

Palm Sunday – March 28, 2021
Captain the Rev. Michael Hackbusch, Padre

Today as on every Palm/Passion Sunday we begin with such joy and promise with the parade of palms and cheers of “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!!!” It is an even more riveting scene when we can all process together as a close knit company of believers singing and shouting for the hope and promise of our deliverer, Christ Jesus! But from here, as we know the story, we are plunged into pain – betrayal, suffering and death...

Such a marked contrast seeks to evoke from us a response... in life we have great joys and wonder: life from death – winter to spring; generations giving birth to the next generation; ... life gives a great many opportunities for joy and sadness...

In today’s liturgy we are invited yet again into the Passion of Jesus the Christ to reaffirm that God’s whose presence continues with us even, and especially, in those moments of deep darkness and despair and says, “I am with you.”

I am with you here in this place, the church, this “mouth house” as Luther says, to hear and proclaim the good news, LISTEN.

I am with you as you go from here, to your homes, and declare to us, I am with you, KNOW ME.

I am with you as you live today even more isolated in the midst of a global pandemic with face masks, frequent hand washing, and... fear and says, “you’ve got this” BE CHRIST TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR.

As we now enter into this time of story and contemplation, if you are able to hear worship today, listen deeply and attentively. If

you are at home and reading this liturgy for today, read the Readings slowly and deliberately (especially the Passion – yes, it's long but it's yours to know.)

Know that God dwells here in this place with the company of the faithful and bids us to die with Christ that so doing we are resurrected with him.

God be with you during this Great and Holy Week as you meditate on the cross.