

17910 S. Prairie Avenue, Torrance, CA 90504, 310-793-0071

## "Loving God, Loving Others, Bringing People In"

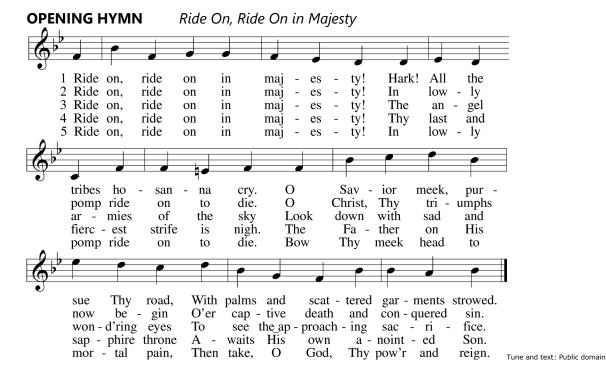


## **PALM SUNDAY**

March 24, 2024 8:30 AM

#### WELCOME

(please stand)



#### INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

#### CONFESSION

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

#### kneel/stand

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, You have washed us in the water and the Word of Holy Baptism. You have given us New Life and filled us with Your Spirit, giving us the right to be called Your Children. Yet, because our old nature remains with us until death, we still sin against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we do and by what we fail to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may live and walk in the New Life that You created in us when You brought us to faith to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

#### **ABSOLUTION**

## (please stand)

<u>The Invocation</u> - Here, we invoke the name of the Triune God whom we serve. "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" is a simple creed. We are confessing who we believe the one true God is. We are also asking for and acknowledging God's presence in the service. "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Mt 18:20)

<u>Confession</u> - We enter into proper fellowship with God and our brothers and sisters by letting the Light of God's Truth shine on us, illuminating our sin. By confessing our sins, we walk in that light.

<u>Absolution</u> - Christ has conferred on the Church the power to forgive or retain sins (<u>Mt 16:16-20</u>). When sins are forgiven, or "absolved," Heaven is opened to the forgiven. When sins are retained, they are bound to the unrepentent, and Heaven is locked to them. This ability to forgive and retain sins is referred to as The *Office of the Keys*. The congregation, in effect, hands these *Keys* to the pastor and says: "Use them to shepherd us." When you hear the words of absolution, you can be as sure of their truthfulness as if Christ Himself were there uttering these words: "You are forgiven."

#### **KYRIE**

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



A 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.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord



A Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.



Kyrie - The word Kyrie is short for the ancient Greek phrase "Kyrie eleison," which means "Lord have mercy." It is not specifically a prayer of forgiveness. We already asked for forgiveness at the beginning of the service with Confession. We use the Kyrie not unlike the way it is used in the Bible–a general call for God's help, for instance in <a href="Mk 10:47">Mk 10:47</a>, where blind Bartimaeus cries out to Jesus for healing. Here, we are simply following his example and calling out to our God to have mercy on us.

The Hymn of Praise - The Hymn of Praise can be either "This is the Feast," or "Gloria in Excelsis," which means glory to God in the highest. In either case, it follows the Kyrie as praise and thanksgiving for God's answer to our cry for mercy. The Hymn of Praise is omitted during Advent and Lent.

#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- 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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G Amen.

(please be seated)

#### **OLD TESTAMENT** Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

- **R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

<u>The Salutation</u> - Before the Collect of the Day and also at the Preface, Pastor and people speak the words, "*The Lord be with you… And also with you.*" Pastor and people bless each other as a sign of the bond of love in Jesus that should reside among God's people (<u>Jn 15:17</u>).

The Collect - Pronounced: "kol'-ekt," are a "collection" of requests, intercessions, and thanksgivings from the congregation.

### **EPISTLE** Philippians 2:5–11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

(please stand)

#### **HOLY GOSPEL**

- P The Holy Gospel according to John 12:20-19
- Glory to You, O Lord

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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

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 \( \psi \) everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)



#### **SERMON**

**OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT** (please place offerings in the designated box in the Narthex)

Hymn of the Day - The Hymn of the Day is chosen to reflect the theme of the sermon.

<u>The Sermon</u> - The sermon is the exposition of the Scripture with the proper balance between words of Law and words of Gospel. The Law exposes and condemns our sin and prepares us for the Gospel that offers us the forgiveness of Christ.

The Offering - The Offering is a time of worship like the hymns and prayers. We are blessed with the opportunity to give to the work of the church from the bounty of God's blessings to us. However, the question always seems to arise, "How much should I give?" The Old Testament law of tithing is an admirable goal to have, but it is not a requirement for the New Testament people of God who have been set free from the Law. Therefore, it is better to ask the question: "How much **can** I give?" rather than **should**. In the end, the amount is between you and the Lord, as we are reminded by Paul's words to the Corinthians, "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (II Cor. 9:7)

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH / THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

#### COLLECT

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

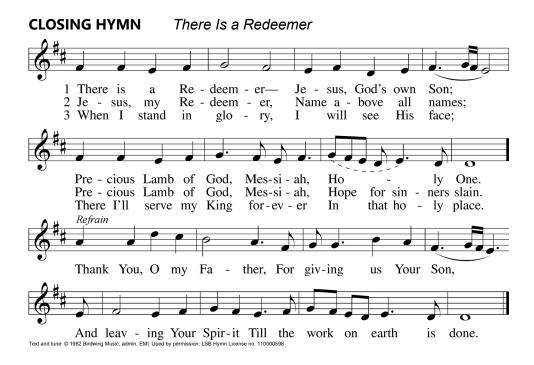
P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

**BENEDICTION** 

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 



#### **POSTLUDE**

<u>The Prayer of the Church</u> - This prayer is on behalf of the Church at large. Besides praying for the sick and hurting in our congregation, it is a broad ranging prayer that the Word may be preached for the strengthening of God's people and the salvation of the lost.

<u>The Lord's Prayer</u> - We join in praying the prayer our Lord taught us as we celebrate His kingdom come, and His Will being done on earth as it is in Heaven. For He reigns now and forever along with all the saints on earth and in Heaven! (Mt 6:9 and Lk 11:2-4)

<u>Benediction</u> - (Latin: *good speak*) This is a short divine blessing where God speaks His blessings over us through the mouth of the pastor. The familiar blessing that begins, "The Lord bless you and keep you," is given the name "Aaronic Blessing" because it is the blessing God commanded Moses to give to his brother Aaron to speak to the people (Num. 6:24—26).

# JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

March 28 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm

March 29 Good Friday Service 7:00pm

March 31
Easter Service
8:30am and 10:30am

#### Acknowledgments