

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



4/10/2022 - Palm Sunday/Final in Lent

SERIES THEME

A HOLY WEEK

"Holiday" is simply short for "holy day." Throughout the course of a year, there are certain days we set apart as special: to commemorate extraordinary events, to celebrate influential individuals. While there are many holy days, there is but one holy week. The final week of Lent marks the most pivotal week in human history. In the four gospels—biographies of Jesus Christ's thirty-three-year life—this single week consumes nearly a third of the ink. The Holy Spirit considered the events of this week that important.

On a holy day, the relentless march of time slows down. We set aside our usual routines to call attention to whatever or whoever makes that day special. Likewise, believers slow down this entire week to ponder all that Christ did for them, from his humble entrance into Jerusalem... to his sacrificial death on the cross... to the victory of Easter morning.

THEME OF THE DAY

PALM SUNDAY: HIS HUMILITY, OUR HOPE Note also in the new lectionary options for Passion Sunday.

The events of Palm Sunday might not seem pivotal to our salvation. Christ sheds no blood on this day. However, Palm Sunday sets the tone for all of Holy Week. It perfectly illustrates that Jesus came to be kind of king this world will never understand: one who conquers his enemies by surrendering to them, one who crushes his opposition by himself being crushed, one whose path to kingly exaltation begins with humiliation. This is the kind of King we have marching into battle as one of us and for all of us this week. As a result, we are drawn to him in faith rather than driven away in fear. This humble King is our only hope.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:1-4 - Isaiah foretold the coming Servant of the Lord whose ministry would be one of great power and also great humility.

SECOND READING

*** Philippians 2:5-11 - Paul describes the humility of Jesus and encourages us to emulate it.

GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40 - Through the humility exhibited by his choice to enter Jerusalem on a donkey Jesus would accomplish great things.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie, GA, Agnus

Ambitious:

Setting 2 (w/o Gloria)

Opening Hymn:

412 - All Glory, Laud and Honor

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 24A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” (Luke 19:38)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

411 - Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

414 - No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

Closing Hymn:

413 - Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

415 - Exult Today, Jerusalem

915 - Hosanna to the Living Lord

Notes for the conservative service:

415 - a new addition to a section that has had the same hymns for a long time; would need to be introduced/taught;

412 - note that the refrain now begins and ends the hymn

Notes for the ambitious service:

915 - This text is back to its original form as a beginning of service kind of text; the tune ST. CHAD needs introduction

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4/14/2022 - Maundy Thursday

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THEME OF THE DAY

HOLY THURSDAY: HIS FOOD, OUR FILL

As the sun set on Holy Thursday, the day marked the end of something old and the start of something new. The Old Covenant, which God had established through Moses, was two-sided. God's people would follow God's commands; God would bless his people. However, rather than providing God's people the opportunity to live up to God's demands, the Old Covenant only exposed their flaws. When God established his New Covenant, it was not a two-sided contract. It was more like a will, listing all the blessings God promised graciously to give his people. No matter who you are or what you have done, the blessing of the New Covenant are "for you." Eat the food Christ offers, and all your spiritual and eternal needs are satisfied.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34 - The Old Covenant could only modify behavior. The New Covenant transforms people's hearts and minds.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:15-25 - Since the New Covenant perfectly satisfies our spiritual hunger, it enables us to confidently draw near to God.

GOSPEL

*** Luke 22:7-20 - Jesus institutes the meal of the New Covenant. In this sacrament his body and blood are the food and drink that satisfy our every spiritual need.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) with evening canticles or Triduum as in Service Builder

Ambitious:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) with evening canticles or Triduum as in Service Builder

Opening Hymn:

416 - When You Woke that Thursday Morning

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 116

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

Hymn of the Day:

659 - Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

677 - The Death of Jesus Christ, our Lord

Closing Hymn:

673 - O Lord, We Praise You

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

417 - It Was a Dark and Dismal Night

Notes for the conservative service:

417 - retuned, could be an optional opening hymn to replace 416

Notes for the ambitious service:

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4/15/2022 - Good Friday

SERIES THEME

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THEME OF THE DAY

GOOD FRIDAY: HIS PUNISHMENT, OUR PEACE

Good Friday is very different than a funeral. At a funeral, we celebrate the blessings of someone's earthly life. But we also we mourn the fact of their death. Their death is something we wish we could forget. In the case of Jesus, his death is the very thing we gather to celebrate and remember. In fact, we prolong the remembrance. We dwell on the details. We even call this day "good." For we know why Jesus willingly endured the agony of the cross. It wasn't a tragic miscarriage of justice. Jesus suffered this punishment vicariously. He was pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. Because he did, we are now right with our holy God. Jesus' punishment is our peace.

FIRST READING

*** Isaiah 52:13-53:12 - Christ took the punishment that our sins deserved. We are now at peace with God.

SECOND READING

Galatians 3:10-13 - We are saved not by obeying God's Law but through faith in the One who redeemed us from the Law's curse.

GOSPEL

John 19:17-30 - The crucifixion and death of Jesus.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Service Builder Seasonal Service

Ambitious:

Service Builder Seasonal Service

Opening Hymn:

430 - Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 22

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. (Isaiah 53:4)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

Hymn of the Day:

422 - A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

428,429 - O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Closing Hymn:

523 - How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

568 - His Robes for Mine

523 - How Deep the Father's Love for Us

562 - Jesus Paid It All

Notes for the conservative service:

523 - near perfect fit for this day and the Isaiah text; introduce as necessary; consider cantoring the first stanza and then let congregation repeat it so they can sing all three, since this may well become a favorite

562 - probably no introduction needed

Notes for the ambitious service:

568 - If sung on Good Friday, would recommend that choir introduce stanzas, bring congregation in for refrain; recommend use in church on prior days

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4/16/2022 - Easter Vigil

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THEME OF THE DAY

[Note to planners: The Easter Vigil does not have a preaching theme in the manner of other Easter services.] The Easter Vigil has four parts: (I) the Service of Light with its focus on the Paschal candle, the representation of the unconquered life of Christ; (II) the Service of Lessons with its focus on Old Testament readings that speak of God's rescue of his people and so foreshadow the great deliverance Christ accomplished; (III) the Service of Holy Baptism with its emphasis on our baptismal connection with Christ; and (IV) the Holy Communion with its proclamation of the risen Lord and our reconciliation with God through Christ.

FIRST READING

The Easter Vigil service is available in CW: Service Builder.

SECOND READING

See also *CW: Foundations*, chapter 5.

GOSPEL

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Service Builder Seasonal Service

Ambitious:

Service Builder Seasonal Service

Opening Hymn:

Psalm of the Day:

selected

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Hymn of the Day:

selected, esp. 957, 966 (Builder only). Not strictly HoD.

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

Closing Hymn:

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

958.

963 and 964 (Builder only)

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service: