who causes things like that to come out of our children’s mouths. Through their Baptisms and through the Gospel message they hear in church, God reaches into their hearts and fills them with joy in their Savior and confidence in His promises. Why didn’t that pastor lead his family to pray in that minor crisis? **Why did the words come from a child?** Because **we adults often poison our own faith with our reason**. We limit our faith by our assumptions: *“God isn’t going to get involved in something so trivial.”* But **children take God at His Word**. When parents, teachers and pastors teach children that God answers all our prayers and we should go to Him when we need help, those children take our words to mean exactly what they say. They **teach every one of us a lesson** about (not) limiting our trust to the things **we think** God will deal with.

CONCLUSION Where can we adults get faith like little children? Only **in one place - the Gospel. The Gospel comes to us in the Word and in the Sacraments**. The message that our Savior died and rose for us and that we are forgiven is the Gospel. Every Promise that Jesus works for us, that He helps us, and that He loves and cares for us **is (in) the Gospel**. From that Gospel comes a change in our hearts. = **God gives us faith**. Then every time we hear that Gospel message, God renews and strengthens that faith. And through that Gospel comes a change in our lives. God calls forth our praise.

We praise God in all the ways **we trust Him**. We praise God in all the times **we turn to Him and ask Him to help us**. We praise God when we lift up our voices and sing to our Savior Who has loved us and changed us and made us His. We praise God in every way we serve Him with our lives. Dear Christian friends, **Praise Him!** Praise Him because you are His. The beauty of this lesson is that God reminds us that He Himself is the source of our praise. He ordains praise from children and even from us adults. Christian friends, **Do YOU hear what these children are saying?** (Yes. Listen to them. And,) **Join them in their Song of Praise! *IJ’N, Amen. SDG***

Possible Prayer of Church (6th Sunday in Lent) **Palmarum** ✕ **March 20, 2016**

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (Possible brief silence)

For all the people in our parish this day, that as Christ humbled Himself and took on the form of a servant, so we would have the same mind as our Lord Jesus and receive grace in the hour of temptation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy Church, that in the hour of trial none would deny the Lord, take up arms or flee, but find all solace and joy at the cross of Jesus, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all kings, governors and authorities in this world, that they would bring justice and liberty to this and every place and help us to lead quiet and peaceful lives, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick, lonely, troubled in mind or body, or grieving [*esp,*]

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
	Jeanette Ammann	(Donna’s daughter) Health. Pray for healing and peace
	Sue	(friend of Joe & BevF) Pray for health. Sue received tough health news
	Alex Gourley	(Ilene) Alex had aneurysm surgery last week. He’s back home
	Elma & Jim Hendricks	Health – Elma & Jim <i>still</i> recovering from illnesses
	Linda Kryszak	Pray for her health. Linda hopefully recovering from surgery
	Dee Kurczewski	(David) Dee’s ongoing health. Dee at home. David helps
	Mary, Pam & Karen	Friends & family of DonnaM, all battling health issues
	Janice Thomas	Had CT scan and blood transfusion. Pray strength for Janice
	James Vanesky & Delores	Health. Jim’s neckbrace off. Delores had surgery

and those whom we name in our hearts. For these, and for all the servants of God, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who receive the New Testament in Christ’s Blood this day, that His Blood would be on them and on their children not for wrath but in mercy, and that on the strength thereof we would come to the Day of Resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, You emptied Yourself and took on our nature, that You might present us to Your Father a holy people. Grant us this Holy Week to follow You in **Your Passion**. Where we stumble, lift us up; where we are afraid, give us Your joy. Be with us in the hour of death, and bring us through the grave to share in Your Redemption of our nature, as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one True God, now and forever. **Amen. ...L.S. p.24**