

Welcome! Today's liturgy begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly the tone of the service changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Matthew's account of the Passion today. Though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God the Father. We gather to remember and give thanks for his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

Please join your heart and voice in praising our Lenten Lord and Savior in this worship service. If you would like more information about St. John's and its ministry, please speak with one of the ushers, greeters, or the pastor.

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Prayer Before Worship

Gracious Lord Jesus, on this day when we remember your entrance into Jerusalem amidst shouts of "Hosanna!" and the waving of palm branches, help us remember why you did this: to offer your life upon the cross as the sacrifice for our sins. Enter into our hearts this day and reign there as our King and Lord. Bless this time of worship as we enter into Holy Week. Amen.

Liturgy with Palms

Weather permitting, the congregation gathers outside the sanctuary in the courtyard. Worship bulletins and palm branches are distributed before the service begins. In case of inclement weather, the service will begin in the Sanctuary.

- **I** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- **G** Hosanna to the Son of David.
- P The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- P Let us pray:

 Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

Processional Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" ¹¹And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Opening Hymn

ref All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 You are the King of Israel
 And David's royal Son,
 Now in the Lord's name coming,
 Our King and Blessèd One.
 Refrain
- 2 The company of angels
 Is praising You on high,
 And we with all creation
 In chorus make reply. Refrain

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (LSB 442) Congregation and Handbell Ensemble

- 3 The multitude of pilgrims With palms before You went; Our praise and prayer and anthems Before You we present. Refrain
- 4 To You before Your passion They sang their hymns of praise; To You, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. Refrain
- As You received their praises,
 Accept the prayers we bring,
 O Source of ev'ry blessing,
 Our good and gracious King.

 Refrain

Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt., Text: Public domain

Service of the Word

Greeting

- Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. The abundant grace and mercy of God be with you all.
- **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray:

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.

C Amen.

Children's Ministry Ensemble

"Hosanna Rock"

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
 - **C** Thanks be to God.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 118:19-29

- Dopen 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.
- L 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!
- Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- I 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.
- L Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
- for his steadfast love endures forever!

Epistle Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

I This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse



Holy Gospel – The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Mark 15:1-47

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Mark, the fifteenth chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole Council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. ²And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ³And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹²And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³And they cried out again, "Crucify him." ¹⁴And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy

the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

¹⁶And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

²¹And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²²And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. ²⁵And it was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

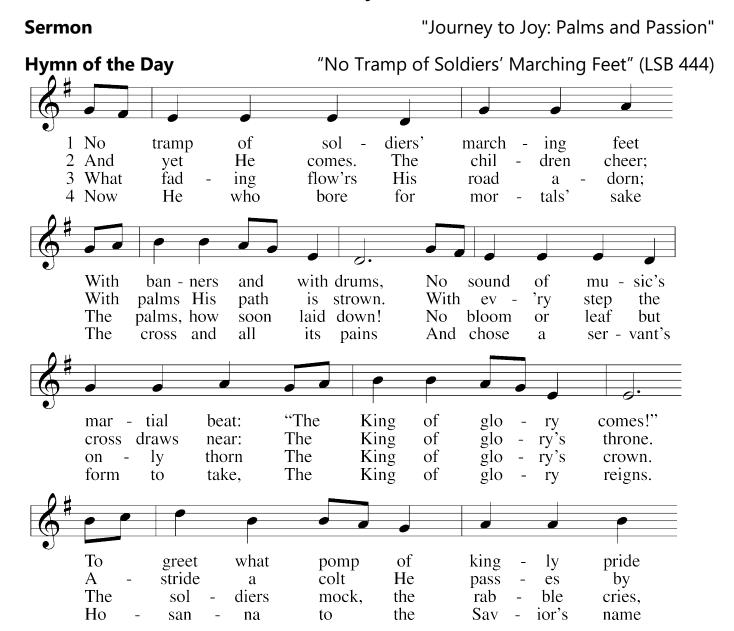
³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" ⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

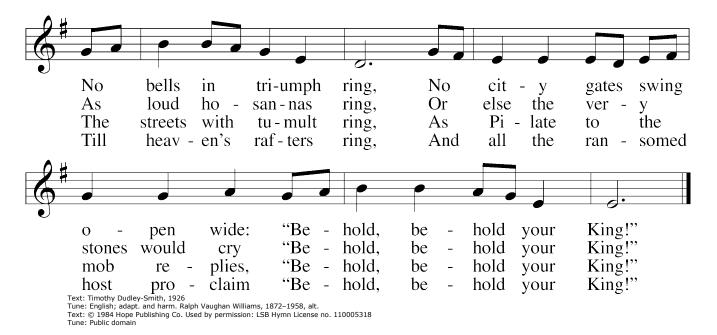
⁴²And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council,

who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. ⁴⁵And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. ⁴⁶And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

P This is Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.





Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Prayers of the People

P Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.

During the season of Lent each petition ends with the phrase: "Hear us, O God."

Please respond by saying: "Your mercy is great."

The prayers end with the words:

- P Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Amen.

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

- Let us pray: God our provider,
- you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.

 Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rite of Confession and Absolution

- P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- **P** Gracious God,
- we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

We are not worthy to be called your children.

Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.

Forgive us and bring us back to you,

For we once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

- The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of

 → Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.
- C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

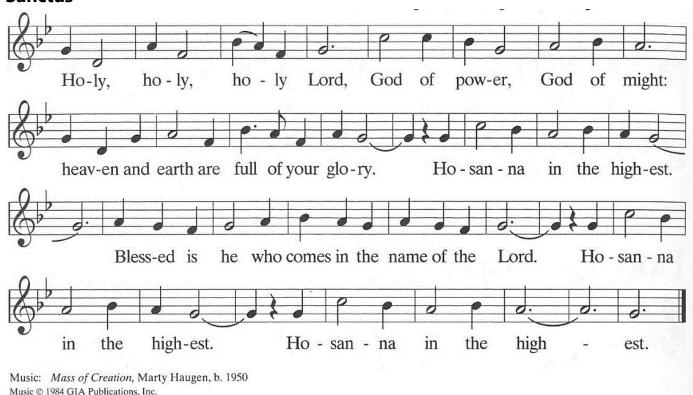
Great Thanksgiving

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them up to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

Agnus Dei



^{*} May be sung in canon beginning here. Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music © 1992 CPH Publishing

Distribution *Please be seated*

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution

Meditation on "Let Us Break Bread Together"

(Douglas Wagner) Handbell Ensemble

"The Royal Banners Forward Go"

(G. B. Pergolesi) Choir of St. John's

The royal banners forward go; The cross shows forth redemption's flow, Where He, by whom our flesh was made, Our ransom in His flesh has paid:

Fulfilled is all that David told In sure prophetic song of old. That God the nations' king should be And reign in triumph from the tree.

To Thee, eternal Three in One, Let homage meet by all be done; As by the cross Thou dost restore, So guide and keep us evermore.



My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?

7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!



Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in true faith unto life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- C Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- L Let us pray: Merciful God,
- accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

- C Amen.

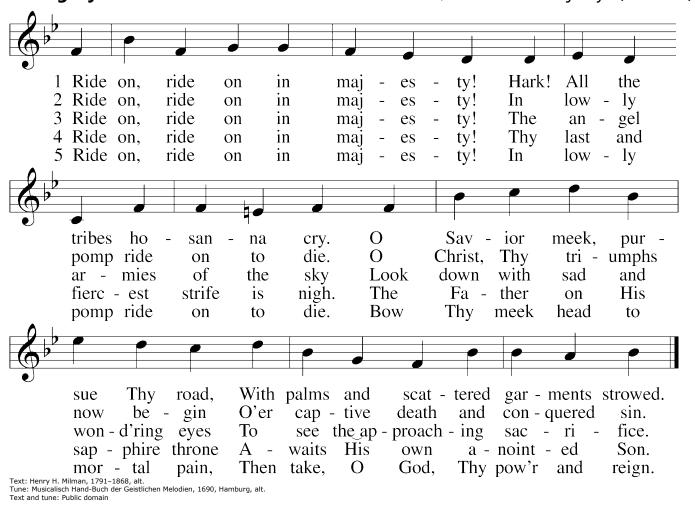
Sending

- **L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

(Closing Hymn, next page)

Closing Hymn

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" (LSB 441)



Postlude

Toccata on "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!" (Gilbert M. Martin)

+ + +

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher Pastor Meehan

Welcome & Children's Message Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant Michael Nordvall

Communion Lay Assistant Angie Stiens
Organist/Pianist David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte Jenna Swale

Crucifer Guilianna Vazquez

Ushers Jim Lofgren

Barbara Pate

Altar Care Andrea Godwin

AV Operators Greg Auld

Jurgen Gobien

Welcome Host Joe Godwin

+ + +

To **Give** to St. John's Lutheran Church scan this QR Code



+ + +



To download our SJLC app text: "APP" or "App" or "app" to (877) 776-1304



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given in donation to the flower fund.

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To **view** the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter,

Midweek Update, scan this QR Code



Acknowledgments

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Toccata on "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!" – Gilbert M. Martin (2008 Sacred Music Press, a division of the Lorenz Corporation) All rights reserved.

2024 Lenten Worship Schedule

NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with an *

Thursday, March 28

7:30PM* - Maundy Thursday (Holy Communion and stripping of the altar) Anniversary of the institution of the Lord's Supper.

Friday, March 29

Noon* & 7:30PM - Good Friday (No Communion)

The most solemn day of the Christian year gives thanks to God for the life-giving death of Jesus upon the tree of the cross.

Saturday, March 30

7:30PM - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter (Holy Communion)

One of the most beautiful and moving services of the entire year. We light the new fire of Easter outside, process into the darkened sanctuary for the service of readings, celebrate Holy Baptism, and conclude with receiving the risen Savior in the Lord's Supper.

Sunday, March 31

8:00AM & 10:30AM* - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday (Holy Communion)

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Our joy at Jesus' victory of sin, death, and the grave overflows on this blessed Easter morning! A brass ensemble will provide glorious music to lead us in singing praises to our risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Between the worship services, Easter breakfast will be offered as well as egg hunts for children.

For Easter Sunday, remember to bring spring flowers to "flower" the cross in the church entrance.



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

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