Mar. 25, 2018 The Crucified Messiah John 19:16b-22 Opt: John 12:12- 27 (Psalm 24) Liturgical color: Scarlet/Purple

PRAYER OF THE DAY God of honor and celebration, Together we cry, “Hosanna!” to your son, who rode willingly and bravely into Jerusalem. Hear us as we celebrate your anointed one, Jesus Christ. Amen. HYMNS My song is love unknown ELW 343, H82 458, NCH 222 All glory, laud, and honor ELW 344, H82 154, 155, UMH 280, NCH 216, 217 At the name of Jesus ELW 416, H82 435, UMH 168 CHORAL Hosanna to the Son of David, Luc Jakobs

Psalm 24:1 <Of David. A Psalm.> The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; 2 for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

 4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. 5 They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation. 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah 7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 8 Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah

**Announcements Prayers**

Last day for Easter flower orders Friends and family of Gladys Noll Holy Week services & Council calendar!! (service Monday at Lamm & Witman noon viz; 1pm service)

 Mark & Lori Small, Jean Fisher, Elsie Shartle, Terry Foltz

On Wed, Mar 21, 2018 at 9:01 PM, henning 2 <hennhouse4@verizon.net> wrote:

The Estate Task Force will meet on Weds., April 4 at 7:00pm. Anyone who has a suggestion for

the use of these funds is welcome to attend. This initial meeting is to receive recommendations only.

No decisions will be made at this time.

Council liaisons are requested to contact their committee chairs and ask if they or any member of

their committee would like to attend to present a recommendation.  If anyone is unable to attend

this initial meeting and has a suggestion, their recommendation should be sent to me

**in writing prior to the meeting.**

All recommendations received will be researched by the task force to determine the course of

action that is in the best interests of St. Daniel’s.  Once that is determined, the task force

recommendations will be presented to church council.

**Children’s Message:**

Hosanna is a Hebrew word that means ‘Save us, we pray’

Because we need help. Jesus comes to live with us, teach, heal, love and forgive us with mercy.

*Easter message will be Alleluia parallel.. we need help & God listens – responds – helps through Jesus! Wow*

John’s Gospel is the only Gospel that does NOT include Jesus explaining the last supper as holy communion; AND… John’s gospel IS the only gospel that specifically includes mention of **Palm** branches for which we name this Sunday, Palm Sunday.

After thousands of years this does not translate very well… when the Eagles paraded down the parkway in Philadelphia after winning the Superbowl … I did not see footage of a single person waving palm branches. Flags, signs, waving… and more were shown as signs of respect and celebration for those who had achieved victory. But in the time that Jesus entered Jerusalem for the Passover celebration… there was no poster-board, nor foam hands, and no self-respecting Jew would be waving a flag to signify the Roman influence and oppression under which they lived and worshipped. … no, instead the symbols of choice were palm branches to celebrate a great victor’s victory.

Here people celebrated Jesus as the Messiah, the Anointed one of God, the King who had finally come to save them from oppression. That’s probably why people were shouting, ‘Hosanna’. Shouting, not whispering, not mumbling, … but they were **shouting**, ‘Hosanna’. As I was saying with the children’s message, Hosanna means **save us, we pray**!

These are crowds of people shouting as they yearn for a hero… desperate for a savior… anxious for a change in their fortunes, and acutely aware that they cannot achieve any of that alone. They need God’s sent one, God’s anointed and appointed one, they need the divine to break into the broken world and make things right.

The crowds knew that this king would have power, and might, and wisdom, and strength… and the government would be on his shoulders! (Isaiah 9:6 reference) They had never considered that a Roman cross would be on those same shoulders; nor could they imagine the lashes that would cut his shoulders first. This crowd had come to see a king. Remember the invitation at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus (back in chapter 1:39) Jesus said ‘come and see’ inviting 2 disciples of John the Baptist, Andrew and another, to remain with Jesus that day. Phillip invited his friend Nathaniel, cynical and doubting Nathaniel, to come and see Jesus… the Samaritan woman at the well invited her whole city to come and see the man who told her everything she had ever done… who she recognized as the Messiah… and her neighbors did: Come and see Jesus! All the way from the very beginning of his ministry on earth; even to the point where Jesus asked where the body of his dead friend Lazarus was laid… the response is come and see. That time, for Lazarus, Jesus cried. This time the people that come and see are looking for a king, victorious, with power and might, they are cheering for salvation from this Messiah King. Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! And it is not only Jews who see Jesus as the Messiah King.

In our first Gospel reading there is another come and see moment that nearly gets lost in our familiar reading… some Greeks came to worship in Jerusalem! Not only Jews, not only the insiders of the faith… outsiders too! Greeks who speak a different language! They came to Philip and asked to see Jesus. Jesus responded to that request by making powerful points: it’s time!; after death, a single grain bears much fruit (consider the 17 grains who lost their lives in Parkland); who ever serves me must follow me… and the Father will honor. (This honor is a huge deal in those days among mortals… and is second to none when the honor is bestowed by God!)

Again in this come and see moment, Jesus again has a troubled soul… but he will not back down!

* It is for this reason that he has come to that place, in that moment.
* The King of kings knows that in just a few days, they will come and see, the crowds will come and see a man standing trial, and they will change their shouts from save us; to crucify him!
* They will come and see their king receive a crown… but not of gold, instead this will be of thorns.
* They will come and see the government upon his shoulders, but it will be a government sentence of execution.
* They will come and see him dressed in the purple robes of royalty, only to have those trappings stripped away, with his dignity.
* A brave and dedicated few, may even come and see him, on a hilltop, giving his mother into the care of another… and giving his mother an adopted son.

They will have come to see the victory of God over evil. They will have come and seen the greatest love that ever lived. And almost all of them will **not** recognize what their Messiah, King has done for them… even if the sign has it plainly written in Hebrew, Latin **and** Greek.

The victory of the Messiah is coming, but it is not on a donkey this week… it’s on a cross in a few days, and in a surprise empty tomb a few days after that.

But for now… those shouting save us we pray, waving the palm branch posters of a champion the one who finally brings salvation… They have come to see and walked away blind…

Will we?