



PALM SUNDAY

04.02.23

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Rigaudon”
André Campra

Welcome and announcements

Derek Halvorson, President of Covenant College

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 24 and Psalm 118

Leader: Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory?

All: The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory!

Leader: Open for us the gates of righteousness. We will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

All: You have answered us and have become our salvation. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

* Hymn of praise 235

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present:
to thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

text by Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 820; music by Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615, ST. THEODULPH

* Prayer of adoration

Worship in the giving of God's tithe and our offerings

Offertory

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

Chancel Choir

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

Sometimes they strew 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.

Why, what hath my Lord done to cause this rage and spite?
He made the lame to walk and gave the blind their sight.
What injuries, yet these are why the Lord most high so cruelly dies.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days will gladly spend.
text by Samuel Crossman, ca. 1624-1683; music by J. Baptiste Calkin, 1827-1905; arr. Molly Ijames, 2012

* Gloria Patri 735

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

* Prayer of dedication and thanksgiving

* Scripture reading from 1 Corinthians 1:17-25

Derek Halvorson

¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. 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."
²⁰Where 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? ²¹For 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. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Christ Crucified: The Power and Wisdom of God"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

1. What the world pursues: eloquent wisdom and miraculous signs (vv. 17-22)
 - Those who are perishing live according to the standards of human wisdom and therefore wrongly view the cross as foolishness.
2. What the church has to proclaim: God sovereignly calls sinners to faith in Christ crucified. (vv. 21-25)
 - Those who are being saved live according to the standard of God's wisdom and therefore rightly view the cross as the power and wisdom of God.

Pastoral prayer

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper. This celebration is a sacred time during which God's people enjoy communion with him and unity with each other. We believe that the Lord's Supper is meant for the body of Christ as a gathered, corporate reality and not merely for personal or individual edification. For this reason, the livestream is ending at the conclusion of the sermon and will not include the celebration of the sacrament.

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – director

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

HOLY WEEK SERIES: DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY

In 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul makes clear that the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ are the heart of the Christian faith. "Foolish" though it seems to the world (1:18, 21, 23), the message of the cross and the empty tomb is the power of God for salvation (1:18, 24). It shows us what love is (Chapter 13), and it gives Christians a picture of our glorious future, when death will not have the final word (15:55). Join us for Holy Week at LMPC as we explore 1 Corinthians and consider again the victory we have through our crucified and risen savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (15:57).

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday Communion Service

.....6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall*

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

.....6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary*

Easter Sunrise Service

.....7:15 a.m. at Point Park (meet in the sanctuary in case of rain

Online bulletin available via QR code

Easter Morning Coffee and Donuts

.....8:00 a.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building

Easter Sunday Services

.....9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary*

.....9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall*

No Sunday School for adults, youth, or children

No Evening Gathering or youth activities

**indicates nursery available*

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN REGISTRATION FOR MOTHER'S DAY OUT will be held Thursday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m. at lmpc.org/mdo. Space is limited.

LMPC MEN, JOIN US FOR MOUNTAIN MEN'S BREAKFAST on Saturday, April 22 at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We will share breakfast together and be challenged and encouraged by our special guest, Jonathan Ingraham. Jonathan is the director of the Chattanooga Fellows Program, which is part of Chattanooga Faith + Work + Culture. He has a passion for helping people see how the Gospel impacts all aspects of life. No registration required.

A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held at the end of each worship service in the sanctuary and fellowship hall on Sunday, April 30, for the purpose of electing the nominated elders and deacons to the class of 2026. A brochure about the candidates will be available electronically and in print closer to the date of the meeting.

To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit lmpc.org/news

JOIN US ON REALM CONNECT:

- Communicate with your groups and teams
- Register easily for popular events
- Access our online church directory
- Update your contact and personal information, including photo
- Manage your church giving and pledging

Find more details on how to join and use Realm Connect at lmpc.org/realm.

For additional help with Realm Connect, or to request an account, email Katie Holstege at katie@lmpc.org.