

3. Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On him my soul shall rest, his Word
Upholds my fainting spirit:
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort, and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience.

Responsive reading: Psalms 22: 22-31

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³ You, who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob glorify him;

Stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴ For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;

He did not hide his face from me but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

Those who seek him shall praise the Lord.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember And turn to the Lord,
And all the families of the nations Shall worship before him.

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the Lord,

And he rules over the nations.

²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
Before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, And I shall live for him.

³⁰ Posterity will serve him;

Future generations will be told about the Lord

³¹ And proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
Saying that he has done it.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, World without end.
Amen.

Hymn 2. Christ, the Life of all the living,

[Christ the Life of All the Living | Hymnary.org](http://Hymnary.org)

Christ, the Life of all the liv-ing,
Christ the Death of death, our foe,
Who thysel for us once giv-ing
To the dark-est depths of woe,
Patiently didst yield Thy breath
But to save my soul from death;
Praise and glo-ry ev-er be,
Blessèd Je-sus, un-to Thee.

Thou, O Christ, hast tak-en on Thee
Bitter strokes, a cru-el rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped up-on Thee,
O Thou sin-less Son of God,
Only thus for me to win
Rescue from the bonds of sin;
Praise and glo-ry ev-er be,
Blessèd Je-sus, unto Thee.

Thou didst bear the smit-ing on-ly
That it might not fall on me;
Stoodest false-ly charged and lone-ly
That I might be safe and free;
Comfortless that I might know
Comfort from Thy bound-less woe.
Praise and glo-ry ever be,
Blessèd Je-sus, unto Thee.

Introitus and Gloria

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

Congregation: Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

Leader: Do not be far from me,

Congregation: For trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

Leader: O Lord, do not be far away!

Congregation: O, my help, come quickly to my aid!

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

The Confession of Sin (remain standing)

Leader: Beloved in the Lord! Let us confess our Sins unto God to grant us forgiveness.

Leader and Congregation

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in many ways, by thought, word and deed. We have forgotten your faithfulness to your people and have hardened our hearts against you. Many of the times, we remained disloyal to you and also to others. We confess that we, as the church, have failed to live truly as the Body of Christ, in which equality and love must prevail. We have allowed our own desires and vested interests to rule the Church, Society and Home. O Lord, blot out our sins and iniquities that we may serve you in true faith with a loyal heart and faithful spirit. **Amen**

The Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the World, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the World, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the World, grant us Thy peace ...
Amen.

Absolution: (remain standing)

Pastor: In Isaiah 54:10 we are told, “For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.” May the Triune God forgive us and grant us peace.

Our Loving God out of abundant love, mercy and grace pardons us and strengthens us to love and serve one another for the Glory of God.

Congregation: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymn: Ask ye what great thing I know,

[Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know | Hymnary.org](http://Hymnary.org)

Ask ye what great thing I know,
That delights and stirs me so?
What the high reward I win?
Who’s the name I glory in?
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

Who defeats my fiercest foes?
Who consoles my saddest woes?
Who revives my fainting heart,
Healing all its hidden smart?
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

What is faith’s foundation strong?
What awakes my heart to song?
He who bore my sinful load,
Purchased for me peace with God,
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

Who is life in life to me?
Who the death of death will be?
Who will place me on His right,
With the countless hosts of light?
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

Who is He that makes me wise
To discern where duty lies?
Who is He that makes me true
Duty, when discerned to do,
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

This is that great thing I know;
This delights and stirs me so;
Faith in Him who died to save,
Him who triumphed over the grave:
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Leader: Let us pray ...

Collect

Merciful and everlasting God, you have sent your son and our saviour Jesus Christ to die on the cross on our behalf, through which Jesus's great humbleness is being revealed to humankind. Help us to follow the path of long-suffering of Jesus Christ. God, we pray we pray to you along with God, the Holy Spirit and through the everlasting ruler and our savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Pericopae for Palm Sunday

OT: Zechariah 9: 9-12

Then I will encamp at my house as a guard, so that no one shall march to and fro; no oppressor shall again overrun them, for now I have seen with my own eyes.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Epistle: Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Graduale:

Pastor: Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! Give victory to the king, O Lord; Answer us when we call. (Revelation 5:12 and Psalm 20:9)

Congregation: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Gospel: John 12: 12-24

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

“Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”

At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!” Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

Pastor: Praise be to the God for His Good Words

Congregation: Christ be glorified

Confession of Faith (Credo)

Pastor: In union with the Christian Churches all around the world, let us confess of faith through the Apostolic Creed.

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The congregation may come to the Altar for thanksgiving for what God has done in their individual life and family life.

Song: Rock of Ages, cleft for me

[Rock of Ages \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=611111111111)

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save me from its guilt and power.

Not the labor of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,

Could my tears forever flow?
All could never sin erase,
Thou must save, and save by grace.
Nothing in my hands I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress,
Helpless, look to Thee for grace:
Foul, I to the fountain fly,
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

Sermon

Song: Upon the cross extended (Offertory will be taken at this time)

["Upon the Cross Extended" Lutheran Service Book LSB #453 \(youtube.com\)](#)

1. Upon the cross extended,
See, world, your Lord suspended;
Your Savior yields his breath.
The Prince of life from heaven
Himself has freely given
To shame and blows and bitter death.

2. Who is it, Lord that bruised you?
Who has so sore abused you
and caused you all your woe?
We all must make confession
of sin and dire transgression
while you no ways of evil know.

5. Your cross I place before me,
Its saving power restore me,
Sustain me in the test.
It will, when life is ending,
Be guiding and attending
My way to your eternal rest.

Closing Prayer:

Gracious God, we thank you for leading us through this worship. We thank you for your tender love towards us. You sent your only Son who is our Savior Christ. He made the greatest possible sacrifice for us. Jesus had to die on the cross to save us from our sins. We pray to follow the example of His humility and patience. Your Son, Christ reigns and lives with you forever.

Lord, we pray for the poor and the needy, who are struggling to make both ends to meet. Lord, we remember the widows and the destitute. Grant them your blessings that they may also enjoy a peaceful and satisfied life.

Loving God, we pray for the leaders of our country and the leaders of our church that they may seek to do your will so that by their dedicated and faithful service they may stand for the cause of truth, justice and peace as against that of untruth, injustice and divisions in the church and society.

Lord, we pray for the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church, that it will carry the mission of Jesus Christ in unity without any distinction. We seek your guiding spirit to rethink our perception mission in the light of our context, so that your immeasurable love might be shared to all at all times.

As we depart, Lord, we ask you to be with us. Help us to be faithful to our minister as you are faithful to us. We thank you for your faithfulness and loving kindness over us. May all

glory and honor comes back to you in everything that we do. It is in Jesus' name we believe and pray. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name. Your reign come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. For thine is the reign, the power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction (Salutatio et Benedictio):

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Leader: ...

The LORD bless you and keep you;

The LORD makes his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Congregation: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Song or Doxology

Hymn: Segne und behüte

[282 - Segne und behüte \(youtube.com\)](#)

**ELM Online Seminar: "How Does the World Look at Holy Week and Easter?"
A Service for Palm Sunday**

Thanks

We would like to thank Pastor Pastor S. Dhanaraj for his inspiration in our online seminar Best Practices from across the globe.

Pastor Pastor S. Dhanaraj is an adjunct faculty member at Tamil Nadu Theological Seminary (TTS) and Pastor of Christ Church, Coimbatore, India.

Further Information

You can find further interesting events, information about ELM, and the opportunity to support our work financially on our homepage: www.elm-mission.net.

More resources from the Online Seminar: www.elm-mission.net/en/ressources-holy-week-easter.

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