



Holy God,  
we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.  
We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.  
We speak in ways that silence others.  
We are silent when we should speak up.  
We keep score in our hearts.  
We let hurts grow into hatred.  
For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.  
Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:  
Out of love for the whole world.  
God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and  
restores the promise of life through +Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** We pray together ...

**C:** Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord  
Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy  
enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his  
resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

**Amen.**

### **Special Music**

“Enter Now the Gates” by Douglas E. Wagner  
(c 2004 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of  
The Lorenz Corporation, CCLI #2032355  
Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

### **FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

### **The Servant’s Humiliation and Vindication**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me

a trained tongue,<sup>[a]</sup>

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens,  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

## **SECOND LESSON**

Philippians 2:5-11

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

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

## **GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:1-11

### **Jesus's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem**

**21** 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>[a]</sup> <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<sup>[b]</sup> 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!”

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

**Sermon** “CONFUSING TIMES”

**Sermon Hymn** “Humble King” Words and Music by Brenton Brown CCLI  
Song # 2650388 ©1999 Vineyard Songs CCLI License #  
2032355  
Song Leaders and Congregation

Oh, kneel me down again here at Your feet  
Show me how much You love humility  
Oh Spirit, be the star that leads me to  
The humble heart of love I see in You

'Cause You are the God of the broken  
The friend of the weak  
You wash the feet of the weary  
Embrace the ones in need

I want to be like You, Jesus  
To have this heart in me  
You are the God of the humble  
You are the humble King

Oh, kneel me down again here at Your feet  
Show me how much You love humility

Oh Spirit, be the star that leads me to  
The humble heart of love I see in You

'Cause You are the God of the broken  
The friend of the weak  
You wash the feet of the weary  
Embrace the ones in need

I want to be like You, Jesus  
To have this heart in me  
You are the God of the humble  
You are the humble King

## Prayers of the People

**On this Palm Sunday, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.**

Holy Father, the scene described in today's text is horrific! On one hand, we see the King of kings and Lord of lords entering Jerusalem in victory. People shout "Hosanna" and honor Jesus as King. We join in their celebration. But in the gospel, we hear the end of the story, and it is shameful. The Son of God is crucified like a common thief, and we see the abomination. ***Lord in our mercy...***

But Jesus knew this day was coming. He had tried to prepare His disciples with messages that He would suffer and die, but they did not believe Him. It was a totally unexpected ending to the story of their anticipated Messiah. How useless that the promised leader of their nation would die...on a cross, no less. But God's ways are beyond our understanding. ***Lord in your mercy...***

We pray for our nation, state and city; our president governor, mayor and the leaders of the world. Lord, wars rage on earth; people die in senseless conflict. A new war is separating the sons of Isaac and Ishmael. The whole earth is in turmoil. It is a war of the ages between good and evil. Just like at the cross, the war between God and Satan had reached a climax. Satan thought he had won. But God is greater than Satan and his legions. Our creative, all-loving God made something beautiful out of death. Rather than a grisly ending, Jesus' death was the seed of a beginning, a new life that only God could give. ***Lord in your mercy...***

Remember this congregation, its pastor and people, as we share the love of Jesus. Touch those who have asked for prayer with healing, comfort and growth in God's grace. We name those among us who have asked for prayer. And for what else do the people of God pray or praise? ***Lord in your mercy...***

Jesus knew God's plan. Isaiah explains in Jesus' own words: *"The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward...For the Lord God helps me; therefore, I have set my face like a flint."* Jesus endured the pain. A word from Philippians tells the rest, *"[Jesus] became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name."* Jesus paid the price for us. In His mighty name, we pray. ***Amen.***

CAROLYN T. LINN

**Special Music** "Sing Glad Hosanna" by Mark Patterson (c 2009 Choristers Guild, CCLI #2032355)  
Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

## Scripture Reading: Mark 11:1-11

*We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining — they just shine. —Dwight L. Moody*

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The donkey is a humble beast, right?

Wrong.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, it is kings who ride on donkeys.

That may sound strange — especially in light of countless Palm Sunday sermons we've heard. Yet, if we compared a few Palm Sunday terms in the media, we might be surprised.

For example, if we compare references to “king” vs. “servant” — “king” wins every time. Or, try “war” vs. “peace” — there's more buzz about war than peace on both the Internet in general and in news stories.

And, more to our point, “horse” has it all over “donkey.”

Yet, in 1 Kings 1:32-34, an elderly King David summons the religious leaders, commanding them to make arrangements for Solomon's coronation. He instructs them to “have my son Solomon ride on my own mule.”

A royal mule? What's that all about?

David was a hill-country chieftain, and Solomon a hill-country chieftain's son. Although, years before, this scrappy warrior had become king of all Israel, he never forgot where he came from.

King David's royal mount was not a horse. A horse is for those who dwell on the plains, who traverse highways broad and straight. A king like David, who got his start leading bands of raiders from cave to cave along rocky trails, preferred a sure-footed mule.

This is why, in later times, those who foretold the coming of a new king, a Messiah, to assume the throne of David, always had that monarch riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.

The Roman overlords might have been amused by this somewhat comical sight — but Jewish zealots who knew their history would not have missed the symbolism.

—Timothy Merrill, HomileticsOnline.com

*Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for presenting yourself not as a warlord, but as the Prince of Peace. May I also remember that it is more important to serve than to be served. Amen.*





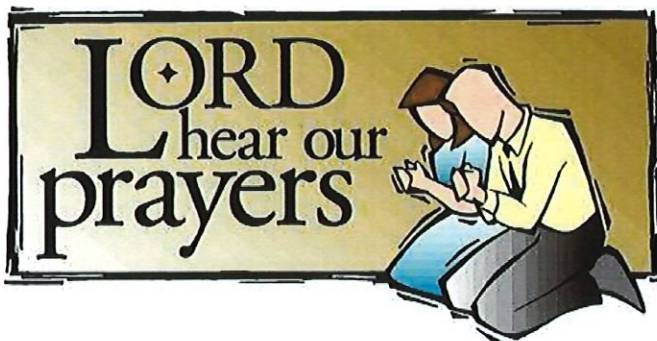
### Prayer Concerns

#### Members in Need of Prayer:

Jennifer Neer  
 Diane Fake  
 Sheila Boehringer  
 JoAnn Huebner  
 Dee Wright  
 Jim, Jimmy Sanborn & Stacy  
 Lairson on the loss of Stacy's  
 father, Ken.  
 Yvonne Smith  
 Mona White  
 Neil and Verna Walden  
 Robert Harris  
 Jackie Miller  
 Mary Schmidt  
 Liz Smith  
 Bill Biggs  
 Arlene Robbins  
 Mary Norris & Family  
 Connie Alvarado  
 Susan Berg  
 Irene Pierini  
 Jocelyn Miller  
 Kirsten Linder  
 Jim Thompson

#### Family and Friends:

David Torres has passed away prayers  
 for his family and friends.  
 Julie Gonzales has passed away prayer  
 for her family and friends.  
 Debbie (Sullivan Family Friend)  
 Owen (Fake)  
 Josue & Maria Zamora (Visitor)  
 Jim & Judi ( Werfelmann)  
 Anthony Collichio (Norris)  
 Mickey Cecil (Norris)  
 Jeanne Grant (Anderson)  
 Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)  
 Monica & Kyle Sedra (Werfelmann)  
 Jacob, Abbe & Family (Werfelmann)  
 Kevin & Collee (Pastor)  
 Brad, Sam, & Luke Kossow  
 Janet Sharp (Fake)  
 Karl & Pauline Ritterbush (Fake)  
 Art & Children (Anderson)  
 Debbie West's Daughter, Christine  
 Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)  
 Bob Knous (Anderson)  
 Melissa (Sandy T.)  
 Joy Kensinger (Miller)  
 Jenna Vance (Kossow)  
 Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)  
 Jim D. (Norris)  
 Jade Dixon (Julie)  
 Pam (Smith)  
 Grace Johnson (Fake)  
 Sandy Robbins (Robbins)  
 JJ Werfelmann (Julie)  
 Emily & Sawyer Bogart (Anderson)  
 Roger Robbins (Robbins)  
 Hudson Otten (Anderson)  
 Karen Ohanesian (Hays)  
 Rosemary (Vonny)  
 Nathan Robbins (Robbins)



**The Lord's Prayer**  
**Our Father, who art in Heaven,**  
**Hallowed be thy Name.**  
**Thy Kingdom come.**  
**Thy will be done on earth,**  
**as it is in heaven.**  
**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,**  
**for ever and ever.**  
**Amen.**  
**Matthew 6:9-13**

## **Blessing**

## **Closing Hymn**

"This is Amazing Grace" Music and Words by Phil Wickham, Jeremy riddle and josh Farro CCLI Song # 6333821 ©2012 Phil Wickham Music | Seems Like Music | Sing My Songs | WB Music Corp. | Bethel Music Publishing CCLI License # 2032355  
Song Leaders and Congregation

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?  
The King of glory, the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?  
The King of glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh, Jesus, I sing for  
All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order?  
Who makes the orphans a son and daughter?  
The King of glory, the King of glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh, Jesus, I sing for  
All that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy, worthy, worthy

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh, Jesus, I sing for  
All that You've done for me  
All that You've done for me

**Sending**

**P:** Go in peace. Share your bread.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

Susan Berg, Piano

**Daily Bible Readings** — **Sunday:** Numbers 18-20; **Monday:** Numbers 21-24; **Tuesday:** Numbers 25-27; **Wednesday:** Numbers 28-30; **Thursday:** Numbers 31-33; **Friday:** Numbers 34-36; **Saturday:** Psalms 31-32

**SAME ... BUT DIFFERENT**

According to some definitions, a *homophone* is a word with the *same pronunciation* as, but *different meaning* than, another word. Thus, homophones come in pairs (at least). However, some remarkable homophones come in triples. Identify the first homophone using the clue provided. Then write two more homophones. We have done No. 1 for you.

DEFINITION OR CLUE	ANSWER (First Homophone)	Second Homophone	Third Homophone
1. Receptacle for cremains	URN	ERNE	EARN
2. In 1918, a strain of this disease killed 18 million.			
3. The number of corners near Shiprock, NM			
4. A medieval craftsmen organization			
5. Beef is a form of this.			
6. Sacred			
7. Two of something			
8. A contraction of he will			
9. A painter's paints are on it.			
10. Destitute			
11. A smaller version of a highway			
12. A cord stretched tight			
13. Also			
14. Not here, but ...			
15. Second person possessive pronoun			
16. This duct carries blood back to the heart.			
17. He walked his daughter down this.			
18. First person personal pronoun			
19. Wild, tusked porcine beast			
20. A penny is one of these.			
21. You do this to bread dough.			
22. Precipitation			
23. She regretted, or did this, the day she married him.			
24. Short for, say, the tenor version of this			
25. The Spanish word for donkey			

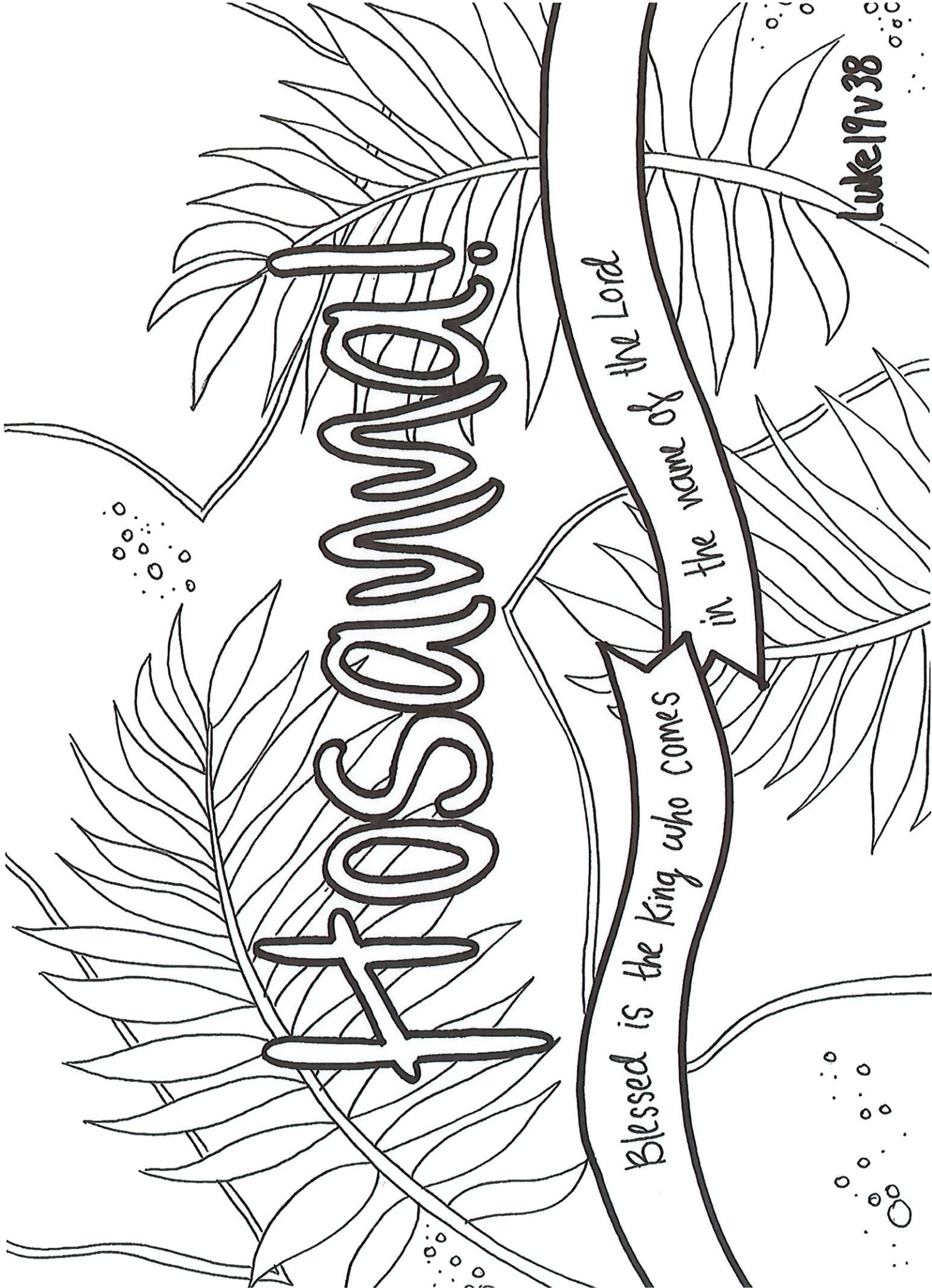
**ANSWERS:** 2. Flu, flue, flew; 3. Four, fore, for; 4. Guild, gilled, gild; 5. Meat, mete, meet; 6. Holy, holey, wholly; 7. Pair, pear, pare; 8. He'll, heel, heal; 9. Palette, palate, pallet; 10. Poor, pore, pour; 11. Road, rode, rowed; 12. Taut, taught, tot; 13. Too, to, two; 14. There, their, they're; 15. Your, you're, yore; 16. Vein, vain, vane; 17. Aisle, I'll, isle; 18. I, eye, aye; 19. Boar, bore, boor; 20. Cent, scent, sent; 21. Knead, need, kneed; 22. Rain, rein, reign; 23. Rued, rude, rood; 24. Sax, sacs, sacks; 25. Burro, borough, burrow.

# Hosanna!

Blessed is the King who comes

in the name of the Lord

Luke 19 v 38





Hosanna in the Highest

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Services Moving Back to Sanctuary!

Starting on March 28th, Maundy Thursday, we will move services back to the Sanctuary. If you are wondering - **NO the HVAC is NOT fixed.** However, the weather is much nicer now and the sanctuary should be warm enough. Just remember the order of the day is to dress in layers! It might still be chilly at the start of service but warm up during. The plan is to stay in the sanctuary until the weather gets too warm and drives us back to air conditioning.



### TODAY is the Last Day to Order an Easter Lily



The cost will be \$20.00 each. We would like to offer you the opportunity to order one or two either in memory or in honor of someone. Please pick up an order form from ushers table. You can include the \$20.00 per lily in your envelope, just indicate how many lilies you'd like to order. **TODAY will be the last day to order.** Thanks, Carol S.

### Join Us For Holy Week & Easter Sunday Services

March 28—Maundy Thursday Service @ 7PM, Sanctuary  
March 29—Good Friday Service @ 7PM, Sanctuary  
March 31  
Sunrise Worship Service @8AM, Sanctuary  
Easter Worship Service @ 10AM, Sanctuary



### Looking for Easter Breakfast Help 3/31



We need some kitchen help Easter morning flipping pancakes and serving plated breakfasts. Volunteers will be needed from 7:45-9:45, which includes both prep and cleanup. People are welcome to stay the entire time period or just an hour, and all ages are welcome. Please sign up on the clipboard so we can make sure we are fully staffed. **Also, we are hoping to include egg casseroles this year as part of our breakfast.** Please contact Julie @ 559-287-3457 or [13jdixon13@gmail.com](mailto:13jdixon13@gmail.com) if you would like to make one to share with your Good Shepherd family. You can bring it by Saturday between 10-12 to bake here or Easter morning by 8:30 if already baked at home.

### Egg-Stuffing and Decorating Jacobson on Saturday, 3/30 @ 10 a.m.

Please plan to join together Saturday, March 30th to get ready for the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast. We will meet at 10 a.m. in Jacobson and decorate the tables as well as stuff all the Easter Eggs for the hunt on Easter morning. All help is much appreciated! Please contact Julie with questions and to confirm your attendance. Thank you





## Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, 3/31 @ 11:00!



### Collecting Wrapped Candy, etc.

We will once again host an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Easter Sunday this year in the courtyard after the 10AM service. We are collecting wrapped candy, stickers, coins, etc. to use to stuff the eggs on Saturday, 3/30. If you can donate toward this fun tradition, please bring in your items and place them in the appropriate bin. We have PLENTY of plastic eggs to stuff, so please don't bring any more of those. Way to go with the reusing, friends!

### 3/31/24 GSLC Easter Schedule:

Sunrise Worship Service @8AM, Sanctuary  
Breakfast Served, 8:30—10AM, Jacobson Hall  
Easter Worship Service @ 10AM, Sanctuary  
Easter Egg Hunt @ 11AM, Court Yard




## Hallelujah Chorus Sing



The Worship Service for Easter Sunday, March 31, will close by singing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from *The Messiah*. Anyone from the congregation is invited to sing this beloved choral number as we lift our praises to Our Risen Lord!. Music will be provided.

## Follow Us Now on Instagram

GSLC is now on Instagram and has been on Facebook  so don't forget to follow us to see what is happening. Please get on Instagram and hit LIKE or the heart on our GSLC postings. This is how our postings come at the start of the feed for those following us as individuals. We need to be proactive to spread the word so we can grow .



## It's Girl Scout Cookie Season!



Girl Scout Cookies are available. **The last day to order is April 5!** You may go to <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/cookies/how-to-buy-cookies.html> or email Sheri Eggebraaten at [messagesbysheri@aol.com](mailto:messagesbysheri@aol.com) or if you prefer, you may call Sheri at 559-903-1851 to place your order. They even deliver your cookies! The cost is \$6.00 a box. Here are the cookies for 2024: Adventurefuls, Caramel Chocolate Chip, Samoas, Do-si-dos, Girl Scout S'mores, Lemonade, LemonUps, Tagalongs, Thin Mints, Toast-Yay!, Trefoils.

## Pantry Needs Restocking

We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables (Corn, Green Beans), canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9AM - 1PM.



### **FYI—Looking for a Car**

We have a close friend that is looking for an affordable 4 door sedan. If anyone knows of anyone selling a vehicle or has any suggestions speak to Mary N.



### **Bring a Friend to Worship**



There are business cards paper clipped in stacks of 5 to use to invite people to worship service. Hand them out in your neighborhood or at your local stores. You can ask an usher for the cards if you can't find them.

### **A Big Thank You**

Thank you Austin Hays! Austin fixed the outside entrance walk light this week! It took several trips - nothing is ever easy it seems- but he got it done!! We appreciate it!



### **Kingsmen/Kings Kids Begins April 24 @ 6:30PPM**



The first KingsMen and Kings Kids after Easter will take place on April 24th at 6:30 pm in Jacobson Hall. Pizza will be provided. Thank you. William Hayes

