

Palm Sunday – 2025

Saturday, 4/12 at 4:00 & Sunday, 4/13 at 9:00



# The Son of God *became* The Greatest Servant

*The Highest Stopped to the  
Lowest to Save Us!*

Text: Philippians 2:3-11 NAS-95

## Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday – Divine Services at 11 & 7

Holy Saturday – Vigil of Easter Service at 4:00

The Resurrection of Our Lord – Divine Service at 9:00; Breakfast 10:30

**Introduction:** Dear friends: **JESUS** greatly humbled Himself to open the way to Paradise! When Jesus returns, **to Him**, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess!

On this **Palm Sunday**, we focus on **Philippians 2:3-11**.

1. **Consider Others to Be More Important:** <sup>3</sup> **Do nothing from selfishness** [*self-interest*] **or empty conceit** [*boasting*], **but with humility** [*lowliness*] **of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;** <sup>4</sup> **do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.** // Consider Others to Be More Important – **How? By** ♣ paying attention to them, ♣ noticing what they need, ♣ setting aside our

own plans, and ▶ helping them with their needs. *See part 2 for Jesus' ultimate example!*

2. **Jesus' Greatness and Humility:** <sup>5</sup> Have this attitude [this way of thinking] **in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,** <sup>6</sup> **who, although He existed in the form of God** [before creation, with the Father and the Holy Spirit], **[He] did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped** [not forcefully retain equality with God for His own advantage], <sup>7</sup> **but emptied Himself** [took an **unimportant** position], **taking the form of a bond-servant** [a slave, to serve in perfect obedience to the will of the Father], **and being made in the likeness** [appearance] **of men.**

a. Jesus' Greatness: *He is the Son of God from eternity!*

- i. **John 1:1, 14** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us...”
- ii. **Micah 5:2** “...Bethlehem Ephrathah... From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.”

b. Jesus' Humility: He willingly ▶ came down, ▶ put on human flesh, and ▶ lived in total obedience † to the Father and † to His plan to take away the sin of the world! Jesus could have rightly said, “I am far more important than all people!” **But, instead, John 6:38** [Jesus said:] “...I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

3. **Jesus' Saving Work:** <sup>8</sup> **Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself [assigned Himself to the lowest position] by becoming obedient to the point of death [until death], even death on a cross. // These are the two major parts of Jesus' saving work:**

- a. He Lived Without Sin In Our Place: God requires us to be holy (Lev. 11:44). Since none of us can do it, *Jesus did it for us – as our substitute* (Heb. 4:15).
- b. He Received Our Sins and Eternal Punishment: Since God is just, *He cannot excuse our sins*. Instead, *the full penalty had to be paid*. Since God wants us to be with Him forever, *He sent His Son to pay our penalty*. As Jesus moved closer to the completion of His work, *the difficulty greatly increased!* But Jesus remained obedient until death, *all the way to the end!* Then Jesus declared: **“It is finished”** (John 19:30).

4. **Every Knee Will Bow:** <sup>9</sup> **For this reason also, God highly exalted Him [God put Jesus in the most important position], and bestowed on [gave] Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> **so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.****

- a. Jesus' Exaltation: We confess in the Athanasian Creed that **“the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory [divinity] equal, the majesty [greatness] coeternal [existing together eternally].”** Since there has always

been equality in the Godhead, how was Jesus exalted? “His human body is now in full possession of the divine glory and majesty” (Kretzmann). In other words, God exalted / raised the body of Jesus up to the level of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

- b. Jesus’ Name: It is **above** every name – because He ♣ is the Son of God, ♣ did put on flesh, ♣ did humble Himself, ♣ did suffer our eternal punishment, and ♣ did lay down His life! ***He who stooped the lowest IS NOW THE HIGHEST!***
- c. Every Knee Will Bow: **Now**, as Jesus works by the Spirit through the word, He can be resisted. **But** when He returns, *every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess! The repentant – gladly!* And all the **unrepentant** as well – **not unto their salvation, but** they will ♣ bow, ♣ admit, and ♣ forever regret their rejection of Jesus during their earthly lives. *So, NOW is the time to repent!*

**Let Us Pray:** Dearest Jesus, we are in **awe** of Your greatness, humility, and obedience! Help us to ♣ be humble, ♣ consider others as more important, ♣ help them as we can, and ♣ keep pointing others to You and Your saving work!

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