

*Welcome to*  
**St. John Lutheran Church**

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**Palmarum**

March 29, 2026

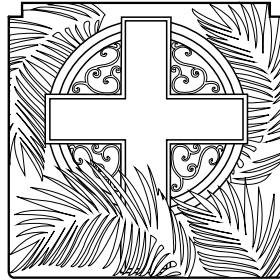
The Rev. Joshua Ball, Pastor

Mr. Erwin Aufdemberge, Director of Parish Music

If you do not have a church home, you are  
cordially invited to join our parish family.

*Prayers as you await the beginning of the Divine Service,  
as well as prayers for before and after receiving the Sacrament,  
are found inside the front cover of the hymnal.*

*The Psalms in the front section of  
the hymnal will also aid your pre-service meditation.*



**In today's readings: The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory.** *"Behold, your King is coming to you . . . humble and mounted on a donkey"* (Zech. 9:9-12; Mt. 21:1-9.) Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross. (Phil. 2:5-11.) His kingly crown is not made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed. At the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, we bow in humble faith.

**You can prepare for next week's Divine Service by reading:**

Job 19:23-27; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; Mark 16:1-8.

Book of Concord: Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration I:46-47.

### **Concerning the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion:**

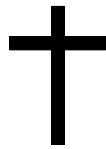
The Lord's Supper is the true Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ for repentant sinners to eat and drink.

In addition, receiving this blessed Sacrament of the Altar is a public expression that you are one with the faith that is believed, taught, and confessed by that congregation. St. John Ev.-Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LC-MS.) Our pastors and congregations subscribe to the Confessions contained in the Book of Concord of 1580 as the correct interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, and faithful proclamation of the Christian faith. Therefore, *communicant members in good standing* of LC-MS congregations, and churches in altar and pulpit fellowship with the LC-MS, are invited to commune at St. John.

Not all Christians believe in communion practice of this kind, however we ask your kindness in respecting our practice. We rejoice at the faith of all who belong to our Lord's Church, and are glad that you are here with us today.

Adult and youth catechism instruction is always available, without obligation.

### **The Sign of the Cross, kneeling and other Church Customs**



The hymnal places a cross , at certain points in the service where you may cross yourself. This is a very ancient and good – but *optional* – symbol and custom among Lutherans and many other Christians. Two examples are at the Invocation (“In the Name of the Father and of the , Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”) and in the final sentence of the Nicene Creed.

*What does making the sign of the cross mean?*

It means “I belong to the true, living God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit”, for the sign of the cross is His sign. On the cross, God the Son willingly died in our place to pay for all our sins. God's sign was placed on your forehead and heart at Holy Baptism to “mark you as belonging to Christ the crucified.”

Please kneel where indicated *if you are able* (or stand with head bowed.)

Kneeling is a sign of humility and thanksgiving before God. Martin Luther encouraged Lutherans to follow the ancient custom of kneeling for these words in the Nicene Creed: “came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man.” Why? This outward action shows our humility and thanksgiving that God has made Himself our Brother by becoming a true Man. Those words in the Creed are, therefore, marked [▼▲] for those who desire to kneel. You could also bow your head at those words.

*Another ancient and good custom* is bowing the head whenever the name “Jesus” is spoken during the Divine Service. This is an outward way to give honor and glory to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

## The Divine Service for *Palmarum*

, *In Nomine Jesu* ,

*When the bells sound, please stand and face the holy cross of our Lord as it is carried in procession.*

### **Opening Sentences** *(spoken from the entrance of the nave)*

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of , the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen!**

Pastor: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**All: According to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

Pastor: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean.

**All: Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Pastor: Display Your mercy to us, O Lord,

**All: And give us Your salvation.**

Pastor: Lord, give attention to my prayer,

**All: And let my cry come unto You.**

Pastor: Let us pray: Hear us, O holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, and send to us from heaven Your majestic holy angels, who comfort, care, guard, protect and defend all who inhabit this place; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen! Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**

### **Blessing of the Palms**

Pastor: Let us pray: Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem with palms in their hands accompanied Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His holy city, grant us that we may ever hail Him as our King, and that when He comes again, we may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen!**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

**All: Glory be to You, O Lord!**

*(Following the reading)* Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace. **All: In the Name of the Lord.**

**Processional Hymn: #442** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**The Kvirie**

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**The Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**F** The Lord be with you. , And with thy spir - it.

**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.

**C: Amen.**

**The Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12**

*After the reading:*

**P:** The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Gradual**

**Cantor:** \* III f#: Phrygian

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward  
You will receive me to | glory.

**All:** **Truly God is good to | Israel,\***  
**to those who are | pure in heart.** (*Psalm 73:23b-24, 1*)

**The Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

*After the reading:*

**P:** The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Tract** *(Psalm 22:1, 4-5)*

Cantor: My God, My God, why have You for- | saken Me?\*

Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words  
of My | groaning?

**All: In You our fathers | trusted;\***  
**they trusted, and You de- | livered them.**

Cantor: To You they cried and were | rescued;\*

in You they trusted and were not | put to shame.

**The Reading of the Passion Account of St. Matthew****The Preaching of the Gospel****Hymn of the Day: #438**

*A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

Please stand

**The Nicene Creed:** Confessed by all.

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation ▼ came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; ▲ and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy \*Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life , of the world to come. Amen.

\*The ancient text reads: one holy *catholic* and apostolic Church.

### The Prayer of the Church

*After each petition the pastor says, "Lord in Your mercy"  
and the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."*

### The Offering

Choir: Hosanna, Ride On!

- C. Jennings

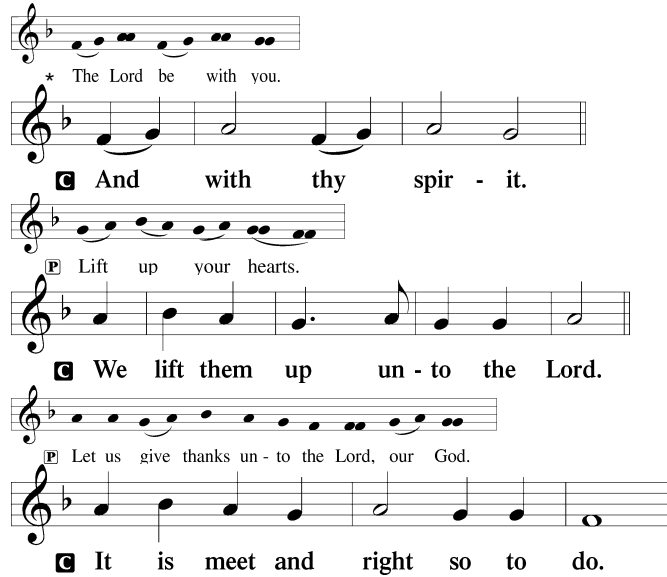
## The Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist

Please stand when the offering is brought forward.

### The Offertory

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## The Preface



\* The Lord be with you.

☐ And with thy spir - it.

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

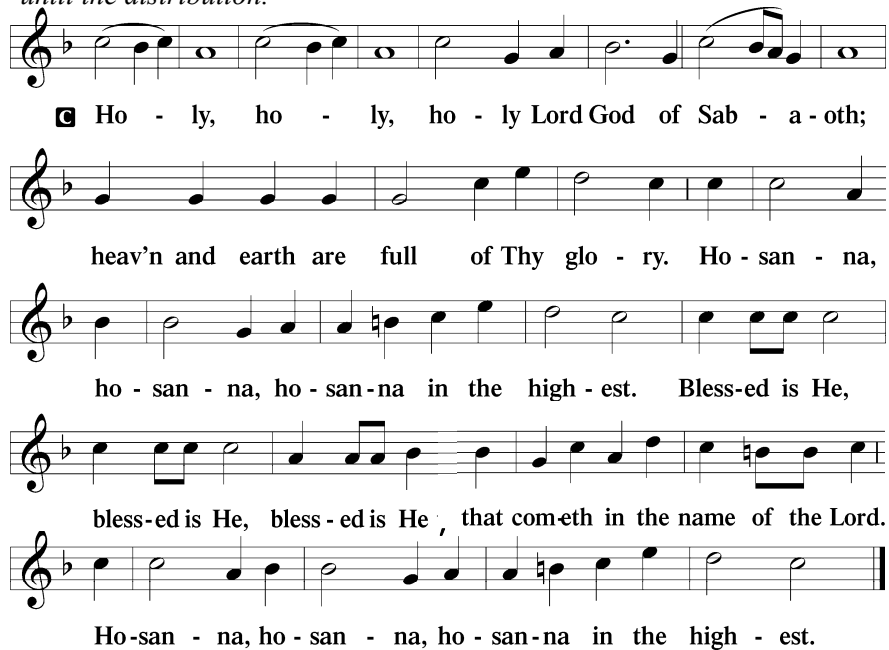
☐ It is meet and right so to do.

## The Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right and salutary .... evermore praising You and saying:

### The Sanctus (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)

*It is appropriate to kneel for the Sanctus and to remain kneeling until the distribution.*



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He, that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## The Our Father

Pastor: 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;



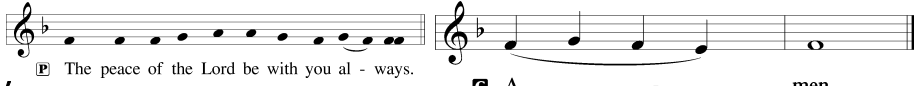
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

**The Verba Christi** (*The Words of Christ* by which He instituted the Blessed Sacrament)


**The Pax Domini** (*The Peace of the Lord*)




The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

A - men.

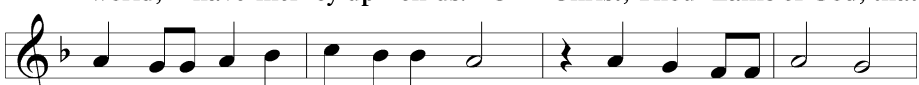
**The Agnus Dei** (*Lamb of God*)



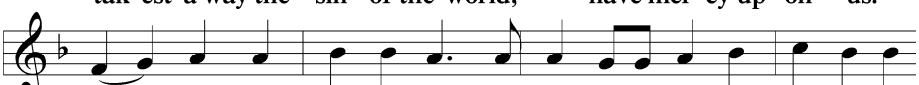
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



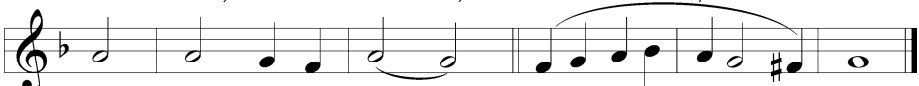
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Please see Page 3 concerning Holy Communion.*

**Hymns during Communion:****#636 *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness***

*Prayers for before and after receiving the Sacrament  
are found inside the front cover of the hymnal.*

*Please stand when motioned by Pastor*

**The Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. A - men.

**The Thanksgiving**

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**The Post-Communion Collect**

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

## The Salutation and *Benedicamus*

The musical notation consists of four staves in G major (one sharp). The first two staves are for the 'The Lord be with you' and 'And with thy spirit' section. The last two staves are for the 'Bless we the Lord' and 'Thanks be to God' section.

P The Lord be with you.      C And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.      C Thanks be to God.

## The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord lift up His countenance on you and , give you peace.

The musical notation is a single staff in G major (one sharp) with a treble clef. It contains the melody for 'A-men, a-men, a - men.'

C A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Silent Prayer

**Hymn to Depart: #441** *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

, *Soli Deo Gloria* ,

**This Most Holy Week:** Today is Palmarum or Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week. During this week we participate, through the Divine Liturgy, in the final events of our Lord's salvation:

***Maundy Thursday*** is the night our Lord was betrayed by Judas and the night He instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Divine Service on Maundy Thursday is at **6:00 p.m.**

***Good Friday*** is the day our Lord finished paying for our sins by His crucifixion and death on the cross. Without Good Friday, Easter means nothing, for we are still in our sins! On this solemn day, the Stations of the Cross are prayed at **2:00 p.m.** and Holy Communion (with choir) is offered at **3:00 p.m.**

***The Great Vigil of Easter*** will be observed **this Saturday at 7:30 p.m.** This very ancient service begins in darkness and then breaks into great rejoicing as Christ rises victorious from the dead. The light of Christ shatters the darkness.

***Easter Sunday*** is the day our Lord rose from the dead, the dawning of a day that never ends! The Festival Divine Service at **9:00 a.m.** will resound with songs of thanksgiving and rejoicing for our Lord's great resurrection victory!

**The Calendar for the Week:**

<b><u>Palm Sunday</u></b> 3/29	9:00 am <b>Divine Service</b> Bible Study resumes April 12 Altar Server: Ron Heimke Crucifer: Ezra Ball
<b><u>Monday</u></b> 3/30	Monday Divine Services resume April 13
<b><u>Maundy Thursday</u></b> 4/2	6:00 pm <b>Divine Service</b> Altar Server: Ron Heimke Crucifer: Ezra Ball
<b><u>Good Friday</u></b> 4/3	2:00 pm Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm <b>Divine Service</b> Ron Heimke / Ezra Ball Altar Server: Crucifer: Ezra Ball
<b><u>Saturday</u></b> 4/4 <b><u>Easter Vigil</u></b>	7:30 pm <b>Easter Vigil Divine Service</b> Altar Server: Andrew Upton Crucifer: Ezra Ball
<b><u>Easter Sunday</u></b> 4/5	9:00 am <b>Festival Divine Service</b> Bible Study resumes 4/12 Altar Server: Andrew Upton Crucifer: Ezra Ball
<b><u>Monday</u></b> 4/5	Monday Divine Services resume April 13

**Last Week's Attendance** Wednesday 3/18: 20 Last Sunday 3/22: 51

**Offering** March 18 & 22: Current: \$2,927 Lent: \$277 Missions: \$55  
Building Fund:\$55

To meet our budgetary requirements, an average collection of \$3,65 is required.

**Pre-service Mini-Concert** Easter Sunday. Plan to arrive about 15 minutes early to hear Easter selections by the St. John Choir.

**St. John Missions Society:** Easter Eggs are in the narthex! Please grab one, fill it with an offering, and return to the basket. Your donations help support various missions in and outside of the congregation. *Thank you!*

**The Sacrament of Individual Confession & Absolution** is available by scheduling an appointment with Pastor Ball. The rite for individual, private confession comes from Luther's Small Catechism and is found in our hymnal on Pages 292-293.

**Equipping the Priesthood of All Believers.** Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Speaking Truth to Power; The 98th Academy Awards; Leisure & Love of Neighbor; Philippians 4:8: "Think on These Things"; Reaching Out to Gen Z Women; and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.