

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.
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Palm/Passion Sunday

March 29, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

1 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." 4 This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" 11 The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord **C: Hosanna in the Highest**

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Let us go forth in peace **C: In the name of the Lord**

Hymn

ELW #344 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (Verses 1, 4, 5)

Confession and Forgiveness *

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day *

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens, wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Psalms 31:9-16

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

Gospel Acclamation *

All “Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. (Phil. 2:8-9)”

The Holy Gospel According to Matthew 27: 11-54 *

C: Glory to you, Oh Lord

11 Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” 12 But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. 13 Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” 14 But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

15 Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. 16 At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. 17 So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” 18 For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. 19 While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” 20 Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. 21 The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” 22 Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” 23 Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

24 So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” 25 Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” 26 So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. 28 They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30 They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31 After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

32 As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. 33 And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), 34 they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. 35 And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; 36 then they sat down there and kept watch over him. 37 Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

38 Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. 39 Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads 40 and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” 41 In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 42 “He saved others; he cannot

save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. 43 He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to, for he said, 'I am God's Son.' ” 44 The rebels who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

45 From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 46 And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 47 When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." 48 At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. 49 But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." 50 Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. 51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. 53 After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. 54 Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord: **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW # 346 "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!"

The Apostles' Creed (Printed inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

Welcome to our WTKM radio and online worshipers, Good News announcements, and Prayer Petitions

Prayers of the Church

(response)

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A brief silence

Offering Hymn

ELW# 186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Offering Prayer *

All: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

COMMUNION

Thanksgiving *

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Preface *

P: It is indeed right and our joy that we will at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, and so with the church on earth and in heaven, we join in praise to you O God, through Jesus Christ, as we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest (pg. 144 ELW)

The Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Distribution

Communion Hymn *

ELW # 502 "The King of Love My Shepard Is"

SENDING

Communion Blessing *

Prayer After Communion *

C: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing *

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn *

ELW # 811 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

Dismissal *

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector is Michelle Burton and our Usher is Donna Lee
- Next week's Lector is Tom Hostad and our ushers are Kurt and Wendy Hintz
- The next Women's Bible Study is **Monday, April 13th**, at noon. Bring a lunch and join us.
- A Church Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, April 13th** at 4:00PM.
- Pastor will be in the office **Thursday April 9th** from 9am-12pm. In April Pastor's office days will be Thursday April 2nd, and 9th, Wednesday, April 15th, and Thursday April 23rd and 30th.
- The next "Conversations with God" will be held on **Thursday, April 23rd at 10am**. We will take this time to gather for prayer, Scripture, and conversation on a different topic each month.
- Roof Replacement monies are due by **May 1, 2026**
- We will be having Easter Breakfast starting at **8:30am Easter Morning, April 5th**. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.
- Caregiver Training classes will be held **April 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and May 7**. See bulletin boards and April Herald for more details.

Ministry Partners

- Special Giving for April is The Hartford Food Pantry.
- Community Lunch will be served on **Saturday, April 25th**, 11:30am, at First United Methodist Church. Fellowship prior to lunch.
- Lincoln Elementary School

In the Nest:

- Casa Guadalupe English Language Learners "ELL" meets Monday & Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM.
- Al-Anon Meetings are held Thursdays at 7:00PM.
- Girl Scouts meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

The Needs of Our Partners:

Lincoln Elementary School.

Snacks include: fruit cups, cereal, canned goods. Individually wrapped food items, Animal Crackers, and Granola Bars... **NO** bags of **nuts**.

Food drive/pantry (most helpful in Feb – Summer) cereal, shelf stable microwave meals, canned goods and mac and cheese with cheese sauce (not add milk and butter).

Casa Guadalupe

Snacks: Kid snacks - **NO NUTS**, fruit cups, Goldfish,
Other Items: Books (gently used is ok), new toys.

See The Herald and the giving tree in the coffee area for these and other needs.

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE FOR COFFEE AND SNACKS IN THE GATHERING ROOM