

PALM SUNDAY

March 28, 2021

Admission to the Table of the Lord

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are certainly welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing, if it is possible. If you arrive too late to do this, please introduce yourself after the service.

+ *In Nomine Iesu* +

Prelude

All Glory, Laud, and Honor, BWV 735
Johann Sebastian Bach

The opening liturgy reenacts the procession of our Lord into Jerusalem. It is spoken from the narthex. The catechumens enter like the little children from whose lips the praise of the Savior was called forth on the day of their baptism. Today, we rejoice that the Lord has brought them to the feast of life, His own body and blood, "given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

The congregation stands and faces the processional cross at the entrance to the nave.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

Collect

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.

The Holy Gospel

John 12:12-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The pastor reads the Gospel.

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.

The Processional Hymn

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"
LSB 442

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

1. You are the King of Israel
And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming,
Our King and Blessed One.

Refrain

2. The company of angels
Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply.

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

3. The multitude of pilgrims
With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before You we present.

Refrain

4. To You, before Your passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.

Refrain

5. As You received their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing,
Our good and gracious King.

Refrain

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

The Rite of Holy Baptism (8:00 am)

p. 268

The Collect of the Day

P: 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.**

Be Seated

The Old Testament Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

The Epistle Philippians 2:5-11

Stand

The Holy Gospel Matthew 27:11-54

During the reading of the Holy Gospel, we stand to recognize Christ speaking among us. This is a matter of the Gospel and faith which trusts this Christ in the Gospel. Due to the length of today's Gospel, those who cannot remain standing may exercise their Gospel freedom and be seated.

Be Seated

The Hymn of the Day "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"
LSB 438

The Sermon "Hosanna"
Text: John 12:12-19

The Rite of Confirmation

(The responses marked R are spoken by the confirmands).

P: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His Apostles:
"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

P: You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the Lord, you in the name of the Lord.

P: Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation

acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R: Yes, I do.

P: Do you renounce the devil?

R: Yes, I renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works?

R: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

R: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

R: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord?

R: Yes, I believe 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.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R: Yes, 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.

P: Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R: I do.

P: Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R: I do.

P: Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

P: Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

P: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

P: We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and

have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P: The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

The pastor then gives a confirmation certificate to the confirmand and reads a text of Holy Scripture. After all the catechumens have received the blessing and text of Holy Scripture, the pastor leads the congregation in prayer, saying:

P: Let us pray. Lord, God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe

that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear their cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Peace + be with you.

C: Amen.

The confirmands return to their places.

The Offertory (8:00 am) p. 192

The Prayer of the Church p. 193

The Hymn (10:45 am) *“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”*
LSB 602

The Preface and Proper Preface for the Passion p. 194

The *Sanctus* p. 195

The Lord’s Prayer p. 196

The Words of Institution p. 197

The *Pax Domini* p. 197

The *Agnus Dei* p. 198

The Distribution Hymns 571, 422, 441, 632, 622, 435

The *Nunc Dimittis* p. 199

Thanksgiving p. 200

The Salutation and Benedicamus p. 201

The Benediction p. 202

The Announcements

The Closing Hymn *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*
LSB 443

Postlude

+ *Soli Deo Gloria* +

2021 Confirmands

(10:45 am)

Sebastian James Beversdorf

Henry David Gottschalk

Joshua David Henke

Psalm 27:4

Luke 11:28

Joshua 24:15

Adult Confirmation

(8:00 am)

Octavio Perez

Psalm 25:4-5

The Participants

The Pastor

Rev. Dr. Karl F. Fabrizio

The Organist

Mr. Stephen P. Johnson

Thank you to the Heritage Funeral Home for the donation of palms for the Palm Sunday and Easter Services.

Understanding the Rite of Confirmation

This rite assumes that confirmation is a custom of the church and not a sacrament. It links the catechumens to their Baptism and welcomes them to the Lord's Table. No one should be admitted to the Sacrament for the first time who does not know, at the very least, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer (*Preface to the Small Catechism*).

Baptized Christians are confirmed and admitted to the Sacrament when they have been examined and absolved by their pastor in accordance with the practice outlined in the Augsburg Confession (Article XXIV). These young catechumens have been examined by the pastor in the presence of their parents and/or sponsors. They have also been absolved by the pastor in private confession.

"Confirmation is a rite of the church which declares of a catechumen: 'Here is a Christian --he has been baptized, confesses the faith, and is in communion with Christ and His church. 'This rite is usually accompanied by the prayer of the church and a blessing from the Word of God" (from *Lutheran Catechesis*, published 1999, Concordia Catechetical Academy). The reception of catechumens to the Lord's Table assumes that ongoing catechesis is the way of life for the faithful Christian.

This rite emphasizes God's work in Baptism, the gift of faith, and the promises of the Lord's Supper for all who believe, rather than the vows made by the catechumens. The confirmation blessing spoken over the confirmand is identical to the blessing given at Baptism. Scripture passages are chosen by the pastor to mark the solemn occasion of the catechumen's first communion. The Pastor places his hands upon the catechumen's head and breathes life into him by speaking the Word of God over him that what enters his ears might strengthen his heart in true faith throughout his life. The closing prayer draws upon language from the Small Catechism and Luther's catechesis on the Lord's Supper.

OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

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