

WORSHIP

PRELUDE..... Diane Nicklas

Please gather outside.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL MATTHEW 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 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. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “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.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

GATHERING HYMN: “*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*”.....#346

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the
 2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
 4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -
 pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring
 pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
 gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Follow Pastor Liliana into the church and remain standing if you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. *Silence is kept for reflection.* Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings. **Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

MORNING PRAYER

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+WORD+

PSALM 31:9-16

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.
I have said, "You are my God.**

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee

should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Holy wisdom, Holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "*Change My Heart, O God*"#801

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE PASSION STORY ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW ~
A READER'S THEATER

Please put down your bulletins and listen.

SERMON "*I Was There When They Crucified My Lord*" Pastor Stahlberg

HYMN OF THE DAY "*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*" (verses 2-4) #344

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation...

P: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let's share Christ's peace with one another.

OFFERING *We are now invited to praise God with our offering!*

Please stand to receive the Holy Gifts of God for the people of God!

OFFERTORY SONG "*GIVE THANKS*"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the holy one, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his son. And now let the weak say, I am strong, let the poor say, I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "*Blessed Assurance*".#638

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF PEACE (*You may join hands.*)

My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand. Peace to know, peace to live. My peace I give unto you.