

Sixth Sunday in Lent - Palm Sunday Service

April 5, 2020

Theme: Hail the King who humbly comes to save us! For 1700 years the Church has celebrated with Hosannas and palm branches this festival that opens Holy Week. The time for Christ's glory had come. He would not, however, gain glory in the manner of other kings. Rather, he would humble himself in great acts of love for us, and then the Father would exalt him to the highest place, because he had fulfilled God's mission to save mankind.

Our Worship Service

HYMNS YOU MAY WISH TO SING

CW 133 "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

CW 131 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

CW 533 "I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

PRAYER OF THE DAY We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: ZECHARIAH 9:9,10 Zechariah tells Jerusalem to rejoice when the messianic King comes to her, because he will have with him the righteousness she needs and the salvation she craves. This King would surpass the glory and power of all Israel's kings before him. This King's rule would extend from the Euphrates to the very ends of the earth, from sea to sea. His worldwide kingdom would mean the end of war and the advent of peace. All this he would do not with an army, but with his person—not with violence, but with gentleness. Rejoice, daughter of Zion! Your King comes to you. Hail him!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 24 CW Page 73 (Or read from the Bible)

SECOND LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 Jesus is our King, but he came humbly to save us. Though true God, he became man. Though all powerful, he became a servant. Though immortal and eternal, he died. He not only laid aside his glory, but he took our shame upon him. He not only humbled himself, but he died as one who was cursed. Yet in this great humility, he won the peace of forgiveness for us. The King came humbly because he wasn't on the way to a throne in Jerusalem, but to a hill called Golgotha where he would fulfill God's mission and save his people. Therefore, God would give him glory greater than his humiliation—every creature will bow the knee and hail him: Jesus Christ is Lord!

VERSE OF THE DAY The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (John 12:23)

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:1-11 The great King comes to his city and to his temple! He could have come with all the power and glory of the Son of God. But look how he comes: Not on the storm, but on a donkey; not accompanied by heavenly warriors, but by fishermen with a spotty record of faith; not to the sound of creation singing, but to the shouts of fickle pilgrims who cheered him on Sunday but would desert him by Friday. Why did he come so humbly? Because he came to save us. He came not to demand anything from us, but to give everything for us. He comes in the name of the Lord to save us. Hail him!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed, CW Page 19

Sermon (If you have an internet connection, you may connect to a brief service and sermon at Web Sites Listed Below.) (If you are unable to access the internet, we will send copies for you to read.)

The Lord's Prayer

CW Page 20

Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You.

The Lord Make His Face Shine on You and be Gracious to You.

The Lord Look on You with Favor and Give You Peace.