

**THE FIFTH WEDNESDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 29, 2023**

**7:00PM**

**PALMS AND VICTORY**

Christians remain joyful and hope-filled even though life circumstances may change. All of God's people remain victorious even amidst pain, adversity, trials, sin, and death. This is why palms are at the forefront for all the people of God. The Christian remains hopeful even when life, trouble, and circumstances declare something opposite. The ultimate victory in Christ encourages all Christians to remain strong even when sin, death, and trial oppose you.

**LENT EVENING PRAYER PROPERS INSERT**

*(Continued from page 8 of the worship booklet.)*

**PSALM 92:**

*The psalm is read responsively by verses. The pastor begins.*

**P** It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**C** to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

**P** to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

**C** For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**P** How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

**C** The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this:

**P** that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever;

**C** but you, O LORD, are on high forever.

**P** For behold, your enemies, O LORD, for behold, your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered.

**C** But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil.

**P** My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

**C** The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

**P** They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

**C** They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,

**P** to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

**PSALM PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You reveal Yourself as the bread of life who satisfies all the hungry souls that return to You in repentance and faith.

**C** Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word;

**P** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 16: 13-17**

<sup>13</sup>“You shall keep the Feast of Booths seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress. <sup>14</sup> You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. <sup>15</sup> For seven days you shall keep the feast to the LORD your God at the place that the LORD will choose, because the LORD your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful. <sup>16</sup>“Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed. <sup>17</sup> Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **SECOND LESSON: Revelation 7: 9-17**

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” <sup>11</sup> And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” <sup>14</sup> I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup> “Therefore they are before the throne of God,  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

<sup>16</sup> They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;  
the sun shall not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat.

<sup>17</sup> For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of living water,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: John 7: 28-39**

<sup>28</sup> So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, “You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. <sup>29</sup> I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me.” <sup>30</sup> So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. <sup>31</sup> Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, “When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?” <sup>32</sup> The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. <sup>33</sup> Jesus then said, “I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. <sup>34</sup> You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come.” <sup>35</sup> The Jews said to one another, “Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him?”

Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? <sup>36</sup> What does he mean by saying, ‘You will seek me and you will not find me,’ and, ‘Where I am you cannot come’?’<sup>37</sup> On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as<sup>39</sup> the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” <sup>39</sup> Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**A:** The word of the Lord.                      **C: Thanks be to God!**

**L:** The Light shines in the darkness

**C: and the darkness has not overcome it.**

*All who are able, stand*

**HYMN: “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” LSB 531**                      *(burgundy book)*

**Hail, Thou once despi-sed Jesus! Hail Thou Galileon King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us; Thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, Thou universal Savior, Bearer of our sin and shame!  
By Thy merit we find favor; life is given through Thy name.**

**Paschal Lamb by God appointed, all our sins on Thee were laid;  
By almighty love anointed, Thou hast full atonement made.  
All Thy people are forgiven through the virtue of Thy blood;  
Opened is the gate of heaven, reconciled are we with God.**

**Jesus hail! Enthroned in glory, there forever to abide;  
All the heav’nly hosts adore Thee, seated at Thy Father’s side.  
There for sinners Thou are pleading; there Thou dost our place prepare,  
Ever for us interceding till in glory we appear.**

**Worship, honor, pow’r and blessing, Thou art worthy to receive;  
Highest praises, without ceasing, right it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits, all your noblest anthems raise;  
Help to sing our Savior’s merits, Help to chant Immanuel’s praise!**

*All sit*

**MEDITATION**

*All who are able, stand*

*The liturgy continues on page 8 of the worship booklet with the ANNUNCIATION and MAGNIFICAT.*

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

“Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” LSB 531: Text: Public Domain

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