



**PALM
SUNDAY**

**HOLY
THURSDAY**

**GOOD
FRIDAY**

**EASTER
SUNDAY**

HOLY WEEK

LOOK UP

Sunday of the Passion

March 29, 2026

Procession with Palms

Stand and face the back of the Sanctuary.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dear friends in Christ, during the weeks of Lent we have been preparing to commemorate our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Today we come together to begin the solemn journey of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Savior and to gain for us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We follow him in faith and praise him with joy.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Reading

Matthew 21:1–11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, telling them, "Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, asking, "Who is this?" "And the crowds were saying, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Let us pray.

God our Father, we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as a king by those who shouted “Hosanna” and spread their clothing and palm branches in his path. Accept our praise and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of the Lord.

The procession begins.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

CW 412



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 peo - ple of the He - brews 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,



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.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

When all have reached their places, the minister stands at the altar and the service continues at the section entitled, "The Word."

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh and 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Matthew 26:1–35

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, "You know that after two days it will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified." Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. They plotted together how to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, "Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people." When Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, a woman approached him holding an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume. She poured it on his head as he was reclining at the table. But when his disciples saw this, they were upset and said, "Why this waste? This perfume could have been sold for a lot of money and given to the poor." Jesus was aware of this and said to them, "Why are you causing trouble for this woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me. You are always going to have the poor with you, but you are not always going to

have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. Amen I tell you: Wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told in memory of her.” Then one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. From that time on Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus. On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him the Teacher says, ‘My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” The disciples did as Jesus commanded them and prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.” They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?” He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.” Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “Yes, you are the one.” While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, “Take, eat, this is my body.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it all of you, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.” After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “This night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.” Peter answered him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: Tonight before the rooster crows you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you.” And all the disciples said the same.

Reading

Matthew 26:36–56

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane. He told his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and he began to be sorrowful and distressed. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death. Stay here, and keep watch with me.” He went a little farther, fell on his face, and prayed. He said, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” He came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, “So, were you not able to stay awake with me for one hour? Watch and pray, so that you do not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to pass from me unless I drink it, may your will be done.” Again he returned and found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time. He said the same words as before. Then he returned to his disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise. Let us go. Look, my betrayer is near.” While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly Judas (one of the Twelve) arrived. With him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign: “The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him.” Immediately he went to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, why are you here?” Then they advanced, took hold of Jesus, and arrested him. Suddenly, one of the men with Jesus reached out his hand, drew his sword, and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place, because all who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you not realize that I could call on my Father, and at once he would provide me with more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen this way?” At that same time Jesus said to the crowd, “Have you come out to arrest me with swords and clubs as if I were a robber? Day after day I was sitting in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets would be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

417 It Was a Dark and Dismal Night

CW 417 sts. 1–4

Reading

Matthew 26:57–75

Those who had arrested Jesus led him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the experts in the law and the elders were assembled. Peter was following him at a distance and went as far as the courtyard of the high priest. He went inside and sat down with the guards to see how it would turn out. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’” The high priest stood up and said to him, “Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against you?” But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I place you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!” Jesus said to him, “It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! What do you think?” They answered, “He is deserving of death!” Then they spit in his face and punched him. Some slapped him and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ! Who hit you?” Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came to him and said, “You were also with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, “I don't know what you're talking about.” When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, “I do not know the man.” After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, “Surely you are also one of them because even your accent gives you away.” Then he began to curse and to swear, “I do not know the man!” Just then the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

408 He Stood before the Court

CW 408 sts. 1, 4

Reading

Matthew 27:1–26

Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people reached the decision to put Jesus to death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.” He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.” They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me. When Jesus stood in the presence of the governor, the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.” When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then Pilate said to him, “Don’t you hear how many things they are testifying against you?” But he did not answer him—not even one word, so that the governor was very surprised. At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted. At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, “Which one do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?” For Pilate knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate’s wife sent him a message. “Have nothing to do with that righteous man,” she said, “since I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him.” But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. The governor asked them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” “Barabbas!” they said. Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?” They all said to him, “Crucify him!” But the governor said, “Why? What has he done wrong?” But they kept shouting even louder: “Crucify him!” When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, he took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, “I am innocent of this righteous man’s blood. It is your responsibility.” And all the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified.

Reading*Matthew 27:27–66*

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they were going out of the city, they found a man from Cyrene named Simon. They forced him to carry Jesus' cross. They came to a place called Golgotha, which means "The place of the skull." They offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. After they had crucified him, they divided his clothing among themselves by casting lots. Then they sat down and were keeping watch over him there. Above his head they posted the written charge against him: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." At the same time two criminals were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. People who passed by kept insulting him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who were going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, experts in the law, and elders kept mocking him. They said, "He saved others, but he cannot save himself. If he's the King of Israel, let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now, if he wants him, because he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" In the same way even the criminals who were crucified with him kept insulting him. From the sixth hour until the ninth hour, there was darkness over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "This fellow is calling for Elijah." Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. The rest said, "Leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." After Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. Suddenly, the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and rocks were split. Tombs were opened, and many bodies of saints who had fallen asleep were raised to life. Those who came out of the tombs went into the holy city after Jesus' resurrection and appeared to many people. When the centurion and those who were guarding Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were terrified and said, "Truly this was the Son of God." Many women who

had followed Jesus from Galilee and who had served him were there, watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons. When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb that he had cut in the rock. He rolled a large stone over the tomb's entrance and left. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there sitting opposite the tomb. On the next day, which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered in the presence of Pilate and said, "Sir, we remembered what that deceiver said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise again.' So give a command that the tomb be made secure until the third day. Otherwise his disciples might steal his body and tell the people, 'He is risen from the dead.' And this last deception will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and posting a guard.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

396 Christ, the Life of All the Living

CW 396 sts. 1, 6-7

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Hear us as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

During the offering, please fill out the Friendship Register in the pew and pass it down to those sitting next to you.

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 sts. 1, 4, 6

Acknowledgments

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News & Notes

Radio Broadcast

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Bill and Nancy Stocker in celebration of their 41st Wedding Anniversary. Thank you!

Directory Photos

We are updating our directory photos this April. Sign up for your sitting which takes about 10-15 minutes. The sitting includes a family photo and individual photos for use in our print and digital directory. An online sign up will be available through our website at spljordan.com under the “Member Info” tab or the qr code. There are 4 dates from which to choose.



Be A Greeter!

The Adult Discipleship Committee is initiating a greeter program to provide a friendly face and greeting to members and visitors alike! What is involved if you volunteer? Be at your assigned position 15 minutes before the start of the service. The sign up is in the volunteer binder on the counter.

Easter Egg Hunt!

Join in the fun finding some Easter Eggs on Easter Sunday, April 5 starting at 8:30 sharp. Meet in the Fireside Room for instructions.

LWMS Spring Rally

Come see what a Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society district rally is April 11 in Owatonna. All ladies of St. Paul Lutheran Church are invited to attend. We are hosting the Fall Rally in October. If you have questions, please ask Amy Radick.

Celebrate Jordan

Come volunteer at our annual booth at Celebrate Jordan on Sunday April 12th! Shifts are 1 hour long, with two volunteers at a time. There will be informational cards about our church, along with a fun game for guests as they walk by. The sign up is in the volunteer binder on the counter.

Holy Week

Holy Thursday and Good Friday worship services will be at 7 pm.

APRIL 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Woven 6 pm	2 Senior Fellowship 10 am Maundy Thursday Worship 7 pm	3 Good Friday Worship 7 pm	4
5 6:30 am Easter Sunrise 7:30 am Easter Breakfast 8:30 am Egg Hunt 9 am Easter Festival	6	7	8 Foundations 6 pm	9	10	11
12 Worship 9 am Fellowship Sunday Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am	13 7:45 Choir	14 Council Meeting 6:30 pm Reflects Bible Study for Women 7 pm	15 Foundations 6 pm	16 Theology on Tap 6:30 Mana Brewing	17	18
19 Worship 9 am Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am	20 7 pm Worship 7:45 Choir	21 Oak Terrace 9:45 am	22 Foundations 6 pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 9 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am WELS Connection	27 7 pm Worship 7:45 Choir	28	29 Foundations 6 pm	30		

SERVING THE LORD

		Acolytes	Ushers	Media Booth	Organist
3/29	9 am	Leah Bertrang	2	Ryan Bertrang	Noah Helke
4/2	7 pm	Leah Bertrang	3	Ryan Bertrang	Noah Helke
4/3	7 pm	(Need Volunteer)	4	(Need Volunteer)	-

April Altar Guild	April Cleaners
Rachel Carlstrom/Karen Firlie/Mary Zeman	-
April Counters	Service Group 1 Leader
Debbie Glowicki/Heather Nelson	Need Volunteer
May Altar Guild	
Melanie Sparby/Jodi Bertrang	

Attendance	
Saturday	102
Midweek Lent	58
Total	160

Gifts To Our Lord		
	Received	Needed
Current	\$	\$3834
Online Giving	\$1128	
Total	\$1128	\$3834



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