



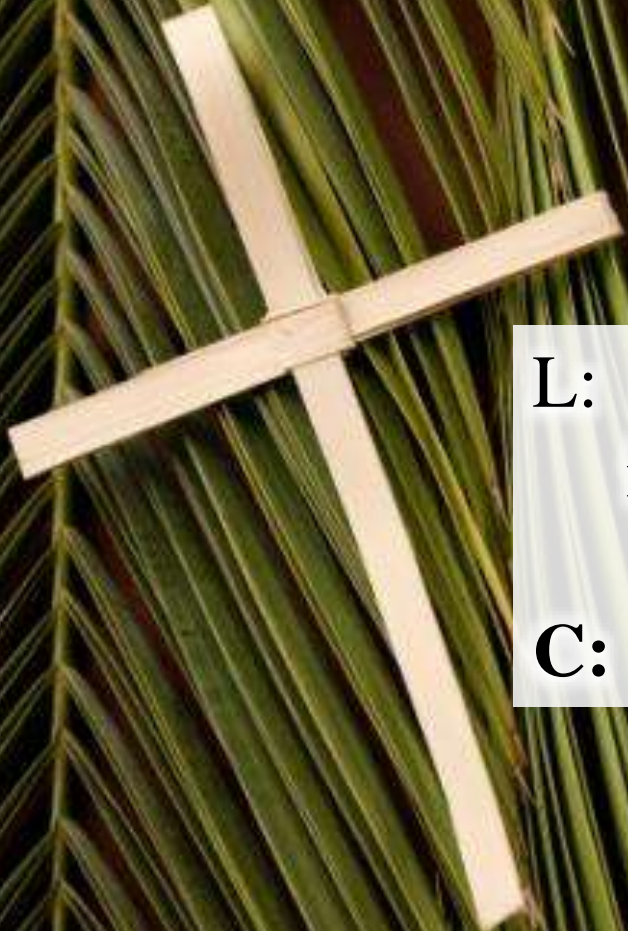
*Welcome to
Worship at
Zion Lutheran Church*

*Sunday, March 24, 2024
9:00 am*

Photo by Kamarra Brunelle



Welcome



L: Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

Processional Gospel

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 12:12-16

Jesus enters Jerusalem

¹²[Five days before the Passover] the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!”

¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

¹⁵“Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.
Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

L: Glory to you, O Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of Palms

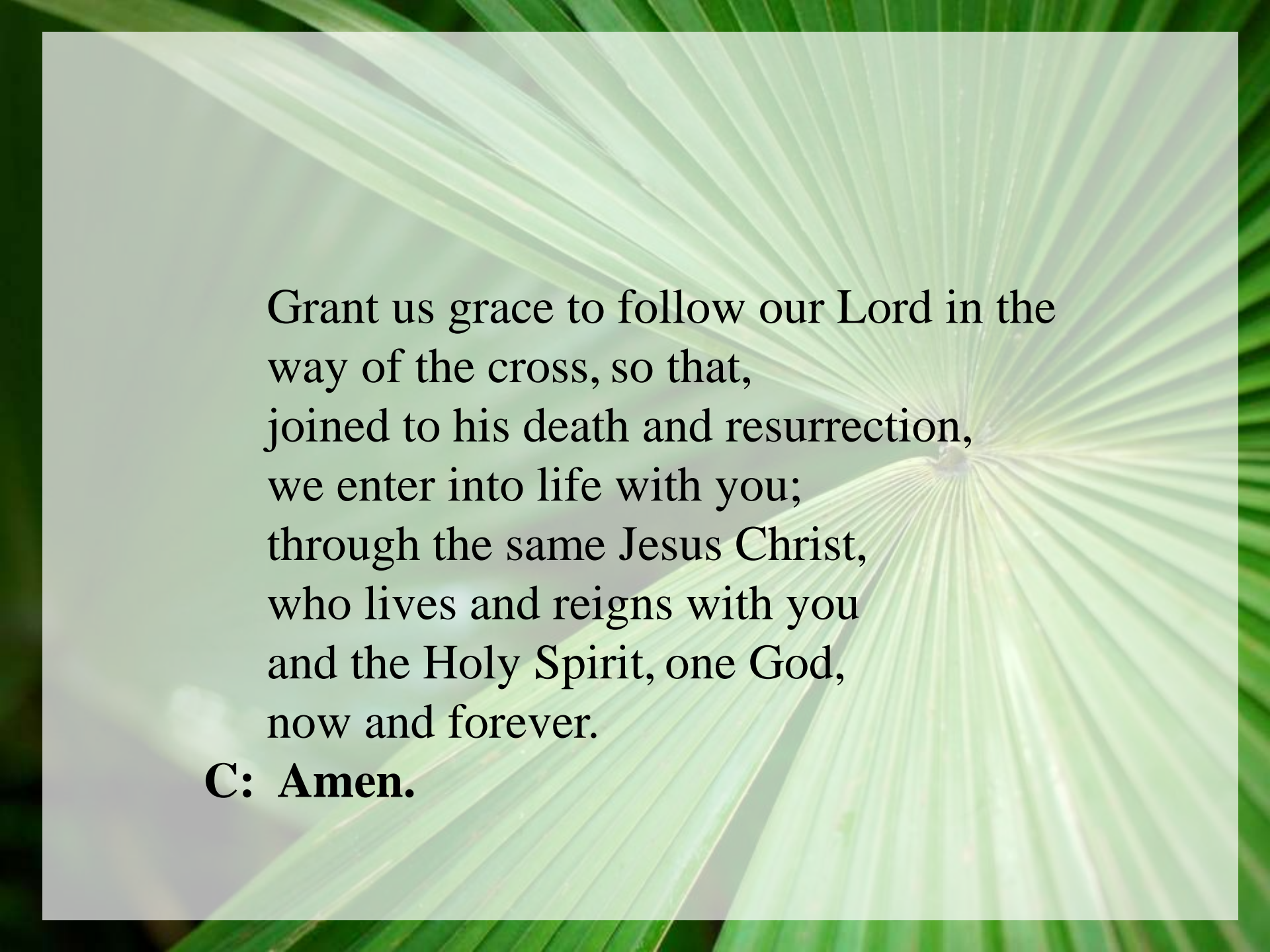
L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them.



Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW #344

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635. Public Domain.

**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.**

**All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

2.

**The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply.**

**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.**

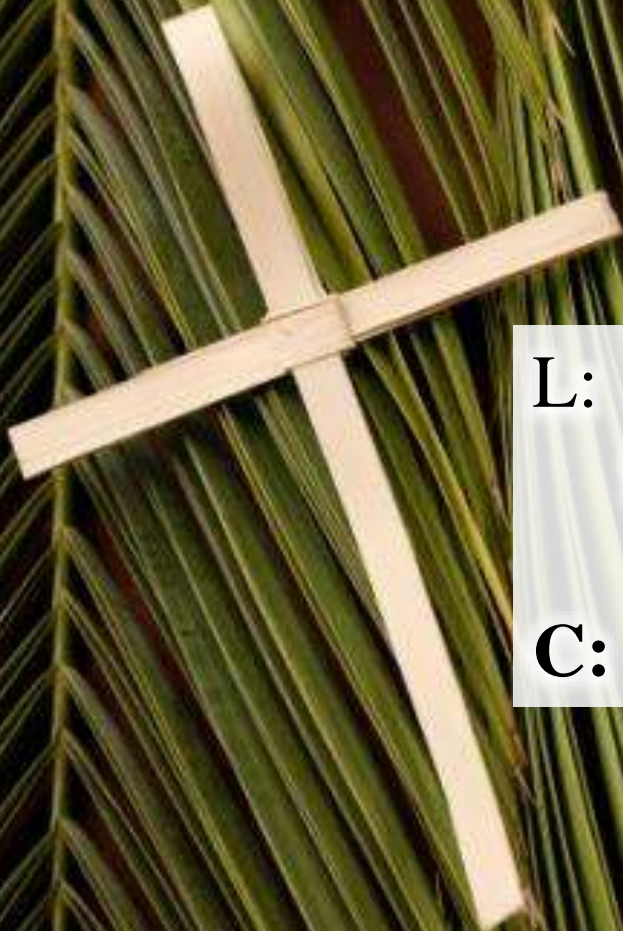
**All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

**4. To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.**

**All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

**5. Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King.**

**All glory, laud, and honor
to you, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**



L: Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

L: As we now enter the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

Prayer of the Day

L: Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross.

C: **In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

L: ⁹Have mercy on me,
 O LORD, for I am in trouble;
 my eye is consumed with sorrow,
 and also my throat and my belly.

C: ¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief,
 and my years with sighing;
 my strength fails me
 because of affliction,
 and my bones are consumed.**

L: ¹¹I am the scorn of my enemies,
 a disgrace to my neighbors,
 a dismay to my acquaintances;
 when they see me in the street they
 avoid me.

C: ¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten,
 out of mind;
 I am as useless as a broken pot.**

L: ¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

C: ¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you,
O LORD.
I have said, “You are my God.**

L: ¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

C: ¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that
was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of
death— even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Passion Narrative from the Gospel of Mark 15:1-39

The passion story in Mark's gospel presents Jesus as one who dies abandoned by all. He shows himself to be the true Son of God by giving his life for those who have forsaken him.



¹As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.” ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”

¹³They shouted back, “Crucify him!” ¹⁴Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!” ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

²¹They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

L: Glory to you, O Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“The Unvarnished and Raw Gospel”

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW #335

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915. Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915. Public Domain.

- 1. Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

**In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.**



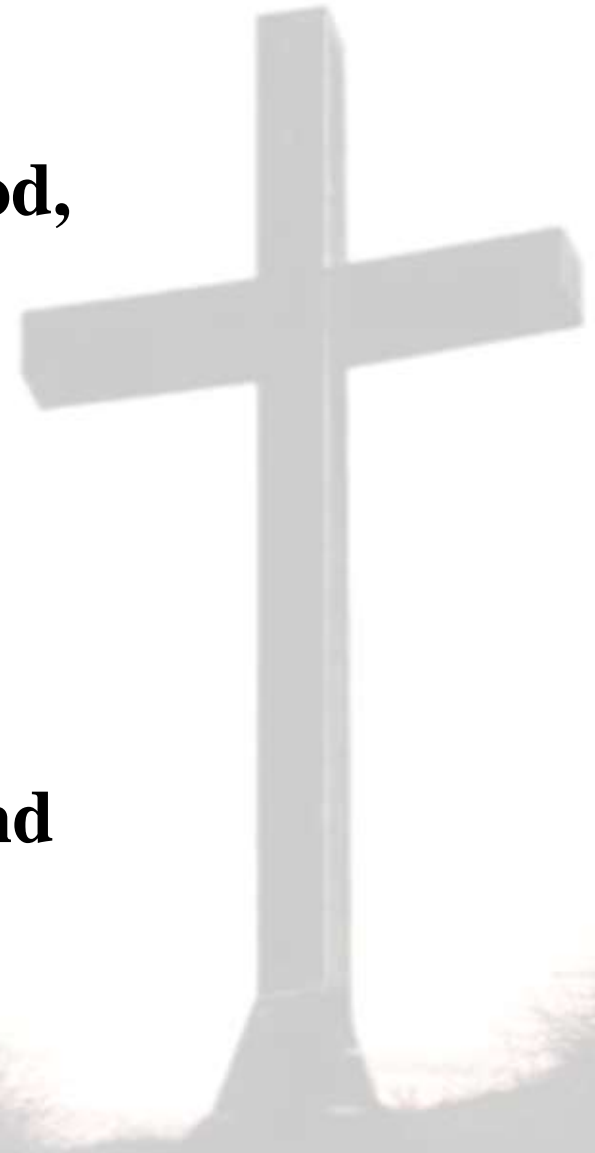
**2. Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me.**

**In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.**



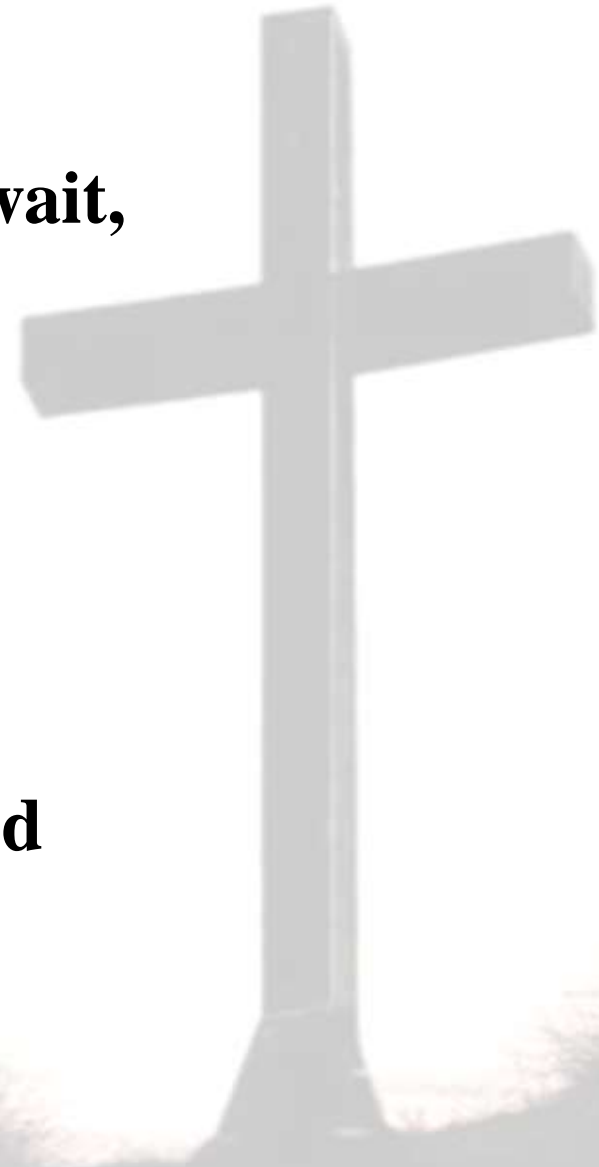
**3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me.**

**In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.**



**4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river.**

**In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.**





Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

Offering



Just As I Am, without One Plea

ELW #592 v. 1

Text: Charlotte Elliot, 1789-1871. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Public Domain.

- 1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray.

Gracious and generous Lord, as we offer our treasure and hearts to you, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives.

C: **Amen.**



Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, Who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**


**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



Announcements



**Help to beautify our sanctuary
when we celebrate the
resurrection of Jesus!**

Order forms are available in the Gathering Space.

Orders are due TODAY.

The cost is \$8 per lily.



**There will be Choir rehearsal Easter
Sunday, March 31 at 6:20 am.
The Choir will sing at both the
7:00 am and 9:00 am services.**

Holy Week and Easter

March 27: Wednesday

No worship service, classes, or meal

March 28: Maundy Thursday

6:15 pm- Maundy Thursday worship service with Holy Communion

March 29: Good Friday

6:15 pm- Good Friday worship service

March 31: Easter

7:00 am- Sunrise Easter worship service with Holy Communion

8:00-8:45 am- Easter Breakfast

9:00 am- Easter worship service with Holy Communion



A background image of a field of pink tulips in bloom, with some flowers in sharp focus and others blurred in the background.

Easter BREAKFAST

Serving from 8:00 to 8:45 am

Scrambled eggs with ham, muffins, fruit, milk/juice/coffee

← Volunteer opportunities →

Help serve and/or bring supplies

Sign-up sheets are located in the Gathering Space.

After worship on Sunday, April 7, there will be a conversation about Zion as a community of grace.

If you are wondering about becoming a member, or already are a member, pull up a chair. Let's talk together about the life of the congregation and the ministry moving forward.

For more information and encouragement, give Pastor Keith a call or text at 218-790-1764, or email him at pastorkeithzeh@gmail.com.

Benediction

L: Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ✝ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Beneath The Cross of Jesus

ELW #338

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869. Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927. Public Domain.

1.

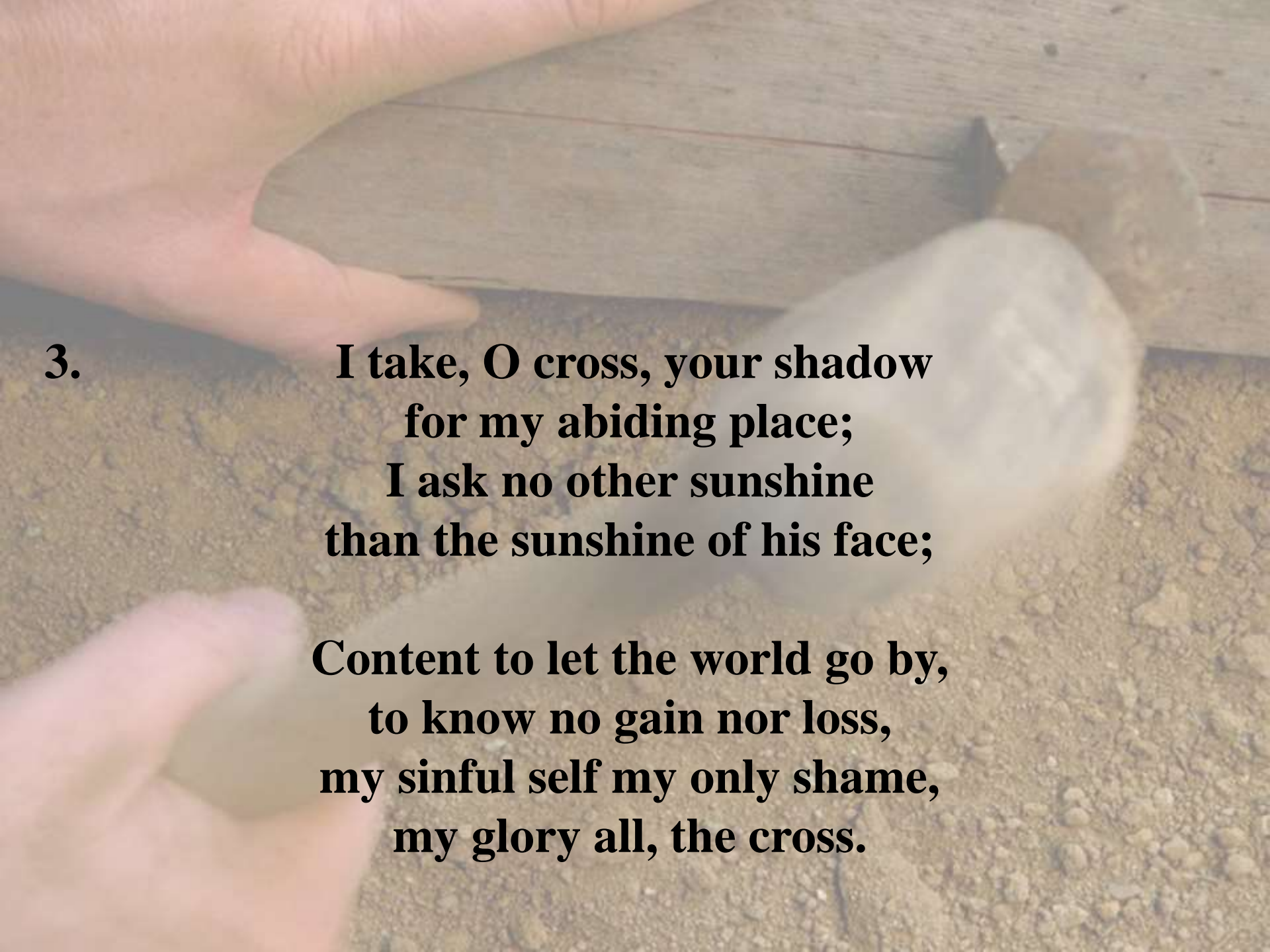
**Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,

a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning
of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.**

2.

**Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me**

**And from my contrite
heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.**

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a simple wooden cross. The cross is made of two weathered wooden beams. The background is a wooden surface with a visible grain. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is warm and natural.

**3. I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine
than the sunshine of his face;**

**Content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.**

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Jesus meets
you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God.



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!

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