



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Palm Sunday*

*April 13, 2025*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

Today we begin the most important holiday season for our faith—Holy Week. Like many Jews, Jesus is coming to Jerusalem to celebrate the great Passover holiday. But it will not be a normal Passover celebration for Jesus and his followers. Jesus will go into the temple, but instead of reverent worship and sacrifices he causes problems and overturns the tables of the money changers. For a few days he will argue with the religious leaders. By Thursday they will have had enough and come to the conclusion that Jesus must go—by death if necessary. Thursday night Jesus shares his last supper with his most loyal 12 followers. But they will all desert him before the night is out; one of them actually betraying him. By Friday midday Jesus will have been forsaken by all, tried, beaten, mocked and nailed to a cross. Before nightfall the Savior will be dead.

### *Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is available in the nursery.

## † GATHERING †

*The congregation gathers in the Fellowship Hall*

*Palm branches are distributed to every member of the congregation*

### *Blessing of the Palms*

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

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

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray: We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus. Today he entered the holy city and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C. Amen**

### *Processional Psalm* Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

P: Give thanks, the Lord is good,  
God's love is for ever!

**C: Now let all God's people say,  
"God's love is for ever!"**

P: Open the gates of justice,  
let me praise God within them.

**C: This is the Lord's own gate,  
only the just will enter.**

P: I thank you for you answered me,  
and you became my savior.

**C: The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.**

P: This is the word of the Lord,  
how wonderful in our eyes.

**C: This is the day the Lord has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad.**

P: Lord, give us the victory!  
Lord, grant us success!

**C: Blest is the one who comes,**

**who comes in the name of the Lord.  
We bless you from the Lord's house.**

P: The Lord God is our light:  
adorn the altar with branches.

**C: I will thank you, my God,  
I will praise you highly.  
Give thanks, the Lord is good,  
God's love is for ever!**

P: Let us go forth in peace,  
**C: in the name of the Lord.**

*The congregation processes into the sanctuary. After arriving in the sanctuary  
the congregation sings:*

Opening Hymn All Glory Laud and Honor  
(For music turn to Hymn 344 in the Red Hymnal)

*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  
are 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 prayers 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***

Text: Theodulph of Orlenas, c. 760-821; tr. John M. Neake, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1636

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

**C. Hosanna in the highest!**

*Prayer of the Day*

A: Let us pray.

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.

**C: Amen**

*Announcements*

✠    WORD    ✠

*First Reading*    Isaiah 50:4-9a

B:<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 wakens

    wakens 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>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

All of them will wear out like a garment;

the moth will eat them up.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:9-16 (*read together*)

**C: Pity me, Lord, I hurt all over;**

**my eyes are swollen, my heart and body ache.**

**Grief consumes my life, sighs fill my days;**

**guilt saps my strength, my bones dissolve.**

**Enemies mock me, make me the butt of jokes.**

**Neighbors scorn me,**

**strangers scorn me,**

**strangers avoid me.**

**Forgotten like the dead, I am a shattered jar.**

**I heard the crowd whisper,**

**“Attack on every side!”**

**as they scheme to take my life.**

**But I trust in you, Lord.**

**I say, “You are my God, my life is in your hands.”**

**Snatch me from the enemy, ruthless in their chase.**

**Look on me with love, save your servant.**

Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

D:<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.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation (Philippians 2:8-9)*

**C: Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke 19:28-48

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup>After [Jesus] had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup>When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup>They said, “The Lord needs it.” <sup>35</sup>Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, “Blessed is the king  
who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!”

<sup>39</sup>Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” <sup>40</sup>He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

<sup>41</sup>As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup>saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup>Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup>They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

<sup>45</sup>Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there; <sup>46</sup>and he said, “It is written,

‘My house shall be a house of prayer’;  
but you have made it a den of robbers.”

<sup>47</sup>Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him; <sup>48</sup>but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

### *Children's Sermon*

### *Sermon*

*Hymn of the Day*      Great God, Your Love Has Called Us  
(for music, please turn to Hymn 358 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Great God, your love has called us here,  
as we, by love, for love were made.  
Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.  
We come, with all our heart and mind  
your call to hear, your love to find.**
2. **We come with self inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half free, half bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by pow'rs and systems close confined,  
yet seeking hope for humankind.**
3. **Great God, in Christ you call our name**

and then receive us as your own,  
not through some merit, right, or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone.  
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat  
and find you kneeling at our feet.

4. Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends.  
Suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends  
to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

5. Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share.  
Give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do  
while love is making all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936. Text Copyright 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. Music: Norman Cocker, 1889-1953.  
Music Copyright Oxford University Press

### Nicene Creed

P: We confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: 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, was incarnate of the virgin Mary and  
became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the  
Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.**

*Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Special Music and Gathering of Prayers and Offerings*

*You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.*

*Offering Prayer*

P: Let us pray: Gracious Provider,

**C: you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.**

**As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,**

**though our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession*

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Issues raised by the congregation are prayed for.*

*The prayer concludes:*

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

† MEAL †

*Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus the Christ whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

*(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)*

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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*

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

*Communion Distribution*

*Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:*

*Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)*

**492 Eat This Bread (Red Hymnal)**

**351 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (Red Hymnal)**

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray: Generous Host,

You have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

(For music see Hymn 346 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**Hear all the tribes hosanna cry;**

**O Savior meek, your road pursue,  
with palms and scattered garments strewed.**

**2. Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**In lowly pomp ride on to die.**

**O Christ, your triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**

**3. Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**The hosts of angels in the sky  
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.**

**4. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!**

**In lowly pomp ride on to die,**

**bow your meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!**

Text: Henry H Midman, 1971-1868, alt. Music: Graham George, 1912-1993, copyright 1941 The H.W. Gray Co. Inc.

*Dismissal*

**P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Tom and Carol Urbanic
Acolyte	Elijah Young
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour	

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 20**

Greeters and Ushers	Rob Stroup
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Rob Stroup
Counters	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour	<i>No Coffee Hour on Easter</i>

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2025* copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564  
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192  
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
William Shi, Pianist