

† THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION †

9:00AM, Sunday, April 5, 2020

AS WE GATHER

So it all comes down to this. "It all" is the history of our Lord's incarnation, birth, preaching, teaching, healing, calling disciples, and now, "to this"—Jesus coming to His goal in Jerusalem. This Sunday is so full of meaning that it cannot even be succinctly summarized. The meaning of it all unfolds before us as we spend an entire week, cheering the King at His triumphal entry, then gathering with Him in the suspenseful quiet of the Upper Room, then the garden, then His arrest, then the trials, and ultimately the cheers turn into jeers and He reaches His goal in Jerusalem. He dies. Only knowing who Jesus really is and the reason for His death, only in knowing the purpose of God's Law can we discover the joy of the Gospel, the good news of the forgiveness of our sins, new birth and new life—eternal life! That spiritual knowledge gives us the stamina to endure this week and the rest of our lives.

PRELUDE Fugue in C ... Johann Pachelbel

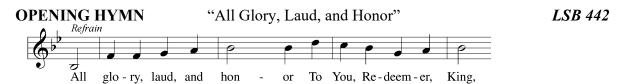
WELCOME

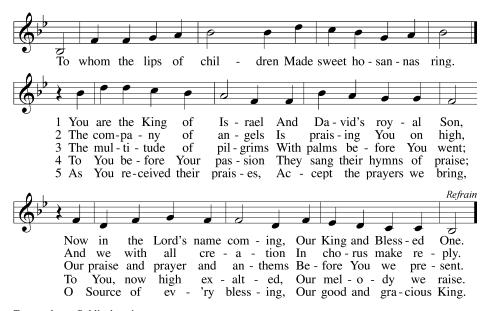
PRAYER FOR PALM SUNDAY

- P Let us pray. Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL John 12:12–19 (The triumphal entry)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.
- P The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion, behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him."
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.
- P Let us go forth in peace,
- C in the name of the Lord.





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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT Psalm 24:7-10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26

- P Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- C Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- P Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- C Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- P Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!
- C Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.

KYRIE

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above, and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 27:11-66

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵And all the people answered,

"His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, ⁴²"He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God." ⁴⁴And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." ⁴⁸And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

⁵⁵There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, ⁵⁶among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY "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

Verse 2

Hear the sound of Hearts returning to You We turn to You In Your Kingdom Broken lives are made new You make us new

Ending

Hosanna hosanna

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SERMON *It's Time*

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

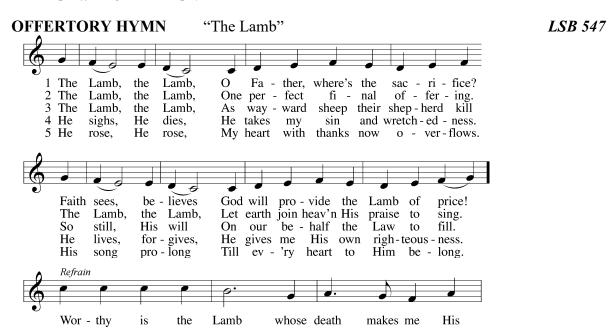
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

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LORD'S PRAYER

C 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 forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.



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POSTLUDE

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Holy Week

This week is Holy Week! JOIN US for livestream worship: Maundy Thursday, **Apr 9 at 7pm,** Good Friday, **Apr 10 at 7pm,** and Easter Sunday, **Apr 12 at 9am.** Find us on Facebook (@mountolivemadison) and "LIKE" us if you haven't already. The livestream will be the first thing at the top of our timeline. A PDF of the bulletin will be sent out before the services and will also be available on our home page at www.molc.us.

Spring Election Polling STILL ON

One of the two exceptions (the other was the Blood Drive) to the #SaferAtHome mandate is Spring Election Polling, which WILL take place at Mount Olive on **Tue, Apr 7 from 7am-8pm.** The city officials will be abiding by the "social distancing" precautions and any other safety measures re: COVID-19.

An Appreciation Message from the American Red Cross

We are so very grateful to all those who donated (including 12 Mount Olive members) and for those volunteers that helped to make this drive possible given the challenges the Coronavirus has brought with it. The drive had 49 donors and 50 total units were collected. What an absolutely phenomenal presentation of donors—217% to goal! That is simply amazing. Thank you to everyone for their generosity and patience during uncertain times to help patients in need!! As many as 150 lives will have been helped by the Mount Olive Blood Drive!

Assistance During COVID-19

If anyone you know at Mount Olive is in a situation where they would prefer or need to have someone run errands, shop, etc.. (so as not to risk their own health), please contact the church office at (608) 238-5656 or office@molc.us and let us know how we can help. According to the CDC, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Food Pantry

During COVID-19 with our closed doors, our food pantry is not as accessible as it was before. If you or anyone you know needs non-perishable items from our pantry, please contact the office to set up a time to come in to utilize our food pantry. A schedule may be set in the coming weeks.

Walking in the Light Podcast

Check out Pastor Mark's bi-weekly devotional podcast "Walking in the Light" on our website at www.molc.us/devotions. A new episode will be posted on Tuesday and Thursday each week!

Music Continues at Mount Olive

Despite these concerning and uncertain times, thankfully, the Music At Mount Olive staff continues our efforts to bring our family of faith musical blessings and offerings. Despite the inability to congregate, we have been and will continue to do all we can to present and highlight the musical life of our blessed parish. We are delighted to announce a new weekly series which will be launched on **Mon, April 6th**, and will feature varied musical selections being presented by members of our musical family here at Mount Olive. These selections can be accessed via our <u>Music At Mount Olive Facebook page</u>, or our <u>NEW Music At Mount Olive YouTube Channel!</u> (For easy access: Mount Olive Facebook page @mountolivemadison has us listed under "LIKED" pages and the Mount Olive YouTube Channel has us listed under their "subscriptions") **Midday Meditations From Mount Olive** will be posted **every Monday at NOON** and will be available thereafter for your viewing pleasure. We sincerely hope these musical meditations will serve as a devotional highlight as we continue to do our very best to bring you music of the highest caliber which we've come to know and praise at Mount Olive. I welcome you to enjoy and spread these presentations to all whom you feel would appreciate

Portals of Prayer and Today's Light Bible Study. For our members that pick up the Portals of Prayer and participate in the Today's Light Bible Study, this may be of interest during this quarantine period. Visit www.cph.org.

Bible Verse Signs

What can I do while social distancing? Mark 16:15 - Jesus said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." Mark 16:20 - Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it. SIGNS!!! That is our answer!

The Board of Outreach would like to encourage and challenge you to be creative! Post a sign in the back window of your vehicle or front window of your house. Pick a quote(s), put it on paper/cardboard so that it's big enough for people to read, and display it. Get your kids, grab your chalk and start writing on your driveway or sidewalk. Let's spread the good news of our Lord to our neighbors, co-workers, friends and family! Ideas: TRUST IN THE LORD & STAY HEALTHY FRIENDS or PEACE BE WITH YOU or come up with your own special quote! You can even #mountolivemadison or #mountolivelive, take a picture of your sign and post it to Facebook or Instagram tagging @mountolivemadison! Let's go spread the good news!