

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kelowna – “Worship at Home”  
Order of Service**

*(Choose a comfortable place in your home, perhaps a favourite chair by a window with a lovely view... The following is the general outline for your worship, and the respective comments, readings and prayers for each specific Sunday are on the following pages.)*

**Introduction**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism or Confession and Forgiveness** (optional)

**Prayer of the Day**

**Readings and Psalm**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Gospel**

**Sermon/Reflection**– choose one of the texts for today...read it over...notice your reaction...read it a second time...ask yourself, “How is God speaking to me today?” “Where is God leading me?”

**Apostles’ Creed** (optional)

**Prayers** – *We offer prayers for the world, for creation, for those in leadership and authority, for community and faith, for those who are ill and troubled in any way, for those we name before God either silently or aloud.*

**The Lord’s Prayer** – either one

**Offering Prayer** - Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**Blessing** - God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace. **Amen.**

**Dismissal** - Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion** (when actual communion is not possible or available)

My Jesus, I love you above all things. How I long to receive you with my brothers and sisters at the table you have prepared. Since I cannot at this moment (time) receive you in bread and wine according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion, I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit and nourish me with your Holy presence. I unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from your love. Amen. *(Mitchell Lewis, United Methodist Church)*

## March 28, 2021 – Palm/Passion Sunday, Year B

**Introduction** - This week, the centre of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work. We call this week "holy" because it offers us the opportunity to participate intimately in the mysteries that changed the course of human history.

**Prayer of the Day** - 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.**

**Procession with Palms** - Mark 11:1-11 - Jesus enters Jerusalem  
John 12:12-16 (alternate) - Jesus enters Jerusalem

**Readings and Psalm** - Isaiah 50:4-9a - The servant of the Lord submits to suffering  
Psalm 31:9-16 - Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)  
Philippians 2:5-11 - Humbled to the point of death on a cross

**Gospel Acclamation** - *Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death | on a cross. \* Therefore God also highly exalted him.... (Phil. 2:8-9)*

**Gospel** - Mark 14:1--15:47 - The passion of the Lord

## April 1, 2021 – Maundy Thursday, Year B

**Introduction** - Maundy Thursday is the first of the "Three Days" leading to Easter. We gather with Christ and the disciples for the Last Supper, and listen to Jesus' parting words to his disciples. The name "Maundy" comes from the Latin, "mandate", meaning "commandment"; on this day that Jesus gave his disciples the new commandment, that they love one another as he had loved them. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another, and to the world.

**Prayer of the Day** - Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Readings and Psalm** – Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 - The Passover of the Lord  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 - I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26 - Proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

**Gospel Acclamation** - I give you a | new commandment,\* that you love one another just as I | have loved you. (*John 13:34*)

**Gospel** - John 13:1-17, 31b-35 -The service of Christ: footwashing and meal

## April 2, 2021 – Good Friday, Year B

**Introduction** – Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ’s death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

**Prayer of the Day** - Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**Readings and Psalm** - Isaiah 52:13--53:12 - The suffering servant  
Psalm 22 - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)  
Hebrews 10:16-25 - The way to God is opened by Jesus’ death

**Gospel Acclamation** - Look to Jesus, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame,\* and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (*Heb. 12:2*)

**Gospel** - John 18:1--19:42 - The passion and death of Christ

## April 4, 2021 – Resurrection of our Lord, Year B

**Introduction** – Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ’s death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God’s unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

**Prayer of the Day** - God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Readings and Psalm** - Acts 10:34-43 God raised Jesus on the third day  
Isaiah 25:6-9 (alternate) The feast of Victory  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Witnesses to the risen Christ

**Gospel Acclamation** *Alleluia. “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.” Alleluia. (Mark 16:6)*

**Gospel** - Mark 16:1-8 The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement. John 20:1-18 (alternate) Seeing the risen Christ

## April 11, 2021 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Introduction** - The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

**Prayer of the Day** - Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Readings and Psalm** - Acts 4:32-35 - The believers' common life  
Psalm 133 - How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)  
1 John 1:1--2:2 - Walking in the light

**Gospel Acclamation** – *Alleluia.* “Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'” *Alleluia.* (John 20:26b)

**Gospel** - John 20:19-31 - Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

## April 18, 2021 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B

**Introduction** - The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

**Prayer of the Day** - Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Readings and Psalm

Acts 3:12-19 - Health and forgiveness through the risen Jesus  
Psalm 4 - The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)  
1 John 3:1-7 - The revealing of the children of God

**Gospel Acclamation** – *Hallelujah.* “Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” *Hallelujah.* (John 24:39)

**Gospel:** Luke 24:36b-48 - Eating with the risen Christ

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