

# East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church

## Lord's Day Devotions

April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday

### Psalm 124:8:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

### Scripture of Praise (1 Chronicles 16:28-31):

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness. Tremble before him, all the earth! The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, “The Lord reigns!

(Song: “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” #146 in the red hymnal and #348 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

### Prayer for God’s Blessing:

Almighty God,  
to whom our hearts are open,  
our desires are known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the gracious power of Your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love You  
and worthily magnify Your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The Reading of God’s Law (Read Exodus 20:1-17)

### Confession of Sins:

Almighty God, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon You; hear us as we come to You humbly confessing our sins and transgressions, and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before You our disobedience and ingratitude, our

pride and willfulness; and all our failures and shortcomings toward You and toward our fellow men. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and of Your great goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please You in newness of life; through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### God’s Promise of Forgiveness (Romans 5:9):

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

### Psalm of Thanksgiving (Read Psalm 136)

(Note: in a family context this Psalm may be done responsively)

### Heidelberg Catechism: Q/A #31

Why is he called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

### Prayer for God’s Blessing on the Hearing of His Word:

Blessed Lord, who has caused Holy Scripture to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear, read, learn, and inwardly digest them, that through the comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Reading:

Zechariah 9:9-13

New Testament Reading:

Matthew 21:1-11

**Message:**

"Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion"

Pastor Saville

(This message is available on the church website, our Facebook page or on CD)

**Prayer of Intercession**

At this time it would be appropriate to pray for some of the following:

**1. Pray for the COVID-19 Pandemic:**

- for those suffering from the virus throughout the world.
- for the medical workers in our hospitals.
- for the leaders in the U.S. and other nations who are making difficult decisions about how best to handle the situation.
- that the Lord would bring this pandemic to an end.
- for those whose livelihoods are being affected.
- that we would not fear but trust the Lord.
- that God would be glorified and that good would come through our present circumstances.
- that congregations like our own would soon be able to meet again safely.

**2. Pray for the preaching of the gospel and the gathering of Christ's Church from all the nations.****3. Pray for the persecuted church.****4. Pray for our national, state, and local leaders.****5. Pray for our local community**

- for East Palmyra Christian School (principal, teachers, families) as they cope with the challenges of COVID-19 (eg. families losing jobs, changes to fundraising plans).
- for families who have lost jobs and are being affected in other ways.
- For other local congregations as they seek to do the Lord's work in these challenging times.

**6. Pray for the needs of our congregation:**

(Please see the Congregational Prayers in the announcements section)

**7. Close with the Lord's Prayer****Closing Psalm (Read Psalm 27)**

(Song: "When Morning Gilds the Sky" #372 in the red hymnal and #322 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

**Closing Prayer**

Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who pray in Your Son's name, we ask You mercifully to incline Your ear to us, who have now made our prayers and supplications to You. Grant that those things that we have faithfully asked, according to Your will, may be obtained, to the relief of our needs and to the setting forth of Your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**Offering:** Though we are unable to collect an offering in worship we are encouraging our church family to continue supporting our congregation's ministry in the coming days.

**April 5 Offering Schedule:**

First Offering: Ministries of the General Fund

Second Offering: East Palmyra Christian School

All scripture citations are taken from:

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