

Confirmation/Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

Liturgy: Palm Sunday

Organist: Kathy Lueck



HOSANNA

LOUD HOSANNA, THE LITTLE CHILDREN SANG



ST. JOHN'S

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The Triumphal Entry

Harmony of Matt. 21, Mk. 11, Lk. 19, Jn. 12

Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and putting their faith in Him.

The next day as He approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt which no one has ever ridden. Untie them and bring them to Me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway, just as He had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, "The Lord needs it." And the people let them go. They brought the donkey and the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields.

When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting,

“Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!”

The crowds that went ahead and those who followed began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: “Hosanna!” “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”



Hymn: WS #725

“No Tramp of Soldiers’ Marching Feet”

Confession & Absolution of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

- P** On Palm Sunday, the crowds in Jerusalem waved their palm branches and worshiped Jesus as the King who comes in the name of the Lord. On Good Friday, the crowds in Jerusalem rejected Jesus as their King and called for His crucifixion. On Pentecost, the crowds in Jerusalem were cut to the heart to hear from Peter that they had crucified the Lord of Glory. As we worship King Jesus today, let us flee to the Lord for mercy, humbly confessing that it is our sin and guilt that caused His death on Good Friday.
- C** **Hosanna, Son of David, Son of God. We need Your salvation for we are sinful by nature and have sinned against You, dishonoring You with our sinful thoughts, sinful words, and sinful actions. All too quickly our lips go from praise to grumbling, from blessing to cursing. Not our palms, or praises, or anything we lay before You can make up or atone for our sins. Yet You come to us in the Name of the Lord, to be our Merciful Savior. You alone must save, or we perish. Save us, we pray, Jesus Christ our King.**

P Be of good cheer, children of God, for Jesus Christ, the King of kings, humbled Himself and rode into Jerusalem to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world. Christ loves us and gave Himself up for us, that He might reconcile us to the Father. Therefore, by the command of the King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Response

TLH #160:5

G ♪ *All glory, laud, and honor To Thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou didst accept their praises; Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!*

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **G** Amen.

Children's Song

"Lift High the Cross"



Isaiah 50:4-9

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who will

contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?



Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he

was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



The Confirmation of Amy Janae Ruthenbeck



Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

☐ I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

I believe 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 is seated 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.

Choir

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

Hymn: TLH #409

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"



Luke 2:40-52

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Jesus Christ – The Atypical Teenager

The Offertory

TLH #332:3, 6

**☩ Come ever-blessed Spirit, come
And make Thy servants' hearts Thy home.
May each a living temple be
Hallowed forever, Lord, to Thee.**

**Oh, grant us so to use Thy grace
That we may see Thy glorious face
And ever with the heavenly host
Praise, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

✠ **The Offering of Thankful Hearts** ✠

Hymn: TLH #334

"Let Me Be Thine Forever"

✠ **The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer** ✠

✠ **The Order of Holy Communion** ✠

The Christian Questions from Luther's Small Catechism

- P** Do you believe that you are a sinner?
C **Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.**
- P** How do you know this?
C **I know this from the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.**
- P** Are you sorry for your sins?
C **Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.**
- P** What have you deserved to receive from God because of your sins?
C **I have deserved His anger and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.**
- P** Do you also hope to be saved?
C **Yes, this is my hope.**
- P** Whom do you then trust?
C **I trust in my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.**
- P** Who is Christ?
C **Christ is God's Son, true God and man.**
- P** How many gods are there?
C **There is only one God, but three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**
- P** What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?
C **He shed His blood for me and died for me on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins.**
- P** Did the Father also die for you?
C **No, the Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is true God and true man; He shed His blood and died for me.**



P How do you know this?

C **I know this from the holy Gospel and from the words of the Sacrament and by His body and blood which are given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.**

P These are those Words of God: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Distribution Hymns

TLH #163, WS #755, TLH #309

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C **Amen!**

Hymn: TLH #162

"Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty"