

Good Shepherd Community Church

Proclaiming the Cross of Jesus Christ



**Palm /Passion Sunday
24 March 2024**

We Gather before Our God and Savior

Greeting

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins that he might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship

Scripture Proclamation

Leader: *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.* Zechariah 9.9

The large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So 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!"*** ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion;

behold, your king is coming,

sitting on a donkey's colt!" John 12:12-15

Together let us praise the Lord's Christ - Messiah Jesus.

Hymn- Palms to Passion

The Savior rode a colt
into Jerusalem.

With palms and cloaks they lined his way
with shouts to welcome him.

Blest is the One who comes:

Hosanna, David's son.

A king to set us free is here:

fulfillment has begun.

Ahead the darkness lurks,
a cross only One could see.

Help us, your church, to show this cross
and share its great mercy.

Authors: Green Spring Presbyterian Church
Tune Name: St. Thomas SM 6686 Trentham

Invocation- Let us pray.

Pastor Jeff

Hymn 408P “**Ride On, Ride On in Majesty**”

Ride on, ride on in majesty!

Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;

O Savior meek, pursue your road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. Ride on, ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die:

O Christ, your triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on in majesty!

The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
to see th'approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on, ride on in majesty!

Your last and fiercest strife is nigh;
the Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed Son.

5. Ride on, ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your pow'r and reign.

Authors: Henry H. Milman,
Thomas William's "Psalmodia Evangelica"

Tune Name: St Drostane

Alt.Truro or Winchester New

Call to Confession

Remembering the events of Jesus' last week helps us see ourselves for what we are:
we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds;
We are sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—we have in Christ.
In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.

O Lord, we confess
our hands are not clean, our hearts are not pure.
Forgive our imperfect discipleship
and keep our faith constant, O Lord.
Lead us always to a deeper experience of your love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

**For Christ came into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world through him should be saved.**

Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children.

**And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Hosanna! Amen!**

—based on Isaiah 44:22 Matthew 21:8-9; John 3:17; Ephesians 5:1-2

Hymn- 426P **How Deep the Father's Love for Us**

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.

How deep the father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss;
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen one
bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the man upon a cross,
my sins upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
his wounds have paid my ransom.

Author- Stuart Townend Tune- How Deep
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We Listen to the Scripture Readings

Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Luke 24:44f

First Testament- Isaiah 53:1-9

Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
²For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
³He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;

like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Psalm 22:1-18

To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸"He trusts in Yahweh; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

¹²Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;

it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

New Testament 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God!*

We Sing of Christ Jesus

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. Exod.15:2

Hymn "A Purple Robe, A Crown of Thorns"

#410P

A purple robe, a crown of thorn,
a reed in his right hand;
before the soldiers' spite and scorn
I see my Savior stand.

2. He bears between the Roman guard
the weight of all our woe;
a stumbling figure bowed and scarred
I see my Savior go.

3. Fast to the cross's spreading span,
high in the sunlit air,
all the unnumbered sins of man
I see my Savior bear.

4. He hangs, by whom the world was made,
beneath the darkened sky;
the everlasting ransom paid,
I see my Savior die.

5. He shares on high his Father's throne,
who once in mercy came;
for all his love to sinners shown
I sing my Savior's name.

Author- Timothy Dudley Smith
Tune: A Purple Robe CM Triple

We Present our Prayers with Thanksgivings

But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. Micah 7:7

Concerns and Request

Prayers of the People

We Give Our Offerings

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5: 2

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.
Hebrews 13:15

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn- 424P **Here Is Love, Vast as The Ocean**

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
lovingkindness as the flood,
when the Prince of life, our ransom,
shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He can never be forgotten
throughout heaven's eternal days.

2. On the mount of crucifixion
fountains opened deep and wide;

Ministry of the Proclaimed Word

Scripture – John 19:1 6b-42

So they took Jesus and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them.

Sermon: “**Jesus Crucified**”. by Wayne Conrad

Hymn- **Stricken Smitten and Afflicted**

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
see him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;
yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
by his Son God now has spoken:
'tis the true and faithful Word.

2 Tell me, ye who hear him groaning,
was there ever grief like his?
Friends thro' fear his cause disowning,
foes insulting his distress;
many hands were raised to wound him,
none would interpose to save;
but the deepest stroke that pierced him
was the stroke that Justice gave.

through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above,
and heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

Author- William Rees, Tune- Dim Ond Jesu
Cymraeg

3 Ye who think of sin but lightly
nor suppose the evil great
here may view its nature rightly,
here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
see who bears the awful load;
'tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

4 Here we have a firm foundation,
here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,
his the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
who on him their hope have built.

Authors: Thomas Kelly
Tune Name: O Mein Jesus, Ich Muss Sterben

Ministry of the Lord's Table

Our Lord Jesus gathered his disciples around the Passover Table and he who would within the next day be sacrificed as the true Lamb of God took two of its elements and gave to them and all who would believe a holy meal of remembrance. He said: "Do this in remembrance of me."

A Confession of Faith

We confess that although our Lord Jesus Christ existed in the form of God and was equal with God, he did not cling to his rights as God. Instead, he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form. And as a human being He was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death -- He obediently humbled himself by dying a criminal's death on a cross. But God raised him up to the heights of heaven. God made his name greater than every other name so that every knee will bow to the name of Jesus -- all in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. And all will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and bring glory to God the Father. This we most truly believe!

The Institution

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of this sacrifice, until he comes again:

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

This is my body, which is for you; do this remembrance of me;

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying;

This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Paul informs us, "Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." (1 Cor. 11:23-26)

We shall do as our Lord commands.

We eat this bread and drink this cup, proclaiming His death.

We do this now and until He comes again. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Minister - When we break the bread is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? *It is!*

When we give thanks over the cup is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? *It is!*

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

M: Jesus said: This is my body given for you.

Beloved, take and eat and feed upon Him by faith in your heart with thanksgiving.

Communion Song: **O Sacrifice of Calvary**

O sacrifice of Calvary,

O Lamb whose sacred blood was shed,

O great High Priest on heaven's throne,

O Victor from the dead!

Here I recall your agony,

here see again your bloodstained brow;

beyond the sign of bread and wine

I know your presence now.

2. Your royal presence intercedes

eternally for me above,

and here my hungry spirit feeds

upon these gifts of love;

before your holy table laid

I kneel once more in hope and peace,

your blood and flesh my soul refresh

with joy that shall not cease.

Author- Michael Saward

M: Holy people of God, now take, drink, remember, and believe that the precious blood of our Lord Jesus was shed for the complete remission of all our sins.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Gracious Father, in your wisdom and love you provide this Holy Table for the continual strengthening and refreshing of our faith. Enable us to go forth in the resurrection power of the Holy Spirit to live our lives in devotion and service to you. May the light of Jesus Christ continually shine in and through us unto your glory and honor. Amen.

The Continual Thanksgiving

Congregation in Christ, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with lives lived in gratefulness, and let us serve Christ as Lord and continue to work for the extension of his kingdom in the earth.

P: This we shall do until he comes.

Hymn- "My Song is Love Unknown"

My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love for me;
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be:
but who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh and die?

2. He came from heaven's throne
salvation to bestow;
but they refused, and none
the longed-for Christ would know:
this is my friend,
my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend.

3. Sometimes they crowd his way
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King:
then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

4. Why, what has my Lord done
to cause this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run
and gave the blind their sight:
what injuries!
Yet these are why

the Lord most high
so cruelly dies.

5. With cries of rage they have
my dear Lord done away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of life they slay!
Yet steadfast he
to suffering goes,
that these his foes
may be set free.

6. In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heaven was his home,
but mine the tomb
wherein he lay.

7. Here might I stay and sing
of him my soul adores;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like yours!
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Authors: Samuel Crossman, John Ireland
Tune Name: Love Unknown
#403P

Benediction-*Yahweh bless you and keep you; Yahweh make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; Yahweh turn his face toward you and give you peace.*” **Amen.**

Sermon Test- John 19:16b-42

¹⁶ So he (*Pilate*) *delivered* him (*Jesus*) over to them (*the soldiers*) *to be crucified*.

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "**Woman, behold, your son!**" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "**Behold, your mother!**" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "**I thirst.**" ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "**It is finished,**" and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³² So **the soldiers** came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But *when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.* ³⁴ *But one of **the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out **blood and water.***** ³⁵ *He who saw it has borne **witness**—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.* ³⁶ For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

³⁸ After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.



Weekly Gatherings: *Sundays:*
11:00 a m - Corporate Worship: Word & Table
7:00 PM Tuesday Home Bible Study

Pastors: Jeff Gregory (214-324-9915)
Minister of Worship: Wayne Conrad
Ministers/servants: the congregation

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www.sermonaudio.com/gsc

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