



PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 29, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Jesus' ministry leads to Jerusalem and to His suffering, crucifixion, and death. It was always going to lead to this moment. And where our Savior goes, His people follow. He teaches us that "whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25 ESV). *This is Part 4 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✠ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PALM SUNDAY GREETING & OPENING PRAYER

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

C **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

C **Hosanna in the highest!**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 442 *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"*

BAPTISM OF HUCK OTTIS DITTMER (8:00 am)

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS

2 Corinthians 6:2 NIV; Genesis 3:19; Joel 2:12; Psalm 51:17; John 3:16-17

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."

C **But we are dust, and to dust we shall return. ▶**

- P** “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.”
- C** **The sacrifice the Lord desires is a broken and contrite heart; it will not be despised.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**
- P** “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to 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 the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

VERSE OF THE MONTH *Revelation 5:12*

- C** **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!**





We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 34:1–8*

After breaking the first set (Exodus 32:19), Moses makes two new stone tablets for the Ten Commandments. God declares His grace, mercy, and love toward sinners.

The LORD said to Moses, “Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. ²Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. ³No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain.” ⁴So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of

stone. ⁵The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

⁶The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.” ⁸And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:5–11*

The people of God are to share the mind of Christ—an attitude of humble, self-sacrificing service.

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point

of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mathew 21:1–11*

Jesus enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, as the crowds shout, “Hosanna!”

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front 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, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus

had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES’ CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal. (10:30 am)*

SERMON HYMN 443 *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*

SERMON *Called to Die: “The Death that Saves”*

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering:

ANTHEM *“Lift Up Your Heads” by Victor C. Johnson*

(8:00 am, Students of St. Paul’s Lutheran School; Lindsay McKeage, flute)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN 441 *“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”*

SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: We often speak of being “saved from death,” not “saved by death.” Death is the enemy of salvation and life; therefore, how could death save? Yet this is exactly what Jesus rides forth to accomplish amid the cries of “Hosanna, Lord save us!”—to turn death on its head, using it to bring full salvation and even to make it a portal to new and blessed life.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Liturgist*

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Rachel Martens, *SPLS Choir Director & Trumpet*

Claira Martens, *Trumpet*

Keirsten Beerman, Jade Brandt, Emma Cooper, Titus Drefs,

Kahlan Haase, Lindsay McKeage, Annika Pottschmidt,

Wyatt Sherman, Karsyn Steinkuhler, *Instrumentalists*

Eian Grass, *Crucifer (8:00 am)*

Scout Larsen, *Crucifer (10:30 am)*

Lillie Todd, Isabella Hagan, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Lane Brackman, Amelia Shafer *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Stan & Kathryn Oetting, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Richard & Linda Strobel, *Greeters (10:30 am)*

Pat McKeage, Jim Beerman, Rod McCaslin, Darren Starbuck, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor "on call" number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Donald Dedeke, Rev. Harold Block, Ken Wodrich, Virgil Gramenz, Hudson Kloos, Nicole Maxwell, Richard Cordes, Addison Wehrle, Alan Luebbert, Diane Stumpfenhaus, Lisa Arnett, Ron Roepe, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos, Susan Reeves, Les Bruns

Ongoing: Wilmer Bredehoeft, Melba Poese, Bridget Kageman, Paul Brackman, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Nolan Kirby, Jon Spells, Joe Connell, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Donnie Fiene, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerdts, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Dannie Griffit, Lari Huntze, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Nation and World: the people of the Sri Lanka

Partners in Mission: Trinity Lutheran Church; Doniphan, MO; Saint Paul Lutheran High School

Birthdays: (3/30) Kevin Brunkhorst, Mackenzie Meyer, Evelyn Pottschmidt, Evan Rankin, Amber Wienberg; (3/31) Brayden McGinnis, Carley McGinnis, Ezra Mills, Leo Oehlschlaeger; (4/1) Eli Beissenherz, Hattie Roepe; (4/2) Karen Heins, Lorelei Kuecker, Jacob Lunbeck; (4/3) Ivan Brandt, Kevin Eckhoff; (4/4) Sandra Bressman, Glenda Kueck, Judy Kuecker, Dee Dee Lockney

Anniversaries: (4/1) Roger & Sharon Woodrich; (4/4) Tim & Judy Schnakenberg

+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE**
+ + +

Why do we have a week called “Holy Week”?

Why would we refer to a week as being holy? The word “holy” means that it is from God. That’s why we call the Bible “holy.” It isn’t just any book. It is God’s living Word given to us for our salvation! The same goes for Holy Week. This is “God’s Week.” This is the week in the Church Year when Jesus actually paid for our sins and won our salvation!

Which days are in Holy Week?

There are particular days during Holy Week that are extra special. During Holy Week we celebrate **Palm Sunday**, when Jesus went to Jerusalem and people celebrated His arrival; **Maundy Thursday**, when Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper; **Good Friday**, when Jesus died on the cross; and **Holy Saturday**, when we await His resurrection on Easter Sunday!



Parents:

During worship, help your children to look for other things in the church that are considered holy (i.e. God’s Word, the Sacraments, etc.). Ask them: “How does God use these things to give us His forgiveness?”



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FAMILY FOOTNOTES

Gina Martens, Family Life Director

Mountaintop experiences. Have you heard of these? It's usually in reference to something amazing that someone has experienced. Do you know what happened on these biblical mountaintops? 1) Mount Moriah, 2) Mount Ararat, 3) Mount Sinai, 4) Mount Carmel, 5) Mount Zion, 6) Mount Calvary. (This was a quiz that Pastor Michael gave during one of our Wednesday chapels. See answers below). Think about mountaintops...most typically, we don't just start on them. We come from a valley or low place to reach the mountaintop. There was most likely a process involved to climb that mountain, and guess what? We may have learned a great deal by climbing that mountain - things that will help us, and possibly others, conquer our next one. Some mountaintops are cold and rocky, and very little growth occurs when we sit on top of one for too long. It might be a beautiful view, but for what? It gives us a glimpse of our next summit, but in order to reach that summit, we will have to travel down the mountain, through the valley, and back up another slope, maybe using some of those strategies that we learned the first time, but hopefully learning something new along the way. And just maybe we have helped some others along the way to reach their destination with the experience that we have gained, or maybe we were the ones helped. God allows each of us to experience different things, and I have no doubt that He has a purpose for you right now, right at this moment, in the exact place where you are. Maybe it's not where you want to be, and maybe it's more than you could have ever imagined, but know that no matter where you are in life, God has a plan, and He holds you. Our hope lies with an all-powerful God who has called us to be His and desires a relationship with us, right where we are.

Answers: 1) Abraham prepares to offer Isaac, 2) Noah's ark rested here after the flood, 3) Moses was given the 10 commandments, 4) Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal demonstrating God's power, 5) Location of Solomon's temple, 6) Jesus was crucified here.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Acts 10:34-43; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 465, 487, 461 (*My First Hymnal* 74),

633, 478, 469, 457 (*My First Hymnal* 72)

"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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