

## Sermon Notes

### We would love to hear your story!

If you have a story to share of healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, please send to [hello@victorylutheran.com](mailto:hello@victorylutheran.com). (200-300 word limit)

### Daily Bible Readings (March 24-30)

Sun: Zechariah 9:9-12  
Mon: John 12:12-19  
Tues: Luke 18:9-14  
Wed: Romans 11:1-12  
Thurs: Isaiah 53  
Fri: John 20:1-18  
Sat: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

\*During Lent, the readings selected are taken from The Easter Experience Lenten Devotional.

## Life Notes

### The Ultimate Question #6: "Fickle or Faithful?" John 12:12-19

#### Opener:

Have you ever been to a celebration parade? Describe it briefly.

#### Go Deeper:

1. What was the significance of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a colt, fulfilling the prophecy from Zechariah 9:9?
2. Explore the contrast between the crowd's reception of Jesus during His triumphal entry and their later rejection of Him. What factors might have contributed to this change in attitude?
3. Why were the Pharisees concerned about the growing popularity of Jesus, as seen in verse 19? How does their reaction reflect the broader tensions between Jesus and the religious authorities of his time?

#### Live It:

1. How do you perceive Jesus in your own life? Are there times when you have expectations of Jesus that might not align with who he truly is?
2. In what ways can we emulate Jesus' sacrificial love in our interactions with others? How can we demonstrate God's love and grace to those around us, especially in times of adversity?
3. Identify one area in your life where you can demonstrate sacrificial love, following Jesus' example. It could be reaching out to someone in need, forgiving someone who has wronged you, or serving your community in a tangible way.
4. What is God saying to you?
5. What specifically are you going to do about it this week?

## Upcoming Week

### Sunday, March 24 - PALM SUNDAY

7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH  
8am Worship & Communion, WC  
9:30am Worship, WC  
11am Worship, WC

### Monday, March 25

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
**9:30am Easter Experience, FH**  
12:30pm GriefShare, C4  
**5:30pm Easter Experience, FH**

### Tuesday, March 26

3pm Council Meeting, FS  
6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR  
7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

### Wednesday, March 27

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4  
1pm Men's Bible Study, LR  
1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC  
1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC  
8pm AA Meeting, FS

### Thursday, March 28 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

10am Prayer Group, B7  
11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS  
**3-8pm Stations of the Cross, FH**  
4pm I-HELP, C4  
**4pm Maundy Thursday Service, WC**  
**6pm Maundy Thursday Service, WC**

### Friday, March 29 - GOOD FRIDAY

**3-8pm Stations of the Cross, FH**  
4pm I-HELP, C4  
**4pm Good Friday Service, WC**  
**6pm Good Friday Service, WC**

### Saturday, March 30

8am Men's Bible Study, FS  
**9am Easter Vigil, FH**  
4pm Worship, WC

CH = Chapel  
FH = Fellowship Hall  
FS = Fireside Room  
LR = Luther Room  
WC = Worship Center  
C4 = Community Room

**Note: The office will be CLOSED  
on Monday, April 1, 2024**

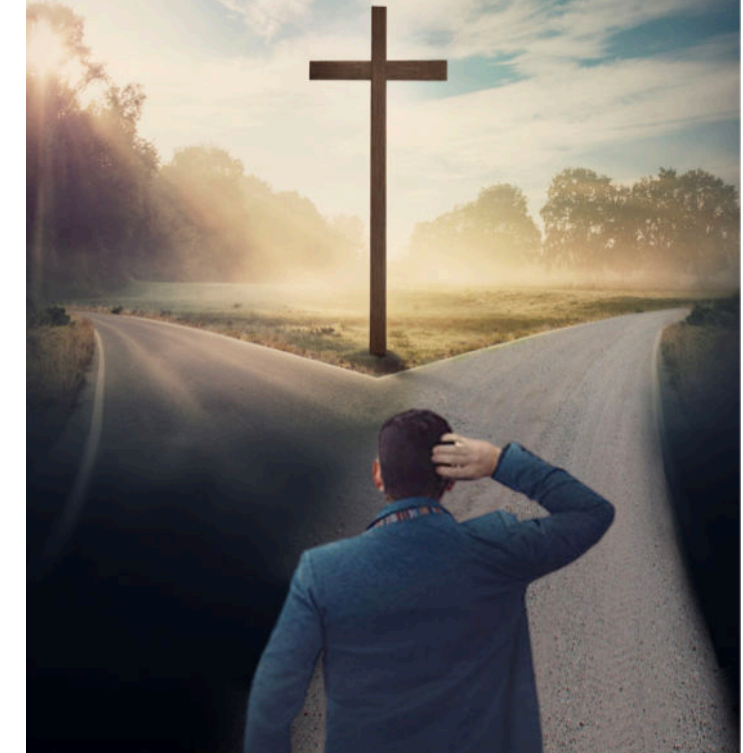
### Victory Lutheran Church

5946 E. University Drive, Mesa, AZ 85205  
[hello@victorylutheran.com](mailto:hello@victorylutheran.com)  
480-830-5024  
[VictoryLutheran.com](http://VictoryLutheran.com)



VictoryLutheran\_Guest  
Password: Victory\_46

# The ULTIMATE Question



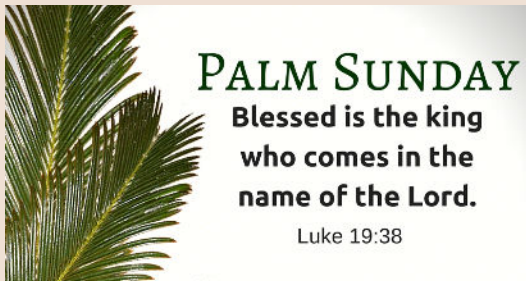
March 23 & 24, 2024  
"Fickle or Faithful?"  
John 12:12-19



Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor  
Susan Westland, Chaplain  
Renee Bennett, Pastoral Intern

Connect with us!





## PALM SUNDAY

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

Luke 19:38



*Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ~ Hebrews 12:2*

## GOD TIME: Palm Sunday — Are You Glad to See Jesus?

Typically, the longer we wait for our loved ones to return home, the more excited we are to see them and the greater our joy in their return. That was true on Palm Sunday. The people got to see Jesus!

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling an ancient prophecy in Zechariah 9:9. The crowd welcomed Him with "Hosanna" and the words of Psalm 118:25-26. Since the time of Abraham, they had longed to see their promised King, the Seed promised in the Garden and confirmed to Abraham — the Seed who would conquer their enemies and bless the nations (Genesis 22:17-18). Yet, Jesus had not come to be King of the land. He came to be the King of their hearts.

Palm Sunday is an opportunity to recall one of the rare moments in Jesus' ministry when He was recognized for the King He was as palm branches were scattered before Him as He rode into Jerusalem.

As you look to Jesus on Palm Sunday, consider the beginning of His journey to the cross — keeping your eyes on Him (Hebrews 12:2) and joyfully looking forward to the day when He will return as the King of kings to judge, reign, and rule over all the earth.

## GATHER TIME: Handel's Messiah Sunday, March 24 @ 3:00pm

One of the most well-known and well-loved pieces around the world, Handel's "Messiah" tells the story of Jesus Christ from being foretold by prophets to His birth, death and resurrection. The text is taken from the King James Bible and when combined with George Frideric Handel's music, is a powerful masterpiece. Over 70 voices comprised of the Victory Lutheran choir and Paradise Valley UMC choir, together with some of the best soloists in the Valley, all accompanied by a highly skilled orchestra are joining together to offer this concert as a meaningful way to begin Holy Week. Entrance is free, so invite a friend or neighbor. A freewill offering will be accepted. Join us as we share this amazing story of Jesus, our Messiah.



## HOLY WEEK LINE-UP:

### MAUNDY THURSDAY - March 28 @ 4pm & 6pm

This will be a special time as we reflect on the Last Supper and share in holy communion. At the end of the service the altar will be stripped even as the life was stripped from Jesus.

### GOOD FRIDAY - March 29 @ 4pm & 6pm

A beautiful tenebrae service of music and word. Tenebrae means darkness, and this is the last day that we meditate on Jesus' final hours on earth and the Seven Last Words He spoke.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 28 & 29, 3-8pm

This self-guided experience includes interactive stations with scriptures, reflections and ways for you to meditate on the sacrifice Jesus made for you.

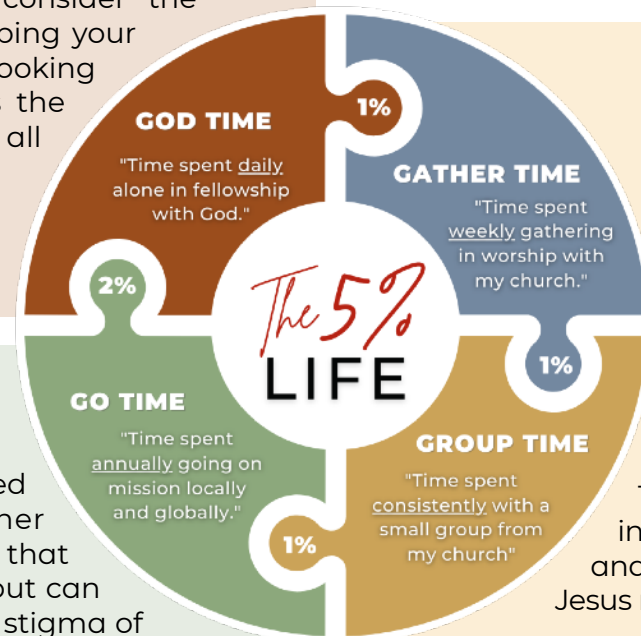
### SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL - March 30 @ 9am

What was it like for the disciples of Jesus the morning after His crucifixion? Their master was mercilessly killed in public. With the death of Jesus had come the death of all hope. In this video montage, we will step into the shoes of Jesus' disciples as they process the aftermath of His crucifixion. Afterward, immerse yourself in the stations of the cross for further contemplation.

### EXPERIENCE EASTER!

Our Easter services include **Saturday 4pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am and 11am. A special Sunrise service is outdoors at 6am.** The Sunrise service includes communion, and music will be provided by our Handbell Ensemble. There will be a continental breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from 6:45-7:45am and all are invited!

If you have family or friends out of town that you would like to invite to worship with us, we will be Live-streaming the 4pm services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and 9:30am Sunday.



## GO TIME: I-HELP Program at Victory



I-HELP is a local mission here at Victory. We shelter and feed from 10-15 women experiencing homelessness every other Wednesday and Thursday. The benefit of consecutive days is that the ladies do not have to pack up their belongings and move but can leave suitcases at Victory and go out into the world without the stigma of appearing homeless. According to the ladies, this is the very best part of staying at Victory!



A year ago we added the second day and then invited them to stay for three nights over the Thanksgiving holiday. This worked very well thanks to many volunteers who stepped forward. Now, Victory will host the ladies for three nights at the end of March, three nights over Thanksgiving and four nights over the Christmas holiday. Here is your chance to participate in a very meaningful local ministry, so plan now how you or your group might help make these longer stays meaningful for "our ladies."

Text or email Bev Locke to volunteer in this ministry!  
blocke1206@gmail.com  
602-421-3279



### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday\* · March 28 · 4pm & 6pm  
Good Friday · March 29  
4pm & 6pm Tenebrae Service  
Stations of the Cross Experience  
March 28 & 29, 3-8pm  
Easter Vigil · March 30, 9am

### EASTER SERVICES

6am Outdoor Sunrise\*, 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
6:45-7:45am Continental Breakfast  
4pm Saturday  
\*with communion

Learn more at: [victorylutheran.com/easter](http://victorylutheran.com/easter) or scan the QR code above.  
Pick up your Touch Cards at the Welcome Desk.