

**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**

O Jesus, how great is Your love, which was revealed in Your bitter suffering! You are the only-begotten Son of God. You are the Lamb without spot, the Lord of glory, the Most Holy, in whom there is no sin... My sins were laid on You so that Your righteousness could be laid on me... Amen.

~ J.F. Starck



Palm Sunday

Palmarum + March 29, 2026 + 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. Can someone love something more than their own life? They can and they do. When sinful man does this it inevitably leads to idolatry. Can someone love something more than their own life and not be idolatrous? Yes, but only one man can, only one man has, only one man does, Jesus. Jesus, eternal Word of God and eternal Son, at the Father's commissioning, was sent precisely for that reason – to love sinful, idolatrous man more than his own life.

Sharing God's Blessings Today

- The bulletins are sponsored by Keith & Janis Ellison in thanksgiving to God for 51 years of marriage on March 29th.
- Flowers do not adorn the chancel during the Lenten season.
- The sponsor charts for 2026 Radio Broadcasts, Flowers and Bulletins are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Holy Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday (Mar. 30-Apr. 1)

Holy Communion, Spoken

Daily at 12:15 PM

Maundy Thursday: April 2

Holy Communion: 12:15 PM

Holy Communion *with Stripping of the Altar*: 6:30 PM

Good Friday: April 3

Three-Hour (Tre-Ore) Service: 12—3 PM (Live, WRIG 1390 AM)

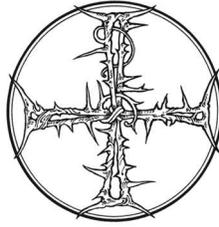
Nine 20-min Services + Come-and-Go As You Are Able

Holy Saturday: April 4

Easter Vigil: 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday: April 5 *(video recorded)*

Holy Communion: 9 AM (Live, WSAU 550 AM, 99.9 FM)
11 AM



PRELUDE

"The Royal Banners Forward Go" ... Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and face the baptism font.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS and PROCESSION

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

P: Let us pray . . . Mercifully guide 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**

P: The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'" The disciples went and did as

That little donkey, i.e., our reluctant flesh, our old man [Adam], can never be completely brought into obedient submission to Christ. Nevertheless, we should still tame the flesh, always dragging it behind as much as possible until we enter into the heavenly Jerusalem where our flesh and blood shall be fully renewed and be totally subject to the Spirit.

*~ Johann Gerhard,
Postilla:
Vol. 1,
1613 A.D.*

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

*~ Hebrews
12:1-2*

Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

All raise their palm branches.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great deeds of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail Jesus Christ as our Lord and King, and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please face the altar as the procession walks around the congregation, recalling the entry of our Lord to Jerusalem.

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re-deem - er, King,

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
 4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
 5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
 And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
 Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
 To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
 O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

~ Galatians 6:14

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
 C: **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

INTROIT

L: But you, O Lord, do not | be far off!*
 O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!

C: **Save me from the mouth of the | lion!***
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

L: My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

C: **All who see me | mock me;***
they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

The Lord
Christ now
goes up to
Jerusalem to
oppose the
devil and all
his hellish
power, so that
He might de-
feat and over-
come him.
That's why
they carried
palm branch-
es before
Him. He
wanted to
take upon
Himself the
punishment
for our sin. In
order that we
might have
peace (Isaiah
53:5) is why
they carried
palm branch-
es before
Him.

~ Johann
Gerhard,
Postilla:
Vol. 1,
1613 A.D.

L: "He trusts in the Lord; let him de- | liver him;*
let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!"

C: **Be not far from me, for trouble | is near,*
and there is | none to help.**

L: But you, O Lord, do not | be far off!*
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!

C: **Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!**

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

COLLECT

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**

Please be seated.

ANTHEM

"Behold the Lamb of God" ... Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

He was wounded for our transgressions,

He was bruised for our iniquities.

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

--John 1:29; Isaiah 53:4-5

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. MARK

Introduction: "More Than His Life?"

Hymn: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" ... LSB #438, st. 1

Part One: Our Lord Is Arrested

Hymn: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" ... LSB #438, st. 2

Part Two: Our Lord Jesus Is Denied, Tried, and Beaten

Hymn: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" ... LSB #438, st. 3

Part Three: Our Lord Is Crucified and Dies

Hymn: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" ... LSB #438, st. 4

Conclusion: "Yes, More Than His Life."

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all creation according to its needs.

P: . . . let us pray to the Lord,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

The disciples,
as they led the
little donkey
and her colt to
the Lord and
sat the Lord
Christ upon it
and laid out
their clothes
before Him, are
a prototypical
portrayal of
faithful teach-
ers and preach-
ers. By means
of the divine
Word, they are
to lead the souls
of men to the
Lord Christ,
loose them from
sin's bonds and
proclaim Christ
into their
hearts so that
he alone rules
and leads them.

~ Johann
Gerhard,
Postilla:
Vol. 1,
1613 A.D.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

... LSB #443

Please stand.

Congregation:

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.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, who
by your tender love gave your only Son to suffer death on the

cross for our redemption. May we who now receive his body and blood be filled with the strength to take up our cross and follow him.

C: Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

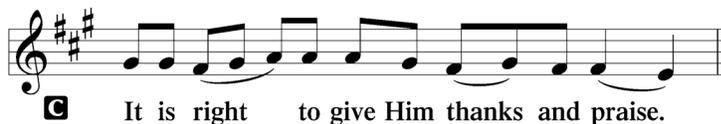
P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.

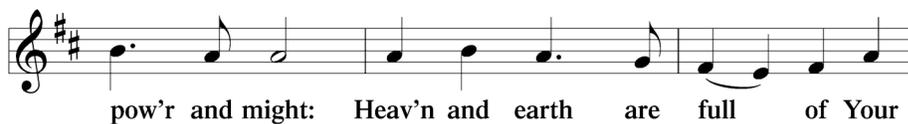


P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

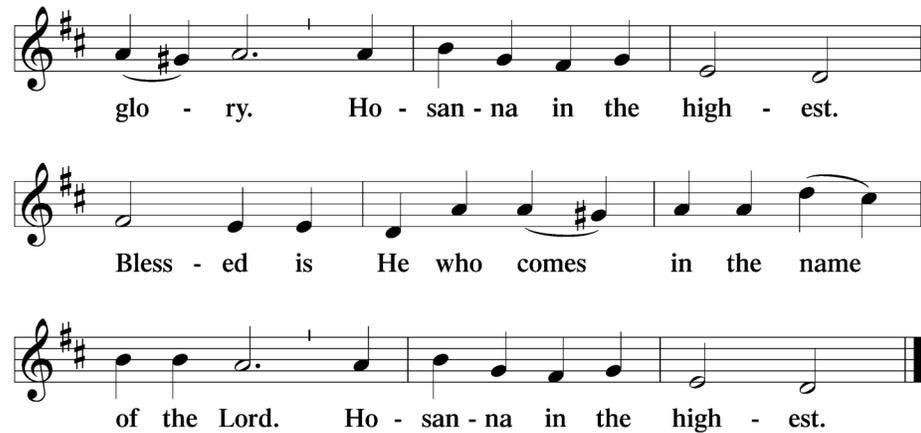
SANCTUS ("Holy")



In ancient times, the victorious princes brought a bloody sword wrapped in palm branches and with a golden crown as a sign of their victory. Christ, the victorious Prince, is far more deserving of such a sign of victory. With the bloody sword of His cross, He overcame the devil and all his power.

~ Johann
Gerhard,
Postilla:
Vol. 1,
1613 A.D.

We should confess Christ and His kingdom without regard to any offences and threats. We should thank God the Lord from the bottom of our hearts for the fact that Christ has also initiated His kingdom of grace among us, and we should pray from the heart for it to be upheld and spread...



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

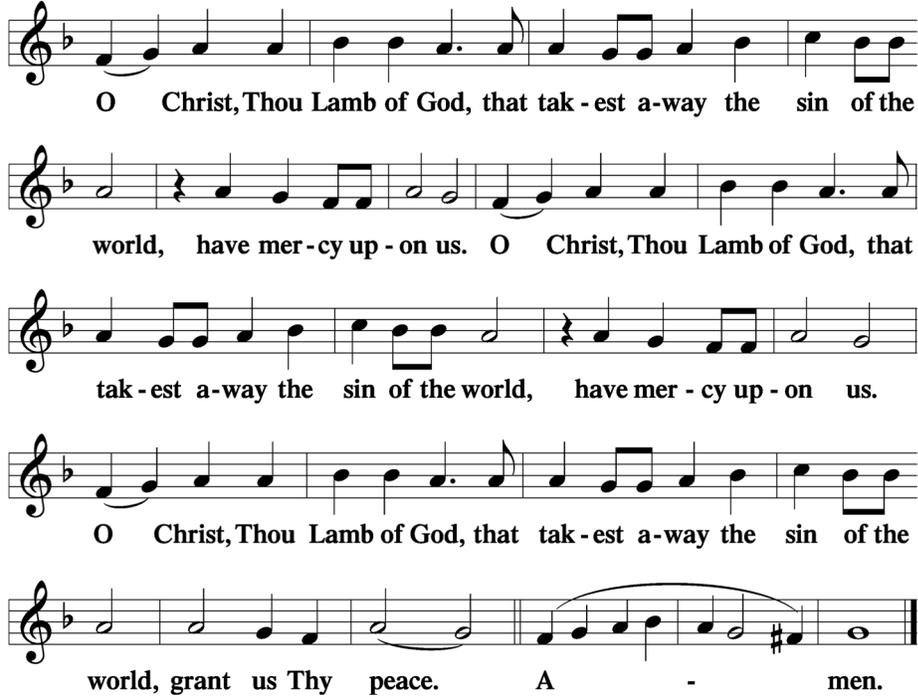
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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

ACCLAMATION

P: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

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 be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives ours sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

...Whoever is a true member of the kingdom of Christ will also most assuredly offer heartfelt prayer for it to be upheld.

~ Johann Gerhard, Postilla: Vol. 1, 1613 A.D.

**A Prayer
As You Go**
 O my Je-
 sus, when
 my heart
 tries to mis-
 lead me
 into sin, I
 will re-
 member
 the suffer-
 ings You
 endured
 and the
 blood You
 shed...In
 the terror
 of my sins,
 I will flee
 to Your
 wounds...
 Your holy
 name, shall
 be my last
 word... In
 that last
 hour, Jesus,
 be my com-
 fort, my
 joy, my
 consolati-
 on, my
 defense.
 Amen.

~ J.F. Starck

COMMUNION HYMNS

- “No Tramp of Soldiers’ Marching Feet” ... LSB #444
 “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty” ... LSB #441
 “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy” ... LSB #434

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Please turn toward the cross as it is carried out of the sanctuary.

RECESSIONAL HYMN "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle"



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; Sing the end - ing
 2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness Of the ap - point - ed
 3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, He went forth from
 4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, Be for all the



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the tro - phy,
 time was come, He, the Word, was born of wom - an,
 Naz - a - reth, Des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,
 no - blest tree; None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,



Sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; Tell how Christ, the
 Left for us His Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of
 Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He
 None in fruit thine e - qual be; Sym - bol of the



world's re - deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.
 true o - be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.
 hum - bly yield - ed On the cross His dy - ing breath.
 world's re - demp - tion, For the weight that hung on thee!

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"Christus, der uns selig macht" ("Christ, who makes us blessed")
 ... J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

This hymn comes to us from a very ancient text, composed by Venantius Honorius Clementianus Fortunatus (540-600 A.D.), a poet and bishop of Poitiers (present-day France). It has become part of the customary liturgy of Holy Week and strikes the true sound of this week: not sentimental mourning over Christ's pain, but victory and exultation that He bore such pain, so bravely and steadfastly, for our sake. "Tell how Christ, the world's redeemer, as a victim won the day!"

Serving at Worship

<u>Presiding:</u>	The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde
<u>Preaching:</u>	The Rev. Christopher S. Johnson (Pr. Gjerde to Bethany at 10:30 am)
<u>Organist:</u>	Kantor Jacob Drengler
<u>Choir:</u>	The Zion Kantorei
<u>Radio:</u>	Dick Ames
<u>Lectors:</u>	Rob Kittel, Grace Mueller, Scott Ray
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Jack Johnson, Elsa Oestreich, Hunter Renken
<u>Communion:</u>	Sally Christoffersen, Steve Zeinemann
<u>Elder:</u>	Don Budnik
<u>Ushers:</u>	Josh Daley, Frank Rodemeier, Ken Rodemeier, Tammie Rodemeier
<u>Altar Guild:</u>	Cheryl Plautz, Anna Mae Zeinemann

Acknowledgements

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Kantor Jacob Drengler
Headmaster Matthew J. Berg
Office Manager Jessica G. Ray
Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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