



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.*

*\*(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)*  
**Announcements**

### **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **\*Processional Gospel**

**Mark 11:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"<sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"<sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said;

and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>Then 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.

### All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*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 are 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 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring.

*Refrain*

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.  
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals 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.  
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

We ask that all members join the Women of ELCA and pray this prayer as you rise in the morning, and as you prepare to retire each evening.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring to you....

Jada, Myles, & Conner Garske; Britain Hahn; Amara Brandau; Chase Brandau; Avery Brueggen; Riley, Aria & Hudson Brueggen; Nolan & Logan Buchholz; Thadyn & Ayawyn Conner; Vanessa & Elliott Ornes; Lailah Eckes, Maevis Shock; Lena Ornes; Porter Sorenson; Josie Ornes; Brooklyn, Madelyn, Kaylin, Emma, Bryce, Marah, Bria, Ava, Katie, & Benjamin Gruen; Braylee Zimmerman; MaKenzie & Cooper Powell; Wesson & Arden Mayne; Vanessa, Mia, & Brek Anderson; Tyler & Jaden Bever; Carlee, Collin, & Camden Neidfeldt; Morgan Speicher; Krista & Sierra Cook; Franklin & Douglas Wildes; Sophia, Derek & Deacon Erdman; Kody Tormoen; Callie Fleming; Miranda, Daphne & Linus Arndt; Emma Elder; Bryson Lamb, Elizabeth Wildes; Alaina & Braxton Holthaus; Jayda Leis; David, Sam & Zachary Ross; Gannon & Ellory Tormoen; Jase & Margo Picha; Watson Sebranek, Violet Ford, Hunter Puhl, Eason Kelbel, Cole, Caleb & Connor Redding; Brooke, Claire, Grace & Bree Olson; Alayna, Alivia & Levi Wyttenbach; Luke Kroeger; children in Ukraine and throughout the world.

...and ask that your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you. I pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for all children every where, that you would keep them in your care.

In Jesus name I pray.

Amen

## PERSONAL CARE KITS

We will collect items for Lutheran World Relief personal care kits throughout the Lenten season. Here are the items that make-up a kit:

One light-weight bath-size towel

Two bath-size soap bars

One adult size toothbrush in its original packaging

One sturdy comb—remove packaging

One metal nail clippers—remove packaging

You may also donate to the cause and we'll do the shopping. Just mark your offering envelope or a plan envelope of your donation. Thank you for supporting this cause. The refugee camps throughout the world are filled with folks in need.

## THANK YOU

“Thank you” to the folks who participated in the Passion Reading this morning:

Narrator	Karen Arzt
Jesus	Justin Arndt
Peter	Joel Arndt
Pilate	Steve Brandau
Judas	Greg Bever
High Priest	Jerry Von Haden
Witness	Linus Arndt
Servant	Barb Bever

## Sunday School Children Sing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you**

### **\*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**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **First Reading**

*The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

### **A reading from Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens—  
awakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward

<sup>6</sup>I 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.

<sup>7</sup>The 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;

<sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 31:9-16

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

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

<sup>11</sup>I 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.

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For 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.

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

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene, Babbitt, Aidden Tilly, Laurie Switz Johnson,  
Erin Laperle, Heidi Stenerson, Doug Short, Sally Dana, Dan Paulson.

### CALENDAR

Wed., Mar. 27	Last Supper Practice	7:00 PM
Thurs., Mar. 28	Quilting	9:00 AM
	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 PM
Fri., Mar. 29	Good Friday Service	7:00 PM
Sun., Mar. 31	Easter Sunrise Service	6:00 AM
	Breakfast	7:00—8:45 AM
	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship Service	10:15 AM
Sun., April 7	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship Service	10:15 AM
	Chicken Dinner	1:30 AM—1:00 PM

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

Summer is just around the corner and with it, time to plan going to camp.  
Brochures are located in the narthex.

#### GRACE LUTHERAN FUNDRAISER

Pie Sale! Friday, March 29, 9:00 AM—1:00 PM, Royal Bank Lobby in  
Elroy. Choose between Cherry, Blueberry, Strawberry, or Apple;  
9" pie/\$15.00: or Apple Crisp 8" pan/\$10.00  
Pre-orders available 608-462-5398

#### CHICKEN DINNER

We will need to order the chicken halves later this week. Ask your  
neighbor and friends if they have their ticket. If not, make a sale. We will  
deliver the ticket to them.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey.  
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Distribution

***Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.***

"Lamb of God"

ELW p.191

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.  
Amen.**

### Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

\*Benediction

\*Hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane" ELW #347

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Pastor: Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Arlis Ballwahn

## IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Robert Cale,  
Matthew Dutton, Allen Roscovious

<sup>15</sup>My times are In your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those  
who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."**

## Second Reading:

*Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death*

### A reading from Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Congregational Presentation

**The Passion of Our Lord According to Matthew**

Hymn "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" ELW#351

**\*Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

(Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.)

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

**OFFERING**

\*Offertory Hymn "Create in Me A Clean Heart" ELW#186

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Please join together in the Offertory Prayer

Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.  
Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.  
Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.  
We pray this in your name.  
Amen.

**Meal**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**First Communion Celebration**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

ELW p. 190

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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.