



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

Order of Worship

March 29, 2026

The procession with palms brings us into Holy Week and the celebration of the mystery of our salvation. We enter the week by hearing the story of Jesus' passion – his suffering and death. In baptism we have been fused to this story; in Holy Week we make our way through it again, because it brings us to life with Christ.

Words of Welcome

Procession with Palms

(Weather permitting, this portion of the service is held outdoors)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Mercifully assist 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. **Amen**

Processional Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

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."

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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 highest heaven!"

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

Procession

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen**

(The procession into the church begins, the congregation following the ministers, as the following hymn is sung)

Processional Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW 344

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. *Refrain*
- 2 The company of angels is praising you on high;
Creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To you, before your Passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king. *Refrain*

(When all are in their places)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. 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**

[Sit]

Youth Message

"Who Did It?"

Choral Anthem

Blessed IS He

P. Choplin

The Luther Singers

First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The 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 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 up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 31:9-16

(Congregation speaks together.)

- ⁹**Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.**
- ¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

**¹¹I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
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.**

**¹⁶Make your face to shine upon your servant,
Save me in your steadfast love.**

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let 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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

[Stand]

Return to the Lord

**Return to the Lord our God for he is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**



Matthew 27:11-54

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

¹⁵Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. ¹⁶At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷So 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?" ¹⁸For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. ¹⁹While 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." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

²⁴So 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." ²⁵Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and 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!" ³⁰They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

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

³⁸Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and 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." ⁴¹In 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. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" ⁴⁴The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And 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?" ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸At 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. ⁴⁹But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.

⁵⁴Now 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!"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

[Sit]

Sermon

"Eli, Eli, Lema Sabachthani?"

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW 349

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven;
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **Receive our prayer.**]

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering

Offertory

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. God of good gifts, **receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

[Sit]

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.

Communion Hymns

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW 338

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW 347

Post-Communion Canticle

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.

Mine own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal to you the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together. Holy God, **at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen**

Closing Hymn

They Crucified My Lord

ELW 350

Benediction

God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen**

“The Peace of God”

**Whatsoever things are honest,
 whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
 think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
 whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
 think on these things.
And the peace of God
 that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
 shall keep your minds
 on Jesus Christ.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!”

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Today's Heavenly Helpers

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| * Assisting Minister | 8:15 service | Carol Townsend |
| | 10:45 service | John Hanson |
| * Director of Music | | Sandy Hunter |
| * Lector | 8:15 service | Jan Austin |
| | 10:45 service | Sylvia Negri |
| * Greeters | 10:45 service | Wanda & Art Dodge |
| * Ushers | 10:45 service | Leroy Polk & Jack O'Donovan |
| * Communion Asst. | 10:45 service | Sylvia Negri |
| * Counters | | Sylvia Negri & Steven Freese |

Last week's attendance, in person and streaming: 121

Calendar of Events for This Week

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday | - Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM |
| Tuesday | - Men's Bible Study/Elijay, Mike's Restaurant, 9 AM - Ladies' Bible Study, 12:15 PM |
| Wednesday | - Food Pantry, 8 AM-1 PM - Service of the Word for Healing, 7 PM |
| Thursday | - Maundy Thursday Holy Communion service, 7 PM |
| Friday | - Good Friday Tenebrae service, 7 PM |
| Easter Sunday | - Easter Egg Hunt for children and youth, 9:45 AM - Brunch Reception in Founders Hall following 10:45 service |

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

First Reading – Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm – Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24
Second Reading – Colossians 3:1–4
Gospel – John 20:1-18

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are...

8:15 **Lector** – Wayne Buehler
10:45 **Lector** – Karen Baker
Greeters – Sandi & Fred St. John
Ushers – Jeannine Sieck & Janice Weber
Communion Asst. – Karen Baker & Janet Smedley
Counters – Sylvia Negri & Barbara Mefford

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week services this week include a Service of the Word for Healing on Wednesday evening, (there will be no mid-week meal), a Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar, and a Tenebrae Service on Good Friday with the extinguishing of candles. All Holy Week services will be at 7:00 PM.

The sanctuary will be open on Good Friday from 10 AM until the beginning of the Tenebrae Service. All are welcome to take time out of their day on this most special of days for quiet meditation or prayer.

Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday morning we will offer festival services of Holy Communion at 8:15 and 10:45.

We will be having our traditional Brunch Fellowship following the late service. The church will provide ham, rolls and beverages. Members are requested to bring a dish to share.

There will be no Sunday school.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for children and youth will start at 9:45 in Founders Hall, moving outside weather permitting. If you are planning to hunt for eggs, please remember to bring a basket to hold the eggs you find!

Easter Lilies

Today is the last day to sign up for Easter lilies. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board off the narthex. On Easter Sunday, please collect your lily(ies) and take them home after the late service.

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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*"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming,
praising, equipping and sending"*