

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders are available from an usher. Assisted listening devices, including both ear bud and loop receivers for digital hearing aids, are also available from an usher.
- Children's service folders and worship notes are available in the round tract rack in the entry area.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.
- Please join us for Bible class at 9:15 AM.
A Lutheran Look at the First Epistle of St. Peter: Fellowship Hall, lower level of church
Bible Information Class: St. Matthew's Room, lower level of church
A staffed nursery is available during Bible class.

Palm Sunday

April 8 & 9, 2017

The Battle for Your Soul: Victory through suffering

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Christian Worship 130

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Dear friends in Christ, for five weeks of Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's redeeming work. Today we come together to begin the solemn celebration of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Messiah: to suffer, die, and rise again. Let us remember with devotion his entry into Jerusalem that culminated at the empty tomb and follow him with a lively faith. United with him by baptism, we share in his resurrection and new life. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Be seated (Sunday)

Anthem (Sunday)

K5 & Junior Choir

Blessed Is He Who Comes

by Becki Slagle Mayo

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna, hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

“Hosanna in the highest,” the children shout and sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav'n, our King.
O may we ever honor him with heart and life and voice.
Hosanna in the highest, sing praises and rejoice.

Hosanna in the highest to David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name cometh, our King and blessed One.
O may we ever honor him with anthem, prayer, and praise.
Hosanna in the highest, our joyful song we raise!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna, hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Please stand (Sunday)

M: I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

C: **Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.**

M: That is where the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,

C: **to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.**

M: There the thrones for judgment stand,

C: **the thrones of the house of David.**

Psalm 122:1,2,4,5⁺

M: Trusting in our own merits, we are unworthy to stand before the throne of God. Therefore let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

+ Psalms of Ascent: Psalms 120-134 are known as the Psalms (or Songs) of Ascent. Although the meaning of this designation is not certain, many scholars believe that these psalms were sung by worshipers as they went up to Jerusalem for the three annual festivals that all Israelites were required to attend: Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles. Because of the geography of Israel, travel to Jerusalem was truly a trip "up to" Jerusalem, making a song of ascent entirely appropriate for the journey.

As we follow Jesus on his path to Jerusalem this Holy Week, it is appropriate for us to also recite the words of these ancient songs. We too are going up to Jerusalem in spirit with our Savior as we travel the road he walked. We too are pilgrims in spirit as we watch the events of Holy Week unfold.

M: We put our hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,

C: **which cannot be shaken but endures forever.**

M: As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

C: **so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore.** *Psalm 125:1,2*

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

THE WORD

First Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-10

Jesus' victory does not look like that of an earthly king.

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation,

gentle and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**Glory be 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.**

Refrain

Psalm of the Day (Sunday)

Small group choir

Lift Up Your Heads

by Victor C. Johnson

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
Be lifted up, ye ancient doors,
And the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory?
The Lord God who is strong and mighty;
The Lord who is great in battle,
He is our God!

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
Be lifted up, ye ancient doors,
And the King of glory shall come in.

Second Lesson

Jesus humbled himself and suffered to win the victory.

Philippians 2:5-11

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Verse of the Day

M: The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Please stand

Gospel**Matthew 21:1-11**

The almighty king rides into Jerusalem on a lowly donkey.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

“Say to the Daughter of Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest!”

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty
Christian Worship 133

Sermon**Matthew 21:1-11**

Glory in Humility

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

**C: 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

Offering

*The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community
and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are a
visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.*

Please stand

Prayer of the Church for Palm Sunday

**M: Lord Jesus Christ, you were acclaimed as the Son of David and the King of Israel by the
pilgrims in Jerusalem.**

**C: For those whose faith is weak, remind them that you are indeed the Messiah, the one sent
to redeem all people from their sins.**

M: You entered Jerusalem not as a conquering ruler but riding on a donkey as the Prince of Peace.

C: **For those living in war-torn lands, protect them and give to them the peace that passes understanding.**

M: You accepted the praises of those singing “Hosanna!” and rebuked those who tried to silence them.

C: **For those who are suffering persecution for your name, preserve them and fulfill your promise to never leave them or forsake them.**

M: You wept over Jerusalem and grieved that its people did not recognize the time of God’s coming.

C: **For those who do not believe your saving message, bring them to faith and make them members of your family.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

M: You began your walk to the cross with your triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Even as we journey through the darkness of your suffering and death, remind us of the promise of your resurrection.

C: **For those gathered here together in your name, fill us with this sure and certain hope that we might dedicate each day to you. Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

Zion, at Your Shining Gates (see pg. 12)

Christian Worship Supplement 701

Please stand

M: Lord God, our heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to earth to offer full and complete payment for the sins of the world. As he entered Jerusalem to the shouts of “Hosanna,” so also hear our prayers and save us by your mercy. Bless the preaching of your Word and in our words and actions graciously grant us the opportunity to proclaim our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Come, O Precious Ransom, Come

Christian Worship 8

Announcements

WELS Connection

Ministerial Education

Postlude

If you do not wish to take your service folder home, please place it in the basket so it can be reused.

701

Zion, at Your Shining Gates



1 Zi - on, at your shin - ing gates, See, the
 2 Christ, your king - dom comes to - day As we
 3 Come and give us peace with - in, Loose us
 4 Give us grace your yoke to wear, Give us
 5 So when you shall come a - gain, Lord of



King of glo - ry waits; Haste your mon - arch now to
 hear your Spir - it say: "God's own Son, a sac - ri -
 from the bands of sin, Take a - way the heav - y
 strength your cross to bear, Make us yours in deed and
 an - gels and of men, We with all your saints shall



greet, Spread your palms be - fore his feet.
 fice— Sin - ners' way to par - a - dise."
 weight Laid on us by greed and hate.
 word, Yours in heart and life, O Lord.
 sing Loud ho - san - nas to our King.

Text (st. 1, 3-5): Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1804–1889, alt.

Text (st. 2): Michael Schultz, b. 1963 © 2006 Michael Schultz. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 (Alterations in other stanzas also by M. Schultz.)

Tune: COVENANT CHURCH (77 77) K. Lee Scott, b. 1950 ©1990 Concordia Publishing House.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Serving at Worship

Preacher	Pastor Kyle Bitter
Presiding Minister	Pastor Joel Leyrer
Lector	Pastor Eric Schroeder
Musicians	Brian Kent, piano (Saturday) Eric Sipe, organ (Sunday)
Junior Choir Director	Mandy Treder
Head Ushers	Tom Wessel (Saturday) Jon Johnson (8:00 AM) Michael Schneider (10:30 AM)
Greeters	Dave & Dana Leyrer and Mark & Mary Meissner (8:00 AM) Steve & Cindy Zemplinski and Bruce & Kary Ailey (10:30 AM)

In Our Prayers

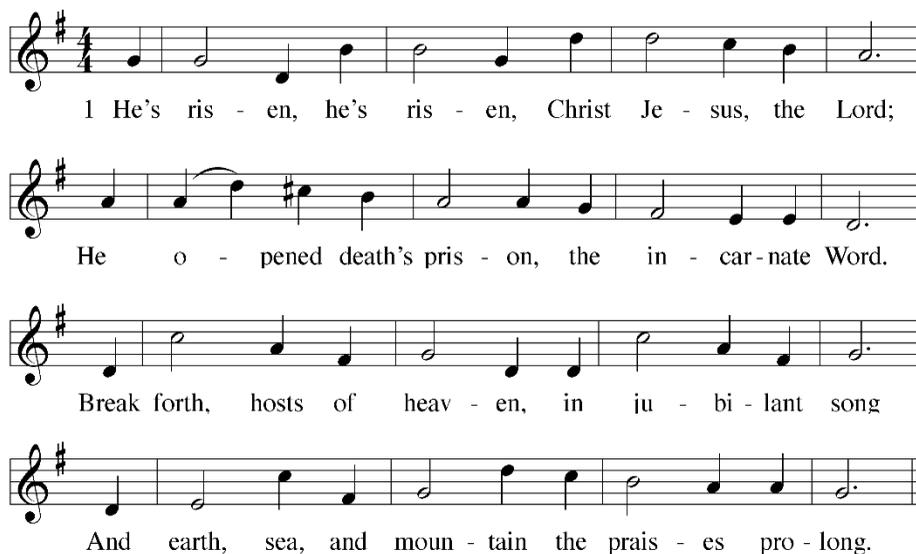
- Alice Sebald, convalescing at the Village at Manor Park, Barbara Schmelzer at Menomonee Falls Health Care Center and Lucille Lambrecht in hospice care at her sister's home.

Parents' Preview for April 16 (Easter Festival Service)

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen” stanza 1

(Christian Worship 143)



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car-nate Word.
Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
And earth, sea, and moun - tain the prais - es pro - long.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709971, all rights reserved

“Blessed Is He Who Comes” Text © 2011 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation.

“Psalm 24” Tune Richard Proulx © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. Tone © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

“Lift Up Your Heads” Text based on Psalm 24.

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen” Text © 1941 Concordia Publishing House.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 13
Communion Service at 3:30 and 6:45 PM

Good Friday, April 14
Communion Service at 1:00 PM
Tenebrae Service at 6:45 PM

Easter Sunday, April 16
Sunrise Service at 6:00 AM
Breakfast at 7:15 AM
Festival Worship Service at 8:30 and 10:30 AM



Readings for the Week of Palm Sunday

M	1 Peter 2:21-24.....	John 12:1-36
T	1 Timothy 6:12-14.....	John 12:37-50
W	Jeremiah 15:15-21.....	Luke 22:1-6
TH	Maundy Thursday	
F	Good Friday	
S	1 Peter 3:17-22.....	Matthew 27:57-66