

# **April 2, 2023**



# **Experiencing Christ's Love**

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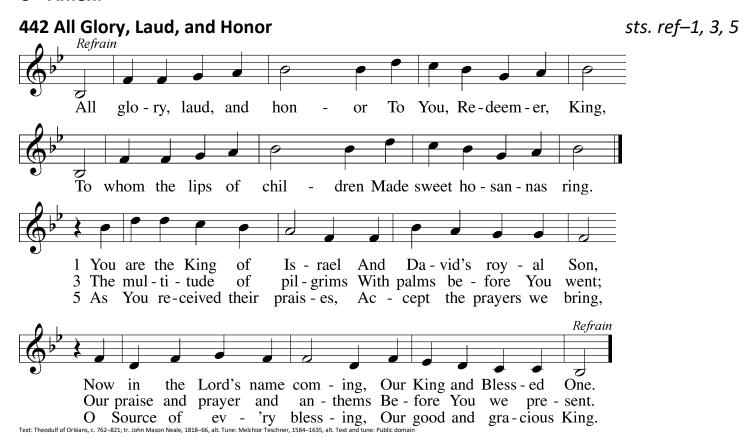
Organist: Mr. Walter Greenwood

## **Welcome and Greeting**

Please stand

### **Call to Worship**

- P We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



### **Confession and Absolution**

P The Lord God is loving, merciful, and provides fresh beginnings every day. Our God has claimed us as His Children and yet we often fail to live like we belong to Him. We try and fail, try again and fail again. We are stuck in a pattern of brokenness and can't break free on our own, but in Jesus Christ, we have hope! God has provided the Way for us to be made new again by admitting and confessing our need for His forgiveness in Christ. In these next few moments, we pause to seek his mercy and forgiveness once more.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

### **Prayer of Confession**

- P Let us pray,
- C Heavenly Father, you love us perfectly and offer a fresh start once again today. We thank you that by faith in your Son, Jesus, we have been given a new identity as your children. We know that our lives are inconsistent with that identity. We say one thing and do something else, but you continue to love us and call us back to yourself. We pray that by your Holy Spirit's work, we would believe your Word and trust in your promise to forgive us. We humbly ask that you help us to grow more fully into who you created us to be. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen
  - P Our Heavenly Father loves us! He gave His only son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place and for his sake, forgives us all our sins! It is by His authority that I have the privilege to declare His forgiveness to you in Christ Jesus. You are forgiven, and the new life is yours, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
  - C Amen.

Please be seated

# Video Hymn of Praise "There is a Redeemer" written by Melody Green

## **Prayer**

### Psalm 118:19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar! You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

- P This is the word of the Lord,
- C Thanks be to God.

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty first chapter
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Matthew 21:1-11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

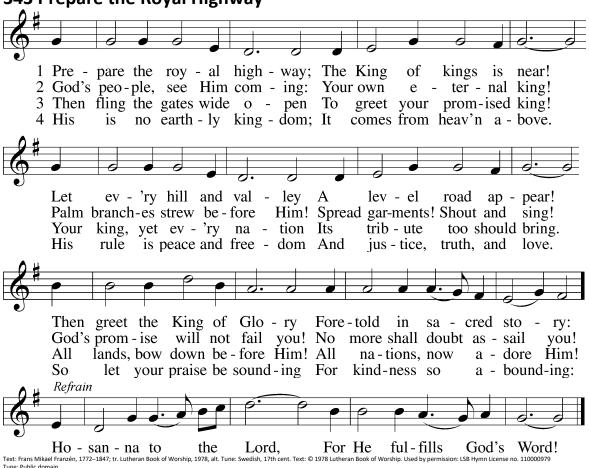
Baptism of Eugene and Atwell Blanchard (10:30 a.m. service)

# **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

## 343 Prepare the Royal Highway

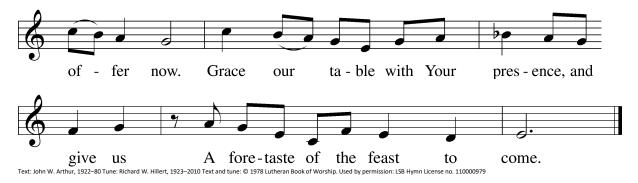


# SERMON: "GETTING STIRRED UP" MATTHEW 21:1-1 1

### Please stand







### **Prayer of the Congregation**

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

## **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; and 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.

Please remain standing

### Words of the Institution

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

Please be seated

# **Holy Communion**

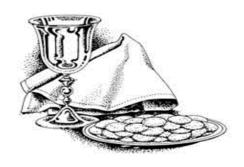
Communion Video: "Me on Your Mind" by Matthew West

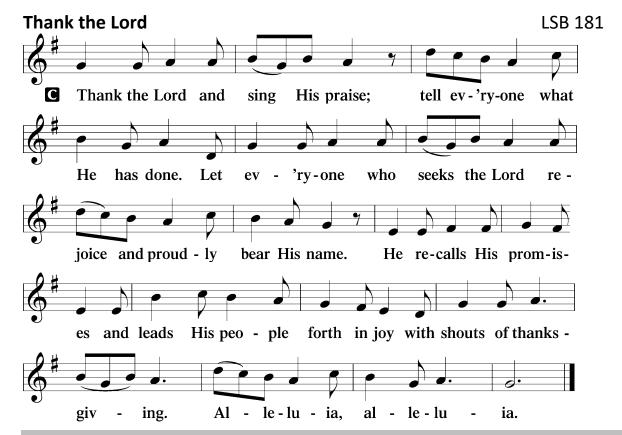
# **Continuous Distribution by Pastor**

(Family units will come forward to receive the elements and take them to their seats. Please wait to eat and drink until instructed.)

# All receive the Sacrament together

(Pastor will indicate when to take the wafer and then the cup.)





### **Benediction**





## **Dismissal**

- P Go in Peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!



### Acknowledgments

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